

Oh, man, Fred, that's a gass. And so true!

I had always kinda noticed some of these types, the listeners, the talkers, etc. But you really put a magnifying glass on it and you're sooo right!

For me, my room is predominantly the tech talkers and the listeners. I am happy with both, because it is really what I'm all about. I love the technical side, so I love chatting with people about it. And I love the sound, and the way the room "feels" when there's a group of people hushed by a beautiful musical passage. That's when you know people are really enjoying the sound.

I have had problems with the talkers though. Most are people I want there, and that I want to talk to, which makes the problem tougher to solve. I don't want my room to be a stuffy quiet zone where conversation is met with stern looks or a twist of the volume knob. But sometimes that happens, sometimes a guest will turn up the volume to drown out conversations, if they are trying to listen when others start talking. When I see that, I've started trying to take people out in the hall to talk. That usually works, but sometimes not, especially during busy times. Too much going on.

The other "showgoer types" you've listed crack me up too. The guy that goes around to look at the back of the system - I never thought about it but you're exactly right! There are a few every year that do exactly that! I think they are probably checking out what kinds of cables you have and if there are any secrets behind the curtain, so to speak. Then the audio snobs, I've seen a few of those, but to tell the truth, I've seen as many exhibitors that were that way as guests. LSAF tends to attract a different kind of crowd though, so the ratio of audio snobs to more modest audiophiles favors the less arrogant by a large margin.

DIYers are sort of in the same general group as the techies, although I do see some that are technical that don't DIY and I also see plenty of DIYers that aren't very technical. Still, a large proportion of the guests that visit my room are DIYers that are pretty tech savvy. Those are the people I chat with the most. But I never have any say they can do what I'm doing for a quarter of the price. That would be pretty tough to do. Only way I can think of is to buy used components and recone, and I encourage that.

Touchers, wow, I guess I never noticed them. I guess it's because, you're right, my stuff isn't particularly vulnerable. I've wanted to bring a turntable though, my Rega always calls to me but there just never seems to be enough room to pack it with a lot of vinyl. I always feel disadvantaged by not bringing records, as a result. Now I'm wondering if that's not been a blessing in disguise. Maybe the touchers make it best to stick with CDs.