



**Exemplar Audio**  
by John Tucker

If you aren't getting lost in the music,  
the music is getting lost in your system.

## September 9th Meeting Recap

Text and photo by Joe Pittman

**J**ohn Tucker from eXemplar Audio demonstrated his latest equipment which featured his Portals interconnect and power cable and Expo Universal Player.

John explained how bad RFI noise is now with cell phones and other transmitters as well as noise on the power grid. His latest product, the Portals interconnects and power cables utilize active shielding to prevent RFI/EMI from contaminating the signal.

The Expo Universal Player is a modified Oppo BDP-83 player which includes Blu-ray Disc, DVD-A, SACD, DVD, and CD playback. His modifications are to the power supply and analog output stage. So the modifications improve all of the analog outputs.

The church had just removed the carpeting in the basement and finished the exposed concrete floor. This really made the acoustics almost un-listenable. However, John's system sounded really good to me in spite of the poor acoustics. If you are interested in hearing John's equipment in a more favorable acoustic environment, go check out his listening room at his home based operation in Lake Stevens.

John is offering a 20% discount to club members for his Exemplar and LSA products. John also offered the club a special deal for his Expo Universal Player, 50% off, so our price would be \$1250.

THANKS for taking the time to speak to us John!

Exemplar Demo System  
Expo Universal Player \$2,500  
Portals Interconnects (RCA) \$2,800/  
pr  
Portals Power Cable \$1,400  
LSA1 Statement Hybrid Integrated  
Amplifier \$10,999  
LSA1 Statement Monitor \$2,599/pr

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Let's not make a mess now...oh oh too late

With the upcoming DAC shootout meeting, we decided to advance Server Saturday so that we would have a few high-resolution servers to drive the USB DACs that will be included in the shootout. Joe Pitman was kind enough to organize a group-buy of the components, and so with that in mind, the six of us gathered at Genesis to build the servers together - Gary cracked the whip, Willy went out for coffee, and Jerry, John P, John S, and Keith built and got their knuckles skinned.

What took the longest time was cutting all the little pieces of Dynamat to shape to cover up the ventilation holes on the case. Instead of using the small noisy

power supply and CPU fans that came with the kit, we used a single large, quiet case fan and channeled the airflow around the components to keep everything cool. Since the case was so tight, it was a challenge getting all the wires in place and routed so that they don't block airflow to any of the critical components.

Despite building as a group with everyone helping one another, it took a good seven hours before we were ready to turn the first one on. John was the brave soul to switch his on first - no sparks, no smoke, no drama. So, we popped in the Windows 7 disc, and started loading the operating system. In the meantime, Jerry had gone to Stella's Pizza around

the corner and returned with dinner. The moment we all smelled the pizza, all thought of music went out the door and we dove right in.

With the internal Solid State Drive, Win7 loaded in less than 30 minutes. Then, we all connected each server to the Internet and applied all the updates to the operating system. Since Gary had already collected all the software components on a USB stick, we easily installed all the necessary software. By 10:30, we were all tired and wanted to just get out of there, but one final step had to be done - optimizing the system for best sound. Since it was all already documented, we optimized one server, listening to the improvements along the



You stink!

way to satisfy ourselves that it indeed sounded better.

With the un-optimized computer, the music hurt our ears! After the first step - optimizing the BIOS - it sounded good enough to want to listen to, but at every step, the music improved. After the final step, it was sounding glorious, and this was just using the on-board Toslink output to a Benchmark DAC1.

For the excruciating details of the build, download the instructions from the Genesis website here:

[http://www.genesisloudspeakers.com/newsletter/Newsletter\\_RMAF2010.pdf](http://www.genesisloudspeakers.com/newsletter/Newsletter_RMAF2010.pdf)



The completed server!

**T**he executive committee determined the club has a small problem: old equipment that either isn't used or possibly isn't the best choice for the group. We have limited storage space and determined it best to sell some of this stuff.

The executive and equipment committee feel the equipment belongs to the club membership and the members should conduct a simple majority vote concerning acquisition or disposal of equipment. There will be time allotted for a brief discussion prior to voting. The a

Consider this an official notice that we will vote at the October 14, 2010 meeting to authorize sales of equipment we don't use and put the money in the club bank account.

Equipment prices are listed below with the MSRP in parenthesis. Asking prices were derived from listings on Audiogon. A discount price for club members is listed and offered prior to general sale price (the last price listed). Prices determined for "General Sale" are not fixed, offers may and be accepted by the club representative listing the items on Audiogon. .Due to the nature of club meeting once a month the equipment has very little use on it compared to its age. All equipment is sold as is without warranty.

Club members: if you are unable to attend the Oct 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and have comments for inclusion in the discussion: please send them to:

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

No later than midnight 10/12.

### Surplus Equipment we don't use and would like to sell.

MIT Z Cord 2 AC Cable (\$350) - \$75, \$100 (2 for sale)

Conrad Johnson PV-12 Preamp (\$2,000) - \$675, \$800

Benz H2 Cartridge (\$1,500) - \$625, \$800

Audio Prism Foundation 3 Power Conditioner (\$600) - \$225, \$275

Transparent Wall Plus Speaker Cable 12ft (\$250) - \$100, \$150

Harmonic Tech Bi-wire Pro-9 Speaker Cable 8ft (\$600) - \$200, \$250

## April 14, 2011 Meeting Topic: Guest Speaker Jules Bloomenthal/Telarc/Soundstream

by Bruce Brown

Sometime ago I met Jules Bloomenthal and he seemed interested in presenting at one of our meetings. He came to my studio and I got a brief background of what he did in the past and thought it might interest the Club members as well. I asked him to write a brief synopsis of his background and what he can bring. The Soundstream recorder was the first hi-rez digital recorder used by Telarc.

### Soundstream Stories

Soundstream was the first digital audio company, leading the development of ultra-high fidelity recorders and pioneering computer-mediated editing. The company was founded by Dr. Thomas G. Stockham, Jr., previously known for his Caruso restorations and Watergate tape investigation.

This talk will review Dr. Stockham's work on filters, audio restoration, and audio fidelity. It will chronicle his company's entry into the world of commercial recording in the late nineteen-seventies, as the first audiophile,

digitally-recorded, pressed-in-vinyl recordings were released.

The original four-channel Soundstream recorder will be on display. Excerpts of recordings made from this machine, in particular several "gold standard" Telarc productions, will be played.

If you need more detail, please let me know.

On what date would be the talk?

And, would PNWAS be able to provide a digital projector, table (for the Soundstream recorder), and amp/speakers capable of playing back the Soundstream/Telarc 1812 Overture? (You have a copy on the CD I gave you—let me know if you need it again).

Jules

## Coming Attractions

### October 2nd, 2010 Seattle Head-Fi meet

Located at Front Panel Express, 5959 Corson Avenue South, Suite I, Seattle, WA 98108. Admission is free including Raffle. Registration 9am-11am, Meet 11am-5pm, Tear down 5pm-6pm.  
See

### October 14th PNWAS Meeting

A few DAC's will be compared



### October 15, 16 and 17, 2010 Rocky Mountain Audio Fest

Denver Marriott Tech Center. The best show for consumers.  
See <http://audiofest.net/2010>

### November 11th, 2010 PNWAS Meeting

It's dark outside. So it's time to have our annual high definition video and sound presentation of the latest technology.

### December 9th PNWAS Meeting

Annual raffle and Christmas music contest.



### January 6-9, 2011 CES 2011

The largest consumer electronics show for industry and Press.  
See <http://www.cesweb.org/>

### January 13th PNWAS Meeting

The winners and entrants of The Puget Sound speaker building contest are invited to demonstrate their speakers.

### February 10th PNWAS Meeting

TBD

### March 10th PNWAS Meeting

TBD

### April 14th PNWAS Meeting

Guest speaker Jules Bloomenthal will talk about Telarc's early digital recordings with the Soundstream recorder.

## Classified Ads

Meridian 568 Processor/DAC  
(24bit/96Khz) - \$1200 obo - and my  
Meridian 598 DVD Audio Player  
(\$1400 obo). Contact Renan Jeffereis email: [renanj@jeffereis.org](mailto:renanj@jeffereis.org)

### 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 audio-philes 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.

### Executive Committee

President: John Stone

[John.W.Stone4@boeing.com](mailto:John.W.Stone4@boeing.com)

Vice-President: Darin Forkenbrock

[forkenbrock@gmail.com](mailto:forkenbrock@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Willy Chang

[chang98@comcast.net](mailto:chang98@comcast.net)

Editor: Joe Pittman

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

### Committee Chairs

Equipment: Terry Olson

[CornyGuy@aol.com](mailto:CornyGuy@aol.com)

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.

### Disclaimer

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Bringing Audio Enthusiasts Together Since 1978

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