Subject: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by James W. Johnson on Mon, 28 Jun 2004 14:17:01 GMT
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Several years ago I had nearly all of the parts to build a setof 4 Pi Pros but then some things came up and I had to scrap them.Since then I have been thru several more speakers and other HT gear and now I am once again looking to build something from Pi.Honestly I just cannot afford to do the 4 Pi Pros , right now my current system consists of Klispch RF-3IIs for mains and an RC-3II for a center. These are nice speakers until you crank them up , at which point (to put it bluntly) they begin to sound like crap.The mains are being pushed with a Parasound HCA-1500A and my Pre-amp is an Aragon Soundstage , source components are a Denon DVD-2200 and a Sony ES 5 disc changer.Anyways I believe I have a buyer for my front three speakers which will bring me about $700 to play with.I need speakers that sound good when played loud , not harsh , not strained sounding etc. They don't have to go too low because I have a dual 18" IB sub that fills in the low end nicely.The Theater 4 Pis are just too big so that does not leave alot..I wish I could afford the 4 Pi pros...anyhow I am not too sure there is a Pi speaker that fits my needs but I thought I'd check in and see what if you guys have any recommendations.

Subject: added pic.
Posted by James W. Johnson on Mon, 28 Jun 2004 14:18:08 GMT
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https://home.comcast.net/~bentvalve/pi.JPG

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by GarMan on Mon, 28 Jun 2004 18:28:43 GMT
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Ever consider the used market?A pair of used 2226, 2426, and bi-radials will run you under a grand. A little higher than your $700 budget, but not by much.gar.

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 28 Jun 2004 18:42:16 GMT
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Magnums right now, and they're really nice. These models have flux stabilization rings, so they're

a good low-distortion alternatives to JBL Pro drivers.

Subject: Which Magnum?
Posted by GarMan on Mon, 28 Jun 2004 18:44:54 GMT
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Hi Wayne,Which Magnum are you working with?Have you had a chance to hear what the 12 sounds like? Doesn't look like it can go too deep, but seems very flat from 100 to 2000.Gar.

Subject: Re: Which Magnum?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 28 Jun 2004 19:29:19 GMT
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I'm working with all of them, including one that hasn't been introduced yet, the B12 subwoofer.The Magnum 12 is exactly as you've described. It's a very nice midrange driver.

Subject: Maybe a cheaper 15" alternative...
Posted by mollecon on Mon, 28 Jun 2004 23:59:01 GMT
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Correct me if I'm wrong, but it looks to me that you're looking for a cheaper 15" unit to work in reasonably compact boxes? Compact for a 15", that is. Eminence have some that don't look to expensive - all from the 'American Originals' series (pressed steel chassis). The Gamma 15 will work in a box of 80 liters (~2.86 cu.ft.), tuning 42Hz, -3dB at 60Hz. In a bigger box of 118 liters (~4.2 cu.ft.) it makes 50Hz with tuning at 44Hz.The Kappa 15 LF from the same series offers 42Hz in a box of 130 liters (~4.64 cu.ft.), tuning also 42Hz. In a smaller box of 100 liters (~3.57 cu.ft.), tuning 40Hz, it reaches ~47Hz.The Kappa 15 has a 3" long throw VC and can take a lot of power, too. So I bet that one can play more than loud enough without distortion.Just some suggestions - maybe the above units could be made to work well with some already existing Pi X-overs, perhaps with some small modifications? But Wayne knows about that :-) Good luck with your project.

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by James W. Johnson on Tue, 29 Jun 2004 09:58:10 GMT
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Sounds like the Magnums might be just what I need, was Eminence aiming to compete with JBL's 2226H and the likes with the Magnums?When about's are you going to have something ready with the Magnum drivers? I am ready to build pretty soon.

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by James W. Johnson on Tue, 29 Jun 2004 13:22:18 GMT
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Actually I see Parts Express has the 2226H on sale for $299 and the 2426H is less....I wonder if the dealer pricing on JBL products is good because I could sign up to be a dealer at PE fairly quickly since I do have a small business license.

Subject: Wayne can beat that
Posted by GarMan on Tue, 29 Jun 2004 15:04:48 GMT
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Check out his site.

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 29 Jun 2004 17:09:11 GMT
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Hard to say when I'll have the plans ready. I have a lot on my plate these days.

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by GM on Wed, 30 Jun 2004 04:04:29 GMT
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>.....because I have a dual 18" IB sub that fills in the low end nicely.====?! What didn't you like about the CB?GM

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by James W. Johnson on Wed, 30 Jun 2004 09:39:48 GMT
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Hi Greg, first and foremost I had a problem with the arms getting thrown out of alignment/belt wearing. I tried very hard to get some help from Servodrive but to no avail...their service is horrible (not that I should expect any nor did I approach them in this maner) all I asked was for some assistance in troubleshooting.Even Mark Seaton who seems to have loads of time to post on the various internet forums never did come thru ...the last email I sent him I practically begged for help and I never did get a return.Screw Servodrive and all of the people who run the place..they suck.Sorry if that sounds harsh but if you can understand what I went thru I doubt you could blame me.The second reason I got rid of it is because it was not that impressive output wise in the upper bass region....I basically got all of my money that I spent on the Contrabass back, which was a low $1600 that included $300 in freight and $300 in finishing.I spent $1200 on my IB and Ive reached the peak..there is simply no way I could beat it , or a better way to say it is there is not way I would ever feel the need to.

Subject: correction:
Posted by James W. Johnson on Wed, 30 Jun 2004 09:50:35 GMT
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Whoops I forgot that I already had my QSC RMX1850 HD and I included that in the price of my IB...it actually only ran me $700 not $1200. :-)

Subject: Re: Did you guys leave me a slice of Pi?
Posted by GM on Wed, 30 Jun 2004 17:12:16 GMT
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Hey JJ,No, not really, though things aren't always as they seem. Sorry to hear this, not that I'm surprised WRT SD's service and MS's 'attitude', though I wish you had emailed me before 'throwing in the towel'. My experience with SD was abysmal, with Tom Danley and John Halliburton being the exceptions, and even they appeared to have their 'hands tied' to a great extent by Brad, the owner. WRT MS, I've only 'crossed swords' with him on technical issues on the various forums, mostly back when he was ~clueless, and WRT his lack of response to your emails I'm betting it's more about following Brad's business practice guidelines than his lack of interest or desire to help. Now that it's gone, I can only speculate about what the real problem(s) was, but normally the only two ways this type of problem occurs (assuming nothing's loose/bent to start with) is either XOing it too high and/or with too low a slope order since at some HF point the system is moving so fast it literally slings itself to destruction. The other common problem is one of increasing gain too much. The vast majority of folks (including most FOH mixing 'engineers') are so used to hearing high distortion LF/midbass that they describe a very low distortion system such

as a CB or well executed horn as 'dry' or 'sterile' sounding and/or lacking in 'detail', so they keep EQing it upwards until it sounds 'right' to them (audibly distorted). This leaves little/no dynamic headroom, ergo it mechanically 'hard clips', usually stretching or popping belts and/or bending the arms and/or hardware. WRT it not being 'that impressive output wise', its capability far exceeds what can be experienced in a relatively nearfield app such as your room presents without immediate lifelong hearing impairment, so not sure what performance aspect you're referring to. Of course if you're already hearing impaired to some extent (as so many Americans are), then it's a moot point. Regardless, after looking at your HT room, a low Q IB or well stuffed low Fc TL is a far better choice since much of the CB's LF forte' of ~flat response to

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Subject: Re: Wayne can beat that
Posted by James W. Johnson on Thu, 01 Jul 2004 12:49:47 GMT
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Where is the 2226H ? I cannot seem to locate it.

Subject: Re: Wayne can beat that
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 01 Jul 2004 20:29:43 GMT
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The 2226H is in "parts and options," section "cone drivers," subsection "medium format." You can click that link and it will take you right to it.
