Subject: Re: Analog vs Digital
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 28 Apr 2011 01:16:10 GMT
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I think there are probably a lot of engineers and artists that push the compression because they know their audience will be listening on severely compromised equipment. But most audiophiles would prefer less compression, a large dynamic range and low noise floor. It's an entirely different market. One market segment is much larger than the other, but I would say the smaller segment is much more affluent. I know some guys that will pay several hundred to a few thousand dollars for a single audio tape, a reel-to-reel second generation copy of a master recording. Deep pockets.

Personally, I'm not in that crowd. I can't justify paying a thousand bucks for a single record. I don't have any problem paying more for a good album or CD though. The real trouble is finding them. So many recordings out there are just average. But really, it's the music I'm after, not the bragging rights. Sometimes I'll suffer through an album that maybe didn't get the best post-production because that's the only version available to me.

If I really like an album and the media I have it on is mediocre, I'm always on the lookout for a better version. Back in the vinyl days, it was half-speed masters (and sometimes still is, that or 200g albums). Now I'm started to move towards BluRay audio because some of the disks I have sound sooooo good. That's one thing I like about the current state of the art - There seems to be more high-quality media options available these days.