

# The Golden Ear

December 1997

Newsletter of the *Chicago Audio Society*

Volume 4 Number 11

## This Month's Meeting

December 21st

**Melos Technologies  
Sedrick Harris**

Sedrick will tell of recent changes at Melos as well as cover a variety of facets of their components which have a reputation for enjoyable, high fidelity sound. We'll have a good demonstration of a variety of their fine gear. Please bring your records and CDs.

For the vinyl addicts, Sedrick will also be prepared to discuss a broad range of topics related to fine recordings. What are some of the currently undervalued classical, jazz, etc. records which are worth searching for? Do you or someone you know collect multiple pressings of some records and enjoy comparing them?

*Meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month in the Pinehurst Room at Nordic Hills Resort in Itasca. The meeting begins at 2pm, doors open at 1. Nordic Hills phone number is (630) 773-2750. Newcomers are always welcome to attend a meeting without cost or obligation.*

## Last Month

The listening session featured a collection of fine music and recordings on CD and LP. Here's the playlist:

- 1) Debussy, *The Engulfed Cathedral*, Stokowski. London 455-152-2 (CD)
- 2) *Cantate Domino* (title track), Oscars Motettkor choir, Alf Linder - organist.

- Proprius PROP 7762 (LP)
- 3) *Uncommon Ritual*, Chromium Picolinate and Ziegnerweisen, by Edgar Meyer, Bela Fleck, and Mike Marshall. Sony Classical ASK 62891-51 (CD)
- 4) Nathaniel Rosen (cellist), playing *Spinning Song* by David Popper and *The Swan* by Camille Saint-Saens. North Star 0027 (LP)
- 5) Respighi, *The Pines of Rome*, Pines of the Appian Way, London Symphony Orchestra, Kertesz conducting. London Weekend Classics 425 507-2 (CD)
- 6) Biber, *Ave Maria*, Our Heart's Joy - A Chanticleer Christmas Chanticleer Recs. CR-8803 (CD)
- 7) *The LA 4*, playing Debussy's *Pavane Pour Une Infante Defunte* and Jobim's *Corcovado* East Wind EW-10003 (LP)
- 8) *Ry Cooder Jazz*, *In a Mist* and *Nobody* Warner Bros. 3197-2 (CD)
- 9) Verdi *Il Trovatore* Highlights, *Anvil Chorus* and *Stride la vampa!*, by Price, Domingo, Milnes, and Cossotto. New Philharmonia Orchestra, Mehta. RCA LSC-3203 (LP)
- 10) *Dances de Macedoine*, Pece Atanasouski #6 Playasound PS65076 (LP)
- 11) Liszt, *Totentanz for Piano and Orchestra*, Monte Carlo Opera Orchestra, Ceccato Michele (pianist). Japanese Philips Audio Clinic Series FH-6 (LP)
- 12) Berlioz, *Romeo and Juliet*, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Charles Munch cond., Rosalind Elias mezzo. RCA LDS-6098 (LP)
- 13) Corky Siegel's *Chamber Blues*, Unfinished

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**Chicago Audio Society, P.O. Box 313, Barrington IL 60011. (847) 382-8433**

- Jump .  
Alligator ALCD 4825 (CD)
- 14) Diane Schuur, *Love Songs*, September in the Rain .  
GRP GRD-9713 (CD)
- 15) Al Dimeola, *Kiss My Axe*, The Embrace and Purple Orchids .  
Tomato R2 79751 (CD)
- 16) Grant Geissman, *Business As Usual*, Chase the Dragon  
Positive Music Records PMD 77783-2 (CD)
- 17) Dick Hyman Plays Fats Waller, Stealin Apples and Jitterbug Waltz  
Reference Recordings RR-33 (LP)
- 18) Holly Cole, *Temptation*, Train Song and Temptation  
Metro Blue CDP 7243-8-31653-2-2 (CD)
- 19) Patricia Barber, *Café Blue*, Too Rich for My Blood  
Premonition PREM-737-2 (CD)
- 20) Sara K, *Play on Words*, If I Could Sing Your Blues  
Chesky JR 105 (LP)
- 21) Mary Chapin Carpenter, *Come On, Come On*, Not Too Much to Ask duet with Joe Diffie.  
Columbia 48881 (CD)
- 22) Tuxedo Cowboy, *Woman of the Heart*, Sad Moon Blues  
Audioquest AQ-LP 1002 (LP)
- 23) Tuck & Patti, *Love Warriors*, They Can't Take That Away From Me  
Windham Hill WH-0116 (CD)
- 24) Larry Coryell with John Scofield and Joe Beck, Tributaries, Zimbabwe  
Novus (Arista) AN 3017 (LP)
- 25) Ray Lynch, *Nothing Above My Shoulders But the Evening*, Mesquite and Over Easy  
Windham Hill 01934 11133-2
- 26) Beethoven, *Symphonies No. 3 and 5*, Third Movement of Sym. No. 3, Orchestre Revolutionnaire et Romantique  
Archiv D106963 (CD)
- 27) Jean Guillou, Organ Encores, J.S. Bach Sinfonia to Cantata, BWV29" and Choral: BWV 645"  
Dorian DOR-90112 (CD)

Equipment included a Teac CD changer (Stan Warren modified) with Virtual Mode digital filter

and other accessories (ask Rich Sacks for info), SOTA Cosmos/SME V/Koetsu Rosewood Signature turntable setup, Vendetta Research SCP-2A phono stage, BAT VK-5i preamp, Audio Research VT-100 power amp (kindly loaned by Quintessence Audio), and Audiostatic ES100/SW100 speakers.

### Future Meetings

*January 18 - WCES Show Report, Rich Sacks and Brian Walsh* (and anyone else who went to the show). We'll show literature, pictures, etc. as well as discuss what we heard and liked. And we'll have some new music to play.

We'll fill you in on the following months soon...several things are in the works.

### Members

Anthony Harris has moved:  
39 Redmont Rd, Stamford, CT 06903  
(203) 968-0820, e-mail AHarris587@aol.com.  
And he adds:

I really miss all the members and meetings of the Chicago Audio Society. Tell everyone at the December meeting my new address (snail mail and e-mail) and phone number. Also, let everyone know to give me a call if they are going to visit the New York Metro Area. We miss you, too, Anthony!

### Society Business

Dues (\$30) are now payable for your 1998 membership. Please bring cash or check to the next meeting, or mail to our address shown on the first page. We have chosen to keep the same reasonable rate as in previous years, with any shortage to made up by our third audio fair to be held in the spring.

### Internet

The following web pages may interest you.

#### Amateur and Links

Sheldon's World

<http://people.clarkson.edu/~stokessd>

excellent Quad ESL info, tube components

HiFi Pages #1272904

<http://www.unik.no/~robert/hifi/hifi.html>

Some articles and hundreds of audio related links.  
If you can't find it here, it may not exist!

Enjoy the Music's Home Page

<http://top.monad.net/~enjoythemusic>

Steven Rochlin's whimsical site with emphasis on tubes, tunes, people, and life on the edge.

Philip's Hi-Fi and Music Links to the WWW

<http://merlion.singnet.com.sg/~philoh/links.htm>

Another site with lots of interesting links.

### Publications

Audiophilia Online Magazine

<http://www.audiophilia.com>

Commercial publication with reviews, etc.  
Attractive graphics.

The Absolute Sound Home Page

<http://www.theabsolutesound.com>

The online supplement to the high end magazine loved by audiophiles.

AVM Home Page

<http://www.audiovideomagazine.com>

Ann Turner's online 'zine, linked with The Absolute Sound's home page. Good info, pictures, etc.

TNT hifi Worldwide

<http://www.tnt-audio.com/int.html>

Noncommercial online publication in both English and Italian, with insightful reviews, interviews with Ivor Tiefenbrun, Harry Pearson, etc. Coverage of products made in Italy.

Soundstage!

<http://www.soundstage.com>

The online commercial magazine mentioned a couple of months ago. Equipment and music reviews.

### Audio Societies

Audio Society of Minnesota

<http://www.wavefront.com/~asm/>

Here's a good one, by our friends from the Twin Cities. Info on current and past meetings, many links to audio related web pages, etc.

Chuck Bruce's Atlanta Audio Society Home Page

<http://www.mindspring.com/~chucksaudio/>

Our friends in Hot 'Lanta have some interesting articles online, covering products and music presented at their meetings, as well as the people behind them.

Chicago Audio Society

Soon! Your ideas, suggestions, welcome. Check <http://www.xnet.com/~bpwalsh/cas.html> in a few weeks. Can you help? I'm new to this.

### **Christmas Music**

The following post in the rec.audio.high-end newsgroup suggests some good recordings of the season.

From - Mon Dec 01 12:32:24 1997

Sender: jwd@graphics.cornell.edu

Message-ID: <65ulj5\$uq@eyrie.graphics.cornell.edu>

References: <65n36m\$mpf@eyrie.graphics.cornell.edu>

Reply-To: rtrosper@sr.hp.com

Xref: news rec.audio.high-end:77527

Mark J. Duperon wrote:

> I am looking for some well recorded Christmas music  
> in the CD format, any suggestions anyone? Thanks!

My wife LOVES Christmas music, and these have been collected over many years, so I have no clue as to their availability. Here goes ...

#### **Christmas with Julie Andrews**

CBS CK 40857

If you like Julie, you'll love this

#### **Baroque Christmas**

Laserlight 15 276

What it says, Bach, Handel, Purcell, Corelli, etc.

#### **Joy to The World**

CBS MK 30077

Mormon Tabernacle Choir, with all that implies

#### **The Roger Whittaker Christmas Album**

RCA 2933-2-R

If you like Whittaker, and has some unique songs.  
Darcie the Dragon is great in its way

#### **Christmas Wishes (Anne Murray)**

Capitol DIDX-801

Murray doing Christmas standards

**A Canadian Brass Christmas**  
CBS MK 39740  
Christmas standards, their way

**A Holiday Christmas (Peter,Paul,Mary)**  
Gold Castle 171 016-2  
A marvelous recording, different and moving

**Christmas with the Canadian Brass**  
Red Seal(RCA) RCD1-4132  
Includes St. Patrick's organ, nice low end

**Noel (Joan Baez)**  
Vanguard VSD-79320  
Standards with Joan. Sung "sad", but I like it

**A Festival of Carols in Brass**  
CBS MK 7033  
THE classic brass Christmas album. A trad. must have

**Christmas Portrait (Carpenters)**  
A&M CD 5173 DIDX 186  
If you, like me, will listen through any amount of dreck to hear Karen sing, then get it

**Elvis Christmas Album**  
RCA PCD1-5486  
A mix of rock and standards. If you like the King ..

**Noel (Mormon Tabernacle Choir)**  
Bonneville Communications 1993  
Locally produced in Utah, probably unavailable. If you like large choral groups, the MTC is one of the best, no matter what your religious persuasion

**Christmas Concertos, Academy of Ancient Music**  
Florilegium 40 179-2  
An authentic instruments recording of concertos by Corelli, Torelli, Bach, Handel, Werner, Gossec, Vejvanovsky

**The Many Moods of Christmas (Robert Shaw, Atlanta Symphony and Chorus)**  
Telarc CD-80087  
Another kind of large choral sound. Well recorded (if I remember...)

**Crescent City Christmas Card (Wynton Marsalis)**  
Columbia CK 45287  
Wynton s take on the standards. A nice change.

Well, there you have it. Good luck. A good time of year for a CD changer ...

-- Bob Trospen

*Happy Holidays, and Good Listening!*

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