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Subject: Re: Lone Star Audio Fest Update  
Posted by [FredT](#) on Wed, 18 Mar 2009 02:24:25 GMT  
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I'll get back with you. There's a story about this. My Houston Audio Society friends own relatively expensive systems, typically costing \$20-\$40K. One member's system cost far more than \$250K. We've discussed the problem of how to get friends, relatives, and neighbors into high end audio, and the problem is that most of the people we know could easily afford a \$10K system, but they are psychologically unprepared to spend that much on a stereo. In spite of the fact that they may drive a Mercedes S-series car, the idea of a stereo costing more than \$500 is something they can't get their mind to embrace. Linda and I do lots of entertaining in our home, and inevitably the guys who visit want to hear the big Selah XT-8 line arrays driven by Krell amplification, and are blown away by the sound. When they ask how much a system like mine costs, instead of telling them the actual price, I tell them it cost a lot, but I have a system upstairs that cost less than \$500, and both they and their wife will like it. Then I bring them upstairs, put on a CD I know their wife will like, and sit her (not him) in the sweet spot to listen. I'm convinced the answer is to get a correctly-set-up \$500 system into their home, and after they have listened to their favorite music on it while drinking a glass of good merlot they will be back for more and better. The upstairs system includes the Parts Express BR1's, a mass market DVD player, and a \$100 Best Buy Insignia stereo receiver. I've even built some low tech high mass stands for the BR1's. They're cinderblocks from Home Depot. The speaker cables are Blue Jeans bulk \$0.68/ft Belden. Every non-audiophile I sit in the sweet spot to hear this system is amazed, and several have bought the BR1's and the mass market electronics I recommend.

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