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Subject: Alan Parsons speaks about the A/V world  
Posted by [FloydV](#) on Thu, 09 Feb 2012 22:54:18 GMT  
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An interesting interview with Alan Parsons, that I found on AVS forum. Someone at Audio Round Table was just talking about room treatments being as important as equipment. Parson's goes into that.

<http://www.cepro.com/story/alanparsons.html>

Some statements that caught my attention:

Beatles, Pink Floyd Engineer Alan Parsons Rips Audiophiles  
Alan Parsons, producer, musician and sound engineer of Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon, says audiophiles overpay for equipment while ignoring room acoustics.

You've been on record as saying that surround sound offers listeners a much more immersive experience for music. Can you clarify/explain why you feel this way?

Yes, I think it's surprising that it hasn't taken off. Back in the 1970s, the science of producing four channels of music for vinyl was very inadequate. Now that we have the technology to do 5.1 surround, I wish there was more interest in using it for music as well as film. Not enough music people are interested in it. Surround is to stereo what stereo was to mono; it makes a huge difference.

What do you think about the market evolution that has seen the CD format losing sales while the vinyl and digital download categories increasing their respective sales?

I'm not sure vinyl is selling beyond audiophile purists, and I'm not really one of them. I'm reasonably happy with the quality of CDs, but I'd really like to see high-resolution downloads become more widely available.

It is encouraging to see people listening to high-resolution audio. Eventually it's going to be an all-download world ...

What is the biggest thing that both electronics dealers and enthusiast consumers should do when setting up home theater/sound systems?

...the hi-fi world will tell you if money is no object you can get better results out of every component... Pro sound people have different expectations; they are only concerned that a piece of gear works and allows them to do their job. Hi-fi people spend huge amounts of money for tiny improvements, and pro sound guys will say, "I can spend half as much and get the results I need."