Subject: Re: Attracting Non-Audiophiles To High End Audio
Posted by PR Audio on Sat, 26 Sep 2009 01:48:45 GMT
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I did a quick search on the forum and didn't find any exact matches -- have you all (y'all?) had any discussions on the so-called "volume wars"? I recently posted a YouTube vid link about compression on modern recordings on my website, and also linked to a lengthy Wikipedia article about it. The Wikipedia article has many references, including a website that posts a dynamic range database on over 2400 albums: It's fascinating information, especially when they compare old album releases to newer releases of the same albums. True, it's really depressing to see what's happened, and happening, but, this sort of confirms what our ears are telling us: If we want to find a pop CD with good music material on it*, and at least a decent quality recording, there is a a lot more available if one "goes back 30 years" (or more).

It seems to me to be noteworthy that even "Rolling Stone" has had an extended article about it.

It'd also be great if some of you have the capacity to upload more material to the database -- I'd love to see how something like some more of the old Sheffield releases such as Thelma Houston and The Pressure Cooker: "Pressure Cooker" would rate. (POW!!!)

This subject can be Googled, or, I have a few "starter" links & that YouTube video here:

http://praudio.com/site/prs-favorite-youtube-music-videos-and-more/

*I'll post further about this, one of these days. One thing that may be encouraging is that when I look up old tunes on YouTube, one often sees comments by youngsters, like one by a 16 year-old saying (paraphrasal) "Jethro Tull is the greatest!", or someone marvelling over "Salisbury" (remastered) or "In the Court of the Crimson King" (which ICCK release sounds best is a topic on Amazon, too), or even talking about how clean the sound is compared to modern recordings. (They notice this even on YouTube, and probably using cheapy computer speakers or $20 headphones!) These are not all audio masterpieces, by any means (though some Tull CD's, for example rate fairly well in the Dynamic Range Database). And, musical taste is just that... BUT... some of these kids seem to have the right idea: There IS more to even rock music than a 3 minute blast of mush.

My God, there may be a slim ray of hope???