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Subject: Re: Image perception

Posted by [Bob Brines](#) on Tue, 24 May 2005 09:58:13 GMT

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I ran your test. The setup: Single driver speakers -- the Fostex's I had at GPAF -- 8' apart, 3' from the back wall. Room open on the left, glass wall (windows) 3' to the right. Normal listening position 11' back. Normal toe-in has the cross 9' from the speakers. With the 45° cross and at my normal distance, the sound stage is diffuse with little or no imaging. At 6', everything comes together. Wide, deep sound stage and very good imaging. The sweet spot is head-lock small. Moving in farther, the sound stage keeps expanding to the speaker width, but imaging becomes exaggerated left-right. Back to my normal setup. I don't have any 5.1 or better audio and my surrounds are OK for movies, but too far apart for music. All of my listening is in stereo or 2.1 -- I have a sub crossed to the Fostex pipes at 40 Hz. Nice deep sound stage with a sweet spot about 2' wide aimed at the middle of a love seat. Both seats get decent imaging, but the imaging is very good in the sweet spot. The right speaker "disappears", but the left one always seems to draw a bit of attention. Most orchestral music seems to be left channel heavy, since that's where the bulk of the violins are. Small ensemble music seems to spread across the sound stage correctly. Of course, imaging is exactly what the recording engineer wants it to be -- a problem I have with the whole imaging fetish. As I said, I listen in stereo almost exclusively. The room is a bit dry, but as long as there is decent ambiance on the recording itself, the presentation is acceptable. When guests come over who don't know or care about imaging and sound stage, I play Alison Kraus, Diana Krall or the like through the Pro Logic function of my HT receiver and run the receiver in 5.1. Now the music comes from everywhere and is diffuse, warm and fuzzy. That's what the great unwashed wants to hear. God save Dr. Bose. Bob