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Subject: Re: For Beginners

Posted by [lon](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 2004 20:15:24 GMT

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Lots of talking points here and all well-taken. This rise/declinething of DIY has me a bit buffaloed. It was my impression with seeing the volumes at MAD, PE and other forums that the 'handcrafted audio' hobby and product were on the rise. So like Theodore Sturgeon says in an essay, "always ask the next question." Since manufacturing is moving out and certain designs of speakers are played out, what's left and where's the market? My take on this is Boutique Audio: handcrafted specialized product which is sought by the discerning consumer but impractical to produce by Polk or Bose(tm) or Klipsch. To that end, the next phase of the audio hobby might very well be cottage industry on a localized basis. Also, since the designs we are seeing go considerably past the golden ratio box with a hole in it, my notion was to take the carefully considered and modelled designs we see from the TL, front horn and back horn specialists and recruit art galleries to display them. That or perhaps coffee houses become your showroom... no retail space is secured. There is a constant flow of viewers with an eye toward the same level of sophistication as an art object which has the added benefit of making music. :-)

This sculptural, aural and tactile aspect of the newer designs is something which I have not really seen discussed much. As a non-professional I have always been interested in design and architecture. So I'm thinking that these designs could be displayed in an exhibit fashion. I believe this Think Tank approach is valuable and it is very early on in the discussion of what the next wave of American invention will be. We always have to ask the next question like Sturgeon says.

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