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Subject: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Mon, 19 Aug 2013 00:29:53 GMT  
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New arm and as of yesterday, new cartridge. Issues that made me put back the .33uF Cap led to today trying 10 Ohms then Zero.

New 4Pi horns, old 4Pi crossover.

Moral of the story? ....you can't spend enough on the cartridge!

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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 19 Aug 2013 02:44:35 GMT  
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It's really just like a Zobel, doing nothing but impedance compensation. Don't need it on the older radial horns, but the new horn kinda does, at least in some cases. Some drivers can live without it on the H290C, but some have too big an impedance peak near crossover and it manifests in the response curve. So the Rs shunt resistor is just there to ensure Zmax never exceeds the value of Rs.

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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Tue, 20 Aug 2013 12:51:11 GMT  
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The DE-250 must really like the 45 Amp.

Almost immediately upon installing the ZYX R-50 Bloom on Saturday, I knew what was needed. This is by far the best cartridge I've had in my system. It's so dynamic and quiet in the groove there's no sense of anything mechanical occurring. It's frequency response doesn't favor any octave; the slightly unsettling "stuffiness" I heard in the treble response was spotlighted as an issue to be dealt with.

I have to admit that the frequency response of the music is now just a "steenth" (as we used to say in the OTC market) toward treble brightness but that's no vice when Dizzy Gillespie's high notes or anyone's First Violins sound so wonderful to 66 year old ears.

\*\*\*In case anyone's wondering about whether the cartridge was 'broken in' enough to hear what's really happening, it's a reviewers sample and had about 100 hours on it when it arrived Saturday. That's poster tack as a headshell weight. The R50 only weighs 5 grams. I added 3 grams of the sticky stuff to get the arm resonance to 10 Hz. I've made a 3 gram aluminum plate to fit onto the top of the arm but it needed longer screws not yet arrived\*\*\*

Many, even most, audio upgrades are subtle and even debatable. There is nothing subtle about the leap up from any other cartridge I've tried including Grado Sonata, Benz Ace, DL-103r or Soundsmith re-built Aurum Beta S. And it's the bottom of the ZYX line!

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#### File Attachments

- 1) [valveschematic.jpg](#), downloaded 4334 times
  - 2) [IMG\\_3302\\_1.jpg](#), downloaded 4228 times
  - 3) [IMG\\_3285\\_1.jpg](#), downloaded 4341 times
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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 20 Aug 2013 14:53:23 GMT  
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I'll have to check out those ZYX cartridges. Kinda time for a turntable upgrade anyway...

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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Tue, 20 Aug 2013 23:13:42 GMT  
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Wayne Parham wrote on Tue, 20 August 2013 10:53  
I'll have to check out those ZYX cartridges. Kinda time for a turntable upgrade anyway...

Yeah, about time for you to spend some of that \$3.141,592 you've made in this business

Everybody's piling on the VPI Classic, including Steve Brown, and with good reason. Now there's a new version with a gimbal arm at a slightly lower price along with the Scout II with the 9T arm and aluminum/stainless platter.

I'll bet you're a good candidate for the Traveler: simple, doesn't cost a fortune and s'posed to sound great.

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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 20 Aug 2013 23:17:54 GMT  
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Yeah, the VPI tables always impressed me. Good price point and they seem to do everything right. My Rega is a pretty good table, but that's it. It's just pretty good. I think the VPI tables take it up a notch.

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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Wed, 21 Aug 2013 02:43:01 GMT  
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C'mon! No one picked up on the \$Millions being Pi to six places?

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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 21 Aug 2013 07:04:47 GMT  
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Somebody should win a lottery in that amount on March 14th.

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Subject: Re: Bye-Bye 15 Ohm Shunt  
Posted by [chrisR](#) on Wed, 21 Aug 2013 20:30:01 GMT  
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Bill Epstein wrote on Tue, 20 August 2013 21:43C'mon! No one picked up on the \$Millions being Pi to six places?

...some of that \$3.141,592 you've made...

The Pi part, no. The fact that your number is not millions of anything, but \$3.00 and \$0.14 plus a fraction, I caught.

Maybe that was edited in by the moderator to more accurately reflect how he feels about his financial return on investment.

All the admiration is priceless!

Chris