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Subject: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 18:59:58 GMT  
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After seeing a lot of guys at LSAF who I haven't seen in years, I thought I would post a picture of my present 2-channel rig.

Clearaudio Champion II table with SME 309 arm and Benz Micro glider cart  
Shanling CD-T1500 SACD  
McIntosh C36 preamp  
Music Fidelity M1DAC  
PS Audio Quintessence power conditioner  
Antique Sound Labs AQ1006 845DT MKII mono blocks  
Speakers are DIY: Altec 511B with 802-8G driver, JBL 077 tweeter and JBL 2235H woofer.  
Cabinet MDF and Baltic birch, veneered with sapele pommele.  
Tascam BR20 reel to reel

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 19:40:02 GMT  
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closer look at the speakers

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [gofar99](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 20:44:26 GMT  
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Hi, Love the speakers. I have a pair of Altec Lansing Magnificents. Huge and heavy.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 20:58:54 GMT  
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[gofar99](#) wrote on Wed, 06 May 2015 15:44: Hi, Love the speakers. I have a pair of Altec Lansing Magnificents. Huge and heavy.

My previous speakers were A7 Voice of the Theater 825 cabinets. I covered them in walnut and built solid walnut risers and grill frames. Old picture makes them look more red than they were.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 21:03:27 GMT  
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Man, I just love those cabinets. Always have; Been drooling over them since I first saw them. Such beautiful wood! Thanks for posting the pics!

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 21:23:43 GMT  
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Wayne Parham wrote on Wed, 06 May 2015 16:03  
Man, I just love those cabinets. Always have; Been drooling over them since I first saw them. Such beautiful wood! Thanks for posting the pics!

Wayne - With a wife as pretty as yours, it's a wonder you ever look at anything but her.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 21:51:15 GMT  
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Thanks, and you're right, it's a wonder. I think she'll be touched when she reads your kind words.

Here's a fun little story, if you're interested.

Kelly and I grew up together. I've known her since she was ten years old. We went to the same church, and we were very close in our youth. She was my cute little Kelly Ferguson back then. When she blossomed into a woman, it was almost too much. In fact, it really was too much, overwhelming for me, anyway. She was in ballet and beauty contests, just an amazing girl.

We were always very good friends, but we stayed out of sync romantically. She was still a girl when I started dating, and once she did start dating, I was more than interested. But one of us was always involved when the other wasn't. Still, I couldn't ever get her off my mind. And I guess you can understand why.

Kelly was always dear to me, all these years. I stayed in touch with her up through her twenties, and stayed in contact with her parents regularly too. So it has been very pleasant to reconnect with her, bringing our lives full circle. We share so much history.

So when we realized each other was available last year, we didn't have to "date" long to know we were right together.

Kelly Parham

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Wed, 06 May 2015 22:23:50 GMT

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Hi Your VOTs have a distinct resemblance to my Magnificents. We could not make the event this year. I injured my back and just now can pick up about 20 pounds.....I can't imagine how the nearly 800 pound of stuff we bring could have been loaded in the vehicle. Each of the KT120 amps is more than I can pick up and the speakers we bring are over 50 pounds each.

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#### File Attachments

1) [Altec Lansing Magnificent.jpg](#), downloaded 5299 times

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Thu, 07 May 2015 00:42:46 GMT

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We sure did miss you, Bruce! I always look forward to seeing you at LSAF!

So sorry about your back. I hope it's a temporary thing and you're on the mend soon.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way

Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Thu, 07 May 2015 13:06:33 GMT

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gofar99 wrote on Wed, 06 May 2015 17:23Hi Your VOTs have a distinct resemblance to my Magnificents. We could not make the event this year. I injured my back and just now can pick up about 20 pounds.....I can't imagine how the nearly 800 pound of stuff we bring could have been loaded in the vehicle. Each of the KT120 amps is more than I can pick up and the speakers we bring are over 50 pounds each.

Sorry to hear about your back. As my grandmother used to say, "and this too shall pass." I ruptured a disc 10 years ago and went through back surgery. It took a couple years to get back to lifting speakers, but lift I did. There is light at the end of the tunnel and it is not a train.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way

Posted by [Shane](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2015 15:49:09 GMT

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Luther, as always a stunning setup that I'm sure sounds superb. I've always admired the DIY stuff you've done. Classy. I wish I had the money and room for such gear, but I'm downsizing tremendously and will be going small for future endeavors.

Wayne, I have to agree with the sentiments above. You're wife is a very pretty lady.

Bruce, sorry to hear about your back. I can relate. Take it easy and do some PT if possible. Prayers for a speedy recovery.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Fri, 05 Jun 2015 22:43:38 GMT

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Thanks, bud.

And I agree with you on those speakers - they're droolworthy, aren't they?

Hope to see you next year!

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way

Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Tue, 09 Jun 2015 13:08:28 GMT

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The only constant is change. I built this stereo rack over the weekend. It is made from 1-1/2" Baltic birch and stained in black cherry. I replaced the McIntosh C36 pre with a Sonic Euphoria passive pre (autoformers) and added the Lounge LCR phono stage.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 09 Jun 2015 15:28:10 GMT  
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Stunning. Good blending match between the rack and the speakers. How do you like the sound of your passive attenuator and your new phono stage?

Still loving the looks of the blue light highlights under your plinth and in the amp racks on the floor.

Have you been getting tapes from Dan Schmalle? I've been wanting to get involved in that, and I'm thinking of upgrading my Pioneer RT-909. Any suggestions on a good deck?

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Tue, 09 Jun 2015 15:44:24 GMT  
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I really like the autoformers the pre uses. I don't need any gain with my amps and speakers. The Mac was way overkill. The Sonic Euphoria does a great job of getting out of the way of the music. There is a lot of air and detail.

The Lounge phono stage is nice out of the box. I expect it to get even better with time. It is an outstanding bang for the buck.

Yes, tapes are from The Tape Project. It doesn't get any better than these with a good deck. Analog goodness with CD black background. As for a deck, I really like the Tascam BR20 I'm using. Other options are the Revox C270, Technics RS1500, and Otari MX-5050.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 09 Jun 2015 18:54:27 GMT  
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Thanks for those suggestions. I might just pull the trigger on one of those decks.

And like you, I've become a fan of passive attenuators instead of preamps. I designed one a few

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years back for some of my amp builder friends, mostly a way to provide a remote control for them. See the link below for details. But after building a couple of prototypes, I fell in love with the passive setup and never went back.

IR Remote ControlMine is a resistive attenuator rather than an autoformer, and there are differences, to be sure. But I think the main thing is minimizing the number of gain stages. I'm running a single-ended tube amp, and with a good source, it's just about as simple a circuit as one can get.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Mon, 29 Jun 2015 15:17:54 GMT  
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Had a few friends over this past weekend. One of them brought these Usher's. It is really a nice bookshelf speaker.

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Subject: Re: 2-channel system done the Wardsweb way  
Posted by [wardsweb](#) on Mon, 29 Jun 2015 15:19:33 GMT  
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Of course there was plenty of vinyl spinning.