



Emmanuel Go demonstrated his outstanding First Sound Presence Deluxe preamps.

## April 11th Meeting Recap

by Darin Forkenbrock

Who knew we have a manufacturer of extremely high-quality preamplifiers right here in our neighborhood (Renton, WA)? Emmanuel Go is the Founder and Owner of First Sound Audio. He started back in 1989, working on passive preamps,

looking for the purest sound he could get. After a few years he found the need to break away from the limitations of passives and started working on the line stages he offers today. His focus with his current preamps is to find ways to lower the noise floor, without dimin-

ishing the purity of the music.

Emmanuel is somewhat of a perfectionist. He scrutinizes every aspect of his craft, going so far as to strip the insulation off tiny input wires. That was probably behind him meeting Joe at the club at 2pm to start setting up.

# April 11th Meeting—Playlist



**EL CANT DE LA SIBIL**  
Mallorca-Valencia 1400-1560  
Montserrat Figueras-La Capella Reial De  
Catalunya-Jordi Savall ALIA VOX  
AVSA9806  
Track 1 & 2



**The Wind That Shakes The Barley**  
Dead Can Dance  
Into the Labyrinth  
CAD 3013 CD



**Slack Key Tuning Demo**  
Led Kaapana & Mike Kaawa  
Force of Nature  
(Live at Triple Door)

Break



**Blue Moon Revisited**  
Cowboy Junkies  
The Trinity Sessions  
8568-2-R



**Misa Criolla—Kyrie**  
José Carreras  
Misa Criolla-Navidad Nuestra-Navidad En  
Verano by Ariel Ramirez  
Philips 420 955-2



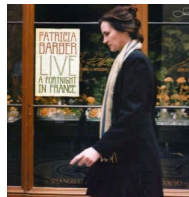
**Because**  
The Beatles  
Love  
EMI 0946 3 79808 2



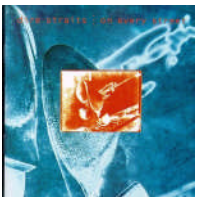
**The Three Of Us**  
Ben Harper  
Welcome To the Cruel World  
Virgin Records America 7243 8 39320 2 3



**Get Out Of Town**  
Holly Cole  
It Happened One Night  
Metro Blue CDP724385269905



**Norwegian Wood**  
Patricia Barber  
Live A Fortnight In France  
Blue Note Records 7243 5 78213 2 2



**Track?**  
Dire Straits  
On Every Street  
Vertigo 510160-2



**The Long Road**  
Eddie Vedder & Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan  
Eat Pray Love Original Motion Picture  
SoundTrack, 0252748590



**I Want To Hold Your Hand**  
TV Carpio  
Across the Universe Music From the Mo-  
tion Picture-2 CD Set  
Interscope B000997302



**The Nearness Of You**  
Branford Marsalis  
Trio Jeepy  
Columbia CK 44199



**My Body Is A Cage**  
Peter Gabriel  
Scratch My Back



**Forza Dentro Me**  
Holly Stell  
Downloaded from the internet





The interior view of the First Sound Presence Deluxe preamplifier shows the true dual mono layout, stepped attenuator volume controls and the massive capacitor storage.

One advantage of working with a smaller boutique audio company like First Sound is that Emmanuel can work with you individually to customize your unit with a number of features and options he offers, from different types of wiring, grounding schemes, component types, etc. One of the more surprising demonstrations of the evening was when Emmanuel showed off the inputs in his unit that utilized different types of wire; the difference in sound was more dramatic than most of us were expecting and it seems a great way to tailor your sound and synergy with the components you're connecting. Emmanuel brought two preamps, the First Sound Presence Deluxe and the Presence Deluxe 4.0 with Paramount upgrade; the latter includes a 2<sup>nd</sup> out-

board power supply, MIT caps and a more elaborate grounding topology. The rest of the system consisted of an Ayre C5 XE multi-player as the source, a Berning 60 watt single-ended OTL tube amplifier, cables from Q Audio, a Furman IT Reference 20i power conditioner and the club's Genesis G7.2f speakers and Kosmic rack. Emmanuel is toying with the idea of developing a line of power amps, but he's still waiting for the final bit of inspiration to decide which direction to go. We had a great turnout for the meeting and Emmanuel's hard work in putting together a polished presentation and great system left many members there listening past 10pm.

For more information, check out Emmanuel's web site:  
<http://www.firstsoundaudio.com>

## Announcements

by Darin Forkenbrock

### New Chairs

Our Vice President, Jay Hope, recently found a new set of chairs for the club. If you attended the February meeting you noticed how much better padding and back support these chairs provide, while taking up less space than the old ones. This deal was too good to pass up...40 chairs that would have cost us \$25-40 each and all we had to do was stack them up in the back of my pickup and transport them from Redmond. These are so durable we'll likely still be sitting on them two decades from now. Special thanks to Jay's

friends Jonathan Zimmer and Lisa Dupar for donating the chairs to the club. Jonathan and Lisa are co-owners of Dupar & Company caterers, one of the largest catering companies in the Seattle/Bellevue area. Be sure to consider Dupar & Company if you need help with a special event or party.

<http://www.duparandcompany.com>

### Vote on Cart for Chairs

We will vote to spend up to \$200 on a cart for the new chairs. This will allow us to wheel them out of storage in stacks of 10 high.

### Vote on June Meeting Budget

We will vote to allocate a budget of up to \$500 for the June meeting. This will cover expenses such as food and drinks, video taping the event, piano rental, etc.

### Elections

Our annual election for club officers will be held at the May meeting and the newly elected officers will take over in July.

## May 9th Meeting Thorens Turntable Fest

by Gary Koh

The PNWAS 9th May meeting will feature a range of turntables from Thorens, a German company that has been in business for 130 years. Thorens was a very popular brand in the early high-end audio days when vinyl ruled. Many of you may remember the popular Thorens TD125 and the TD160 which are still much sought-after today. In 1979, the Thorens Reference Turntable set the high-water mark for reference turntables as much as the Infinity Reference Standard in 1978 set the high-water mark for reference loudspeakers.

The line-up will include:

- 1) The value fully automatic Thorens TD 170-1 incl. arm and Ortofon OMB10 MM cartridge (\$750)
- 2) The mid-price Thorens TD 295 Mk IV incl. arm and Audio Technica AT95E MM cartridge (\$1,500)

3) The classic Thorens TD 350 suspended sub-chassis turntable incl. SME M2 arm (\$7,200 w/o cartridge) and Ortofon Cadenza Bronze MC cartridge (\$2,200)

4) The club's Rega turntable with arm and Audio Technica OC9 cartridge will be used as the reference.

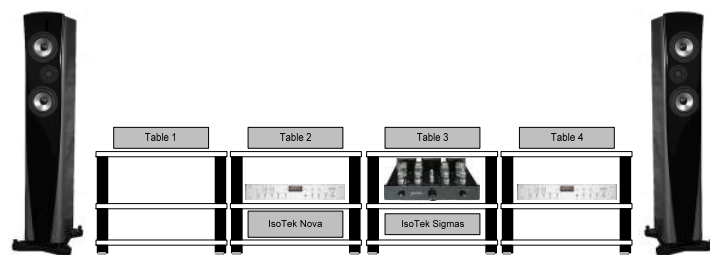
In order for club members to hear the differences between the turntables, they will be placed on identical equipment racks. We will use two units of the \$24,000 Burmester Ph100 Reference-line Phono Stage with both MM and MC inputs which allows us to level-match and optimize the different cartridges used. The club's Genesis I60 amplifier and Genesis 7.2f loudspeakers will be used as our members are all familiar with the sound.

As an additional benefit to fully paid-up PNWAS members, the Thorens

North American distributor, Rutherford Audio will offer club members a 20% discount off the retail price of any Thorens turntable purchased in the month of May. In addition, when a club member makes such a purchase, Rutherford Audio will contribute 5% of the retail price to the club coffers!! This will surely make our next incoming Treasurer very happy.

While Rutherford Audio is located in Canada, you will still get local set-up and support for your purchase from club member Joe Pittman and Kosmic as they are the official Seattle dealer for Thorens.

You don't have to be at the meeting to take advantage of this offer, but you have to be there to get to hear this TURNTABLE FASHION PARADE!





# Coming Up! June 13th

## The 2nd Annual PNWAS "Live vs. Recorded" Event

by Darin Forkenbrock



Featuring Seattle Opera Soprano Marcy Stonikas  
<http://www.marcystonikas.com>

After the fantastic success of last year's "Live vs. Recorded" meeting we decided to make this an annual June event for the Audio Society. It's hard to beat the energy and excitement that goes along with a live performance and recording and playing back the performance is our way of putting our own audiophile spin on the evening.

This year we have two musical artists who you won't want to miss. We're fortunate to have partnered with the Seattle Opera to find soprano Marcy Stonikas. Marcy is an accomplished opera singer, who's played around the world from Seattle to Vienna. In addition, we have Seattle violin soloist Marie' Rossano. Marie has appeared as a soloist with the Seattle Symphony and is also the winner of the 2012 Classical KING FM Young Artist Award. She'll be performing at the Julliard School before our event and with the Salt Lake Symphony after.

Phillip Chance, recording engineer for the Seattle Woodwind Orchestra, will join us to record the performances of these two amazing women.



Seattle Violin Soloist Marie' Rossano  
<http://www.marierossano.com>

<http://www.seattleopera.org>

Please RSVP to this email address, in order to assist us with planning. [pacificnorthwestaudiosociety@gmail.com](mailto:pacificnorthwestaudiosociety@gmail.com)

### Visitors Welcome!

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30pm at 4545 Island Crest Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

### PNWAS Mission Statement

- ◆ To bring people with a common interest in music reproduced at its best, for their mutual edification and pleasure.
- ◆ To facilitate the exchange and dissemination of accurate data concerning audio equipment and musical recordings.
- ◆ To promote, sponsor, and cultivate the highest quality reproduction of music in the home.
- ◆ To encourage maintenance of high standards in the performance, recording and transmission of music.

### PNWAS Objectives

1. Provide a forum for meeting other audiophiles and exchanging information on musical recordings and audio equipment.
2. Demonstrate and compare equipment and recordings.
3. Give members opportunities to become familiar with the techniques of audio manufacturing, testing, repair, recording, broadcasting, etc.
4. Explore related avenues as the member-

ship deems appropriate.

### Club Website

[www.audiosociety.org](http://www.audiosociety.org)

### E-mail

[info@audiosociety.org](mailto:info@audiosociety.org)

### US Mail

Pacific Northwest Audio Society, PO Box 435, Mercer Island, WA 98040

### Annual Dues

\$60 due each January. New members pay a prorated \$5 per month for remainder of year.

### Elected Officers

President: Darin Forkenbrock

[fork@audiosociety.org](mailto:fork@audiosociety.org)

Vice-President: Jay Hope

[jay@audiosociety.org](mailto:jay@audiosociety.org)

Secretary/Treasurer: Bruce Brown

[bruce@audiosociety.org](mailto:bruce@audiosociety.org)

### Committee Chairs

Editor: Joe Pittman

[joe@kosmic.us](mailto:joe@kosmic.us)

Equipment: Jerry Pomeroy

[enhancedsystems@earthlink.net](mailto:enhancedsystems@earthlink.net)

Music: Vacant– Volunteers?

Refreshment: Vacant– Volunteers?

### Editorial

Editorial submissions are welcome.

Content must be audio-related or of general interest to the club in plain text or Word document format without automation (macros and scripts). We reserve the right to edit for style, content, and length.

Editorial Deadline: two weeks before meeting date.

Publishing any editorial material is contingent upon the approval of the Executive Committee.

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