Subject: Photo's of My Theater 4 Pi's
Posted by Garland on Tue, 05 Mar 2002 23:50:03 GMT
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I finally got the photo's of the 4 Pi's. Like they say:" the Theater 4's are large!" But I love them. Still breaking in a bit as are the Paramour amps with only ten hours or so on them both. I'll post a review after a suitable settling in period. The Speakers are built of 3/4" Baltic birch ply front,back and top panels. The rest of the panels are 3/4" MDF. The front panel also has a layer of 1/2" MDF surrounding the woofer and running up the sides to form the U shape. The cut out piece of this panel went to form the grill cloth frame. These frames will be ultimately attached to the cabinets with heavy duty Velcro or possibly ball and socket gizmo's. The veneer is paper backed cherry applied with contact cement. I used two cross braces front to back just above and below the woofers. I also threaded a 5/16" threaded rod through T-nuts in the back panel to a maple plate attached to the back of the woofer magnets which applies adjustable pressure on the woofer basket to tune out some possible resonance from the pressed steel basket. The maple plate/block has slots to allow for ventilation of the vent in the rear of the woofer. The crossover is mounted in a suspended plywood box on the rear of the cabinets for tweeking and the speakers are wired with Cardas litz 17 awg hook up wire. All parts came from The Parts Connection. I used the Eminence H290 horn with which I had some problems with getting the screws installed into the drivers. I had to dremel out some of the plastic to allow the screws to align with the holes in the driver. I also added a 1/4" spacing plate behind the mounting flange of the horn to bring it's face out flush with the outer face of the cabinet and the grill frame.It sits just touching the back of the grill cloth.A 1 1/2" vertical ring of maple, recessed, forms a riser on the base of the cabinets to help with the appearance. Assembly went smoothly though I was working only during my lunch breaks and only a couple of evenings so it took a while. And getting them home was a treat as you guys know who've had to move them! The best part (other than listening) is that my wife really likes them visually and sonically and although they are really too large aesthetically for my 12 x18 listening/family room I get to keep them there! Lastly, I want to thank Wayne for his supreme generosity and design skills in making these great speakers available to us mere mortals at the best price imaginable. Kudos to you!!!Garland

Theater 4 Pi's, grilles on
Theater 4 Pi's, goodies showing

Subject: Spectacular!
Posted by BillEpstein on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 00:03:27 GMT
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The veneer work is just first rate.And of course they sound unique, don't they?

Subject: Yikes!
Posted by mikebake on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 00:05:36 GMT
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These are good looking! Really good looking. Great job.

Subject: I'm impressed!!!!!!
Posted by LuxmanLover on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 00:40:16 GMT
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great job!Kelly

Subject: My, oh my!!!
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 02:12:22 GMT
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Those are beautiful speakers. Stunning!

Subject: Woohoo! Nice job.
Posted by trancemitr on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 09:40:12 GMT

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Those things look great! And that Foreplay... that thing's just beautiful. I must say that it's really great to see everyone's different interpretation of what Wayne's designs can look like. I'm really excited to finish mine up and show them off to the world. Seeing these things has given me renewed zeal. Thanks for the great pics.Kevin

Subject: well done! wanna sell'em?(nt)
Posted by replay on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 12:02:22 GMT
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nt

Subject: Re: Photo's of My Theater 4 Pi's
Posted by TOttman2 on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 12:33:26 GMT
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Your PI speakers and the Foreplay are real treat for the eye. Great job I hope mine come out as good. What do your Paramours look like?Thanks for great pics...It's gonna make me take my time do my best too.Tom

Subject: too nice, now I have to think
Posted by Sam P. on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 13:16:31 GMT
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about how high you guys "are setting the bar" appearance wise. The last couple, including these,

are "gold medal" beautiful. Till...I'm still rubbing in more oil. Garland, outstanding job, I'll bet the guys at work were sorry to see you cart them home! Sam

Subject: Re: Photo's of My Theater 4 Pi's
Posted by bmar on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 15:41:57 GMT
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Ah... now we know what all the waiting was for.premium job, very nicely done.Bill

Subject: Collection of Pi Pictures
Posted by dbeardsl on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 18:33:03 GMT
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Those really are beautiful. It would be really neat to compose a collection of Pi pictures, organized by model of course. I don't have a whole lot of time to go digging around, but if people just email me any pictures they have of some Pi's and the model name, I have a site I could whip up a little page on to host em. Send em if you got em.Thanks

Subject: Re: Photo's of My Theater 4 Pi's
Posted by DRCope on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 19:27:27 GMT
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Garland,Man, those are hugely handsome! Having seen your Foreplay "live", I shoulda known you'd do a killer job on the speaks. Can't wait to hear them!You've got good reason to be proud!
Keep your ears and your mind open.

Subject: Thanks for the Compliments, Guys!
Posted by Garland on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 20:54:16 GMT
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Daniel, I'll e-mail the pics. And Sam, the boss was actually pretty pleased to see them go; not many places to hide em in our crowded architectural office. Tottman- the Paramours got put together concurrently with the Pi's and unfortunately they are pretty much stock- a bit of paint on the chassis plate and transformers and the alder wood base oiled and waxed with a 3/4" roundover on the top edge. Later I'll go back and do em up!- after the mods have exhausted themselves. Replay... not until I move to a smaller house! And Bill, It was fun putting these things together just after you did yours. Thanks for running a few blocks for me! Thanks again for everyones help and I wish the pictures could show how they sound! But then most of you already do. And now the fun really gets interesting...! The Music! Thanks again, Wayne!G.

Subject: More embarassing compliments
Posted by BillEpstein on Wed, 06 Mar 2002 22:50:29 GMT
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I wonder what led you to the design you used? Was it perhaps reducing the visual scale of the boxes. There are no cues with the backdrop, but they somehow seem smaller. Not a bad thing. Did the design accomplish what you set out to do?It certainly works for me. Cool and classical with the arch, grey tones and best of all, natural cherry.And live music in the family room every evening.I wish mine looked more 3-dimensional. The Pros I plan might have to have a round section for the woofer! 24 round routed laminations. Yikes!But I'm inspired!

Subject: Re: Photo's of My Theater 4 Pi's
Posted by steve f on Thu, 07 Mar 2002 00:11:55 GMT
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WOW!!! Fantastic job.

Subject: Re: More embarassing compliments
Posted by Garland on Thu, 07 Mar 2002 14:33:37 GMT
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Hi Bill, Actually, the idea came from you with your extra layer on the front baffle. I was looking for a way to add a grill cloth and make the speakers a bit more WAF able. So in my doodling at work this is what I came up with- it seemed pretty easy to do with the cut out becoming the grill frame and the grill frame cutouts for the speakers flush with the outer surfaces of the horn to minimize diffraction. I only veneered the front top and sides for economy. ...and to be totally honest I tweeked the color a bit in Photoshop; the actual colors are a bit warmer with a tad too much yellow for my liking. Hopefully age will improve things a bit.G.