Subject: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Sat, 23 Dec 2006 20:38:08 GMT
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Check this out folks:http://www.positive-feedback.com/Issue28/meanderings.htmMerry Christmas to all, and Happy Holidays-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Excellent!
Posted by Bill Epstein on Sat, 23 Dec 2006 23:01:13 GMT
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Looking forward to reading your reviews.

Subject: Re: Excellent!
Posted by akhilesh on Sat, 23 Dec 2006 23:30:46 GMT
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Thanks Bill. Have enjoyed your reviews on Dagogo as well!-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Bill Wassilak on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 01:01:25 GMT
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Excellent Akhilesh, you know my nickname for you is "golden ears" because me and a speaker builder friend of ours fried our ears out above 13K at 70's rock concerts + age has something to do with it, and we can only go by measurements, and we value your opinion a lot.You and your Family have a Merry Christmas.Bill W.

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 01:21:58 GMT
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Thanks Bill. Don't know about the "golden years"...growing up in another country I did not attend

as many concerts as I would have here, and this may have postponed my high frequency loss a bit. Look forward to seeing you again soon!-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Norris Wilson on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 14:02:45 GMT
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Akhilesh, this is great news! I am looking forward to your next installment of your meanderings.This comfirms it, you are as crazy of an audio nutt as the rest of us.I bet you are teaching your son's the love of music through your hobby like a good father would.Have fun with a Happy Holiday season to you, your family, and to all at ART.Norris

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 14:38:16 GMT
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HI Norris,Thanks, and Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to your family as well. Yup, pretty crazy here. My sons just know enough to stay away from Dad's gear, but the 7 year old is learning the piano pretty well. -akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Shane on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 14:55:40 GMT
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Nice work Akhilesh. I'm another knucklehead that has lost a good deal of hearing to excessively loud live music. Just have to love the constant ringing in my ears I have to take exception with the statements: "While most of us are music lovers, in many cases, musicians tend not to worry about sound reproduction as excessively as we do" and "My opinion is that people who are intimately familiar with live music find it easier to make that cognitive jump from a poor reproduction to the actual performance".As a previously working musician, most people I was in contact with in the live performance ring were exceptionally particular about the way their sound came across. Especially to guitar players, sound and "tone" is everything. That combined with "feel" is what translates to emotion for the crowd. I've heard myself recorded poorly and recorded well playing the same song and believe me the poor recording is unbearable to listen to. I realize that you are talking about reproduction and not the live performance, but for me they go hand-in-hand. If you are a live band that also records music, you don't want a recording that sounds like junk, because it won't typically sell worth a darn. Although it may be easier to make the jump between a recording and the live music because of familiarity with the peice, if it's

recorded like junk it still sounds like junk and becomes quickly unlistenable for me and many I know.Just my thoughts, FWIW.BTW, I hope you and yours are having a great holiday season and I can't wait to hear what you have to bring to Dallas in the spring.

Subject: Cool!
Posted by Norris Wilson on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 16:44:29 GMT
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" but the 7 year old is learning the piano pretty well"

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 18:21:59 GMT
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Thanks Shane. Merry Christmas & Happy holidays to you and yours as well. I thnk if you put audiophiles in one set AND professional or even semi professional musicians in another set, you'll find little intersection.That was my point, not that musicians are indifferent to how their instruments sound, just to what their home stereos sound like. Just my opinion of course. How is the 12b4 amp coming along?-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Shane on Sun, 24 Dec 2006 18:36:08 GMT
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I understand what you're saying. I guess in my own experience I'm picky on both fronts, although I'll never be able to afford a real "high-end" system and just do the best I can with what I have. My guitar rig is definitely more $$$ than my stereo rig.I like the 12B4 a lot. It does suprisingly well with the Pi Two towers and Heresy's alike. Not exceptionally loud through either, but loud enough for 99% of my listening. I'd really like to hear what it could do with some high sensitivity speakers like your K-horns. It's got remarkable bass for what it is. My Seduction is not happy being mated to the 12B4, unfortunately. I think a line stage between the Seduction and 12B4 would fix that. It seems like it just needs a little boost to get it there. I wish I had heard your 12B4 through your K-horns last year.

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online

Posted by Duke on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 04:48:40 GMT
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Congratulations, Akhilesh!Great to see your passion for audio finding another outlet, and one that will benefit many.Very best wishes to you.Duke

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 11:07:53 GMT
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Wow, Akhilesh, that's so cool! Glad to see your input there!Have a great Christmas and I hope to see you soon.

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by hurdy_gurdyman on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 12:46:37 GMT
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I'm a professional musician (semi-retired now) and audiophile. I became both audiophile and beginning musician around age 12. They went hand in hand with each other.I have known musicians who are real picky about their stage equipment and don't seem interested in playback equipment. I've also known about as many that are. Many of them became more interested when they started having recordings of themselves and their bands made. I think the spreading popularity of home recording studios and small local studios may have a lot to do with so many local bands getting recordings done these days. Hearing them played at the studio on decent monitors and then going home and playing them on a typical department store system made many musicians start investigating better systems. I've noticed many local musicians now having home stereos that are much better than the typical musician had a decade ago. Maybe most haven't got into it to the point of trying tube amps and single driver speakers, as this isn't the hobby part of their musical interests, but they are a lot pickier than they used to be. I see it as spreading a bit more amoung musicians every year as more of them become exposed to good sounding systems and more are getting recordings made.As a side note, one of the best local guitar players I know (he played in a band in the Vegas circuit a few years ago) has a high end stereo with a Counterpoint tube amp and Green Mountian Diamante speakers. Very nice sounding rig!Dave

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by hurdy_gurdyman on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 12:48:15 GMT
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Very cool! Good luck with this.Dave

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 13:39:36 GMT
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You too Wayne. Merry Christmas to you & the family! Let's have one of our get togethers soon! I know Mark was talkng about it.-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 13:40:02 GMT
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Thanks Dave.-akhilesh

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 13:41:35 GMT
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Thanks so much Duke. It's the good nature & humour(word used in the old fashioned sense) of folks like you that makes this fun!-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 13:44:36 GMT
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That's cool to hear, from the trenches, so to speak!Are you still enjoying the Hawthore audio speakers?-akhilesh

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online

Posted by hurdy_gurdyman on Mon, 25 Dec 2006 14:51:17 GMT
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>Are you still enjoying the Hawthore audio speakers?

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 26 Dec 2006 16:04:31 GMT
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I'd like that. I'm in Tulsa every weekend, so you guys set it up for one Saturday and I'll be there!

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Bill Agee on Sun, 31 Dec 2006 03:08:40 GMT
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Congratulations, Akhilesh, being a PFO contributor sounds like a great way to further your interest in the hobby.I was reading your introduction and was struck by the last paragraph where you talked about today's generation getting used to the lower quality of compressed downloads. It got me to thinking about the music delivery systems of my youth and how it might compare. Well, it was all analog and usually on an LP or 45 played on the Philco phonograph in a pull out drawer under the TV picture tube. A little later on we had a stand alone phonograph with a built in speaker and a ceramic pickup; just perfect for the Disney albums :-).When I was 14 a friend of mine bought a 4 track tape player made by Muntz for his car, and I thought it was the coolest thing. A friend of his had managed to get a multi disk turntable in his glove box! I don't know how it was amplified. Eight track players replaced the 4 track by squeezing 4 more tracks on the same width tape. Better fidelity? I don't think so!My first stereo was a Craig 8-track player/amp with two single-driver speakers connected via RCA plugs to the player. In college my roommate had a Lloyds combo TT, radio and amp with speakers and we wore it out. Everyone eventually moved up to Pioneer, Marantz, Sansui, Kenwood, etc. Integrated amps with separate turntables and speakers were the thing to have. Cassette decks were very popular as were open reel decks. Cassettes were great for carrying your music in the car, which by now every car had either a factory player or the user installed one.Well, I could go on but the point of my recollection is that none of those systems were even near mid-fi let alone hi-fi or audiophile grade. Most people (including myself) didn't know how to setup a TT and if the needle skipped, a quarter taped to the headshell took care of it. The 8 track tapes were very noisy and the wow and flutter was horrible, and about every 10th tape was eaten by the player! Cassettes were much better than 8 tracks but they still had a lot of tape hiss. I guess what I'm trying to say is that in spite of the poor playback systems, people still clung to their music and were always looking to up the quality when they understood where the deficiencies were. So I wouldn't worry about highly compressed formats leading to the demise of hi fidelity; the iPod and MP3 format is much better than anything I listened to growing up.Good Luck!Bill

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by hurdy_gurdyman on Sun, 31 Dec 2006 13:38:27 GMT
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Bill,I think the point missed is that you could take those records you had in your youth and play them on a top quality high-fidelity system and get truly high quality sound. With the compressed formats today you have a built in limiter on just how good they are capable of sounding. A person can buy hundreds of songs in a compressed format and then decide to go with a nice high-fidelity playback system and will discover he has to replace his entire library of songs to get the most of his playback system. With the older records and standard CD's, you can keep upgrading your equipment and keep seeing an improvement without having the recordings become obsolete.Dave

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by Bill Agee on Sun, 31 Dec 2006 18:24:01 GMT
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Hi Dave,Yes, I agree and I considered that when writing my reply, but still, kids today have better sound systems in their cars than we had at home when we were their age (one note bass bins not withstanding). Heck most of those have more invested in their car audio systems than the car is worth!As far as having to replacing low quality libraries with higher quality recordings, how many of us replaced our LP collection with CD? Or replaced CD's with DVD-A or SACD? Not that those are better than LP, but that moving to a different format is just a natural progression in the quest for "better" sound, and I'm sure that when the difference between compressed and uncompressed is worth the change, users will do it.Bill

Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by hurdy_gurdyman on Sun, 31 Dec 2006 19:42:07 GMT
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I haven't replaced my LP's. I still listen to them quite a bit. I took care of them as a teen and most are still in good shape. I'm just glad most of them were good quality to begin with so I didn't need to replace them. I'd much rather spend money on buying new recordings than buying copies of what I already have but in a new format. If I'd have bought cassettes (a limited format of the time), I'd have been in the same boat as some kids today will be in.It really doesn't take a lot of effort to keep records in reasonable condition. I started cleaning mine with a brush while I was in my teens. Always put them back in the jacket when done. Check the stylus under a microscope every once in a while and replace when you see any blemish starting. Check tonearm adjustments a couple times a year. Through most of my years, starting in the late 60's, I used an old Dual 10xx or 12xx turntable. Don't need anything fancy to keep records in good shape as long as the simple maintanence steps are taken. Upgrading equipment through the years always brought an

increase in listening quality. If I would have had iPods years ago, I would have long since reached a point where upgrades became a problem as they showed up the flaws in the medium. If everyone had had this senerio happen, true high-fidelity playback would have indeed died off. I'm just glad I had such excellent source material right from the beginning. I feel sorry for kids today who invest heavy in compressed recordings, then in a few years decide they want really good sound from a new system. They won't be able to get it without replacing their whole collection of recordings.Dave

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Subject: Re: Positive Feedback Online
Posted by akhilesh on Mon, 01 Jan 2007 18:25:45 GMT
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Thanks Bill, for your good wishes. I feel I am ready to contribute in that capacity in our hobby. I agree that the majority of listeners in the old days had lousy playback equipment. I know I started recording songs off shortwave(!) on a sanyo cassette deck (mono of course) and listened to those a lot. My first exposure to even reasonable good stuff was a Sony HSt99 cassette deck with AR bookshelf speakers. Your point actually supports the thesis expressed in that para,"As long as we have faith in the power of music to move the human soul, the attempt to reproduce music in the home will be a noble endeavor,.."so compressed downloads may not matter so much. There are other differences of course between the past and today, pointed out in that para, such as the other diversions available (visual stimulation & internet/gaming mainly) that folks growing up before the 90's did not have. So even though I began my teen years with a fairlyy crappy system, the aspiration for better playback was stronger, and listening to musc was always cool for me. Is it cool now...just listening to music? or do kids today need to play a videogame while listening to music? I'm not sure. Again, one can but have faith in the power of music, as the bard said, to soothe the savage beast...and so on. -akhilesh

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