Subject: Sky Captain was pretty good
Posted by lon on Sun, 30 Jan 2005 18:29:41 GMT
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When I got this I watched it 2x on a couple different days.Unfortunately it was vhs _and_ on a monophonic player. I've only recently bought a dvd player. The first thing I gotto test it out was Mike Oldfield's Concert In Heaven which wassome outdoor performance on a New Years Eve in Berlin. Pretty hot concert piece. Other first thing I played of myown was the reissue of Mimi Perin's Le Double Six a' Parisfirst release. The most famous alumnus out of The Double Sixwas Ward Swingle whose Swingle Singers recordings of classicalcomposers are still in print. And I saw the Count Basie Orchestra with Neena Freelon liveat the local performing arts place. As a volunteer usher, I did extra time to be able to work that show. There was one joe at the Basie who wanted to sit up inthe 4th balcony because he said the acoustic would be better than 2nd. I have tried to get an impression of what reproductionof concert hall sound would be like but I am still stumped.I'm stumped in the sense that normal sense of stereo right/leftsoundstage and volume are obvious isolated in place in the home environment. But concert hall listening does not give(for me) any of the effects of separation when listeningto a big band or orchestra. Then you throw in the amplificationsystem and that adds more coloration. That leaves me withthe question: Aside from volume or loudness, how to reproducethe orchestra sound?

Subject: Re: Sky Captain was pretty good
Posted by Manualblock on Sun, 30 Jan 2005 21:26:43 GMT
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Didn't Paul Klipsch used to place two horns in the corners and a small horn in the middle of the two? Seriously I have never heard imaging or stagedepth or any of the other catchphrases attending a classical or concert jazz concert for that matter. The only real thing for me is musicality; that I recognise.

Subject: Re: Sky Captain was pretty good
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 31 Jan 2005 05:18:17 GMT
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I liked it too. I guess it didn't do that hot at the box office, but I thought it was pretty cool.

Subject: Re: Sky Captain was pretty good
Posted by lon on Mon, 31 Jan 2005 19:01:49 GMT

Whelp, I spoze the only full emersion way to listen toconcert stuff is wirth headphones. I hate headphones. The closest word I can give to usingheadphones is claustrophobic... makes me feel trapped.

Subject: Re: Sky Captain was pretty good
Posted by lon on Mon, 31 Jan 2005 19:19:30 GMT

I am not doing movie reviews like I did on the early days ofusenet. But if I did, I would say that if the film was notfavorably received it's likely that a lot of the referencesto the cliffhangers of old and early science fiction were missed. A slew of names came to mind while watching this both the first and second time I viewed it: Flash Gordon, Hugo Gernsback, Phillip Wylie, CommanderCody, Amazing Science Fiction, Captain Video, Island of Dr. Moreau. There were a jillion film quotes in it. The dialog style is based on stock themes from the period: Airborne hero, plucky reporter etc etc. I watched the credits for the various production teams rolland roll and roll. It was like every CGI house in the world had a piece of this. In another sense, I see this as a first-- an experimentwith these new techniques like Final Fantasy before it. But what I've thought for many years now is: When willthey adapt the really great science fiction stories now thatthe technology provides the means? Phillip K. Dick's works have been mined in depth bynow and a few still remain. But what about Niven, Farmer, Clark and Moorcock? Sky Captain gives a bit of the flavor of Steam Punk asdid The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen and even Equilibrium. It's time to tackle something like The Difference Engineby Gibson and Sterling. Or Neuromancer. Lastly, I'm not real acquainted with a book series I've seen atthe Barnes and Noble which features a woman protagonist. The costuming for this was brought back by the navvie gear ofthe British fuel station team in Sky Captain. So there's lots out there which should sell to the moviegoing crowd. I just wish there were more of it. And, please, somebody, finish the Dune films!