THE RECORDING INDUSTRY MAGAZINE

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Tape-to-Disk Special Issue • Mastering, Pressing, and Duplication

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tereo Mastering

Dennis Lambert Understanding the Audiophile

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Stan Freberg Audiooptics Producing the Spoken Word

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#### DECEMBER 1983 VOLUME SEVEN NUMBER TWELVE THE RECORDING INDUSTRY MAGAZINE





#### Cover:

(Top) Future Disc Systems, Hollywood, CA, features a computer controlled disk mastering console built by Cybersonics.

Photo: David Hernandez

(Bottom) Neumann VMS-70 operated by Zuma computer at Masterfonics, Inc., Nashville, TN. Photo: Donald Putnam

(Corner) Godley and Creme. Photo: Sherry Barnett

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For his special report this issue, George Petersen looks into the world of *stereo mastering recorders*, offering an indepth look at top-of-theline analog and some digital mastering machines. Page 24







new Audio Applications column, a nuts and bolts look at topics of interest to the studio engineer. Ken Pohlmann, who brought us the Digital Discussions column and other features, now presents this monthly update of technigues and technology. Page 37

This month we kick off our

This is our annual Tape-to-Disk issue, featuring the most complete and up to date *listings of mastering, pressing and tape duplication facilities* available. The directory begins on Page 40.



robably the most progressive studio in the United States (if not the world). The first world class studio to offer full digital audio recording and editing capability. With 32-track digital audio recording, digital stereo mastering and electronic editing, Lion Share provides top artists a sound quality unmatched by any other studio. Lion Share now maintains first generation audio from RDING multi-track recording through studio, disk and cassette mastering, and all the way to the consumer through the Compact Disc. Leading artists and producers are demanding total digital audio capability. Lion Share Recording Studios. Los Angeles (213) 658-5990.

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Dear Mix,

I read with great interest the article by Tom Lubin on machine alignment and would like to make a few comments.

In our experience, all mechanical adjustments to a head should be completed before the electronic alignment to eliminate the need for retrimming due to shifts in level and response. Additionally, coarse adjustment of the azimuth is most easily obtained by displaying two channels on an oscilloscope in dual mode. This makes it very easy to see the shifting to either side of true point and the peak output of both channels at that point. This method eliminates the need for comparing the shift between two different frequencies, although it does reguire the complication of test equipment. Fine tuning can then be accomplished by an x-y display.

Also, we regularly recommend to our customers the use of 250 nW/meter as O V.U. While this may decrease headroom and lead to distortion unless critically monitored, we feel it offers the greatest flexibility as it is easier to record at minus levels then at plus levels and less damaging to the meters as well. We have had great success with this approach even on older semi-pro machines such as the TEAC A-2340, A-3340, etc. Larger machines have been set at 370 nW/meters for some applications with excellent results.

The only real criticism I have is the recommendation on cleaning procedures. Under no circumstances do we recommend the use of alcohol based cleaners. These definitely shorten pinch roller life and can, under some circumstances, cause condensation during evaporation possibly leading to earlier head failure due to rust. We recommend a trichlorotriflouroethane cleaner for metal parts and a rubber cleaner for the pinch roller. The TEAC solutions, HC-1 and RC-1, are superb. It is our philosophy that cleaning should be done so often that little or no oxide buildup is ever noticeable. If so, we recommend shortening the maintenance interval until this condition is achieved. We have heard of the use of silicon polish on stationary parts to reduce wear and have found it to be of some use, especially for machines with severe wear. We do not know about the possibility of tape contamination and would appreciate any feedback you could give us on this.

Lastly, we fully agree with the use of High Frequency to set bias level as it produces a more precise result with less effort. Perhaps Mr. Lubin should have informed the reader that the use of 10kHz as opposed to 1kHz will lead to more pronounced effects of wow and dropout, especially on edge tracks.

Anyway, thanks for the article. Anything that raises the general level of knowledge in our industry can only help us all.

Sincerely, Jack LeRoi Chief Service Technician Pi Keyboard and Audio Cleveland, OH

#### Dear Mix,

Lou CasaBianca's "Origins of Music Video" provides a good chronological overview of this developing genre. However, please let the record show that the Beatles' roottop concert in "Let It Be" could not have stopped traffic on Abbey Road-that sequence is filmed on top of the Apple offices on Saville Row, across town from EMI's Abbey Road studios. In fact none of "Let It Be" takes place at Abbey Road, the interiors being done at the cavernous Twickenham film studios. This is a shame, because we don't have any footage of the Beatles at work at EMI Abbey Road, the studio where almost all their great work was accomplished; at least none that are in circulation. Perhaps that could be Lou's next assignment—tracking down video of the Beatles at work at Abbey Road. Best of luck with the series.

Regards, Gordon Whiting Sonic Arts Corp. San Francisco, CA *—page 128, FEEDBACK* 



#### **RIAA Hosts Engineers**

During the recent Audio Engineering Society conference in New York, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) hosted a dialogue with members of the Society of Professional Audio Recording Studios (SPARS) and engineers affiliated with Japanese electronics firms and their U.S. subsidiaries. Attending this first-ever gathering of RIAA and Japanese firm engineers were representatives from several of the largest firms based across the Pacific: Matsushita/Technics, Mitsubishi, Pioneer Electronics Sansui Electronics, Sharp Electronics, and Sony Corp. Topics covered in the discussions included Compact Disc payer and disc compatibility; prerecorded cassette equalization compatibility with new cassette decks; and Japanese proposals for standardization of a digital audio tape (cassette) format in Japan. Representing the RIAA were technical executives from a host of record industry giants, including A&M, Atlantic, Capitol, CBS, MCA, Motown, PolyGram, RCA and Warner Bros.

The joint RIAA/SPARS seminar, which was attended by reps from ten SPARS member studios, covered such areas as the latest in digital recording equipment; a report on the International Compact Disc standard; and improvements in studio preparation of master tapes for prerecorded cassette duplication. Among the subjects covered by the Engineering Committee's meeting were stereo TV; anti-piracy systems; prerecorded cassette equalization; and compact discs.

At its annual fall meetings in California, the Electronic Industries Association's Consumer Electronics Group (CEG) approved a number of new programs, while renewing its commitment to

At JBL, Debra Watson has been appointed Marketing Services Manager Professional Divison and Juergen Wahl has become Applications Engineer for JBL and UREI Professional Products. ... Tom Kobayashi, Executive VP of Glen Glenn Sound since 1981, has been promoted to President of the Company. ... Otari Corp. has appointed Jeff Phillips to the newly created post of Technical Sales Support. Transco Products Corp., a leading supplier of master recording blanks, has been purchased by Robert Cosulich and Fred Buehler, long time management personnel. .... Studer has opened a Northwest field office in Walnut Creek, CA, headed up by Fred Lays, who was formerly with the New York office.... The 1983 Video Production Association's Monitor Award for Engineering Achievement was presented to Lexicon for their

several existing ones. On the engineering front, the CEG board approved funds for research on such topics as electro-magnetic compatibility, high definition television, multichannel TV sound, and product safety. The CEG board also agreed to establish a new model technical high school, convert existing CEG textbooks and lab manuals to videotape, and to offer financial support for the upcoming PBS series, "New Tech Times." The Government and Consumer Affairs wing of CEG authorized the continued support for the Home Recording Rights Coalition and the Audio Recording Rights Coalition, both of which are seeking to block enactment of royalty taxes on home

The upcoming CES show, which of course is sponsored, managed and produced by the CEG, promises to be the largest winter show ever, with some 1,225 exhibitors coming to Las Vegas January 7-10 for the event. In addition to the Las Vegas Convention Center, the Hilton's Pavilion and Grand Ballroom, and various rooms and suites at the Riviera Hotel that were utilized last year, the Winter Show will also now include a brand new, 120,000 sg. ft. addition to the Convention Center known as West Hall, and additional space at the Riviera and Sahara hotels. The show is expected to draw about 75,000 visitors, including about 7,500 visitors from outside the United States. For more information about CEG or the CES show, call Allan Schlosser at (202) 457-4919

#### COMMTEX Expo in Dallas

COMMTEX International, which has developed into the top exposition of audio-visual, video and microcomputer equipment in this

notes -

Model 1200 Time Compressor and other contributions to digital processing. ... BTX has appointed James R. Lucas Manager of Western Area Sales. Joseph A. Giordano has been named product planning and development director and Joseph L. Leon has been moved to marketing director for professional markets at 3M's Magnetic Audio/Video Products Division. Ampex Corp. received an Emmy Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for its role in the development of its digital optics sytems. ... Henning Moller has rejoined Bruel and Kjaer to provide marketing and applications support to the company's recently introduced line of professional microphones. NorthWestern, Inc., Portland, OR, has taken over distribution of the last remaining AG 440-C recorders from Ampex. ... Crown Interna-

country, is expanding its exhibition schedule for the upcoming expo, to be held January 20 to 23 in the Dallas Convention center. Among the types of equipment and materials (software/courseware) to be displayed are: projection equipment and techniques; video cameras, recorders, disks, monitors and related equipment; audio tape recorders and duplicators; remote access and retrieval systems; programmers and other multi-projector devices; microcomputers; student response systems; screens; projection tables; tapes; films; filmstrips and much more. In all, more than 500 manufacturers and producers are expected to exhibit their latest products in the Convention Center's huge space. For more info, call Robert Milko at NAVA (the trade organization of the audio-visual communications industry) at (703) 273-7200.

#### **Altec Looks Ahead**

The financially struggling Altec Corporation recently filed for protection from creditors under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code. According to Altec Lansing president William Fowler, the company's serious indebtedness stemmed from the acquisition by the LTV-Ling Altec conglomerate of a company called Escon fifteen years ago. Escon has not been part of Altec for the past five years, but the debts have remained. Fowler says that filing under Chapter 11 will not adversely affect Altec's production of sound equipment, nor have there been layoffs because of the move. Meanwhile, Altec has moved all of its manufacturing to the company's modern facilities in Oklahoma City and has phased out some low volume lines.

tional has announced the appointment of Secom Systems of Chamblee, GA, as representatives for their professional products in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, North and South Carolina. ... Agfa Gevaert has announced the appointment of Burlington Audio of Ocearside, NY, to market and distribute Agfa audio tape products. ... Sproch Sales, Inc., of Fort Lauderdale, FL was dubbed 1983 Rep of the Year at the Electro-Voice National Sales Meeting. Ursa Major, Inc. has expanded their domestic sales representation with the addition of Givan-Flanagan Associates, in Massachusetts; Lienau Associates, Inc., in Maryland; Lassers, Sangwin, Lassers, in Illinois; R.L. Graham Associates, in Kansas; and Meyer, Ross and Fleming, Inc., in California.



**O**ver the years, pre-recorded cassette sales have steadily increased to the point that with some releases they now equal the sales of phonograph records. This growing market penetration made it essential that the technical quality of the pre-recorded cassette be improved to equal or better that of the phonograph record. Dolby HX-Professional, developed by *Dolby Laboratories* and *Bang and Olufsen*, represents a breakthrough in cassette duplication quality. Electrosound and Cetec Gauss are the first two companies to be licensed to manufacture duplicating slaves which include the new circuitry, which results in startling improved high frequency response.

This new generation of duplication slaves provides such an improved response that the limitations of the duplicating master, typically recorded at 3.75 ips, becomes the major quality constraint. Dolby Laboratories now makes available the first Dolby HX-Professional package for a duplication master recorder, the Otari MTR 10. The module is easily field retrofitted, and requires no significant change in normal alignment procedures. Modules for other recorders will be announced over the next few months.



Dolby Laboratories Inc., 731 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94111, Telephone 415-392-0300, Telex 34409, 346 Clapham Road, London SW9, Telephone 01-720-1111, Telex 919109, "Dolby" and the double-D symbol are trademarks of Dolby Laboratories Licensing Corp. S83/5342.



#### NORTHEAST

Rubber Rodeo, recently signed to Polygram, are recording their first disk for the label at Bearsville Studios, with Hugh Jones producing and engineering. Also at Bearsville, King Crimson has started preproduction work on their next LP at the facility's rehearsal barn, and will soon begin recording in studio A with Brad Davis engineering, Ray Niznik assisting. . . . At Inner Ear Recording in Queens, NY, Edo Jasper and Jack Kelly recently completed mixing their "telespace opera" called 'Eutro" for Imeon Productions, with Steve Vakis engineering. And the Otis Bros. are mixing their new album, which was produced by Bob Guida and Pat Conte.... Among the many projects currently cooking at Normandy Sound in Warren, RI are a pair spearheaded by producer Rick Harte of Ace of Hearts Records. Rick has been busy with The Lairs and the Del Fuegos, with engineer Phil Greene at the board, assisted by Joe Moody. The new Man Parrish record is being recorded in Brooklyn aboard the Aura Sonic Mobile Audio Unit for Elektra Records. The band is producing themselves, with engineering by Steven Remote. ... Trod Nossel studios in Wallingford, CT. is continuing work on the forthcoming album by the Yale Alley Cats. That record will include

by the *Yale Alley Cats.* That record will include both studio material and songs recorded live at Woolsey Hall by TNRS chief engineer *Richard Robinson.* 

#### SOUTHEAST

Guitar ace Pat Travers is finishing up work on his next album for Polydor Records at Bee Jay recording studios in Orlando, FL. Barry Mraz is producing, Andy de Ganahl engineering. Also working at Bee Jay is the red hot south of the border band Menudo, recording Spanish language commercials for McDonald's and Proctor & Gamble with engineer Dana Cornock... Lots of exciting action at Woodland Sound Studios in Nashville: the Statler Brothers cut tracks there for their fall TV special, with Bill Walker producing, David McKinley at the board (with assistance from Tim Farmer, Andy Benefield and Ken Criblez; Merle Haggard worked on vocal overdubs for his next CBS album, with Rick McCollister engineering, Ken Criblez seconding. Woodland engineers Ed Hudson and Ron Reynolds are also working on a Haggard project, this one a new live LP. And the Oak Ridge Boys have now completed the vocals for their next MCA release with producer Ron Chancey, engineer Les Ladd and a very busy Ken Criblez. . . . Country stars the Bellamy

Brothers are mixing their new Warner Bros. album at New River Studios in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Steve Klein is producing, with Dennis Hetzendorfer at the board, assisted by Ted Stein. . . . At Morrisound Recording in Tampa. FL, The Outlaws, featuring original members Henry Paul and Huey Thomasson have been recording some new material, with Jim Morris and Tony Morris engineering. Also at Morrisound, Vincent Bryant has completed a dance/funk project with Chuck Busch producing. . . . Miami's Criteria Recording Studios has been active on several fronts. Japanese artist Hirmoi Gi is finishing up his forthcoming album for CBS-Sony with producer Masatoshi Sakai, engineer Tom Suzuki and Criteria's Bob Castle assisting. Meanwhile, the Criteria Cutting Center mastered funkster George Clinton's new 12". "Nubian Nut," with Mike Fuller acting as mastering engineer; and Criteria's Wheels, the studio's remote recording division, completed work on an HBO special "Making of a Record," which spotlighted John Cougar at work on his new album, "Uh Huh." The special was taped in Cougar's native Indiana. Co-producer Don Gehman was on hand, as were technicians Ross Alexander of Synergetic Services and Criteria media specialist Richard Achor. . Here's a name to look out for: Billie J. Helmkay, a 17-year-old female country-pop singer from Saskatchawan, travelled to Nashville's Sound Emporium Studios to record his first single for Comstock Records. Comstock artists the O'Roark Brothers, who have charted three singles, are also working at Sound Emporium. Patty Parker is producing both acts, with Jim Williamson engineering. . . . Current activity at Music City Music Hall includes Jerry Lee Lewis, now overdubbing vocals for his next MCA album with Ron Chancey producing and Les Ladd engineering; and RCA-Nashville artist Razzy Bailey recording with producers Norro Wilson and Tony Brown, and engineer Bill Harris.

#### NORTH CENTRAL

At Pinebrook Studios in Alexandria, IN, David Culross cut some orchestral tracks, and John Innes orchestral and vocal tracks for a "Messiah" project. Engineers on both included John Bolt, Steve Archer and Dan Meyer. . . . Ex-Little Feat lead guitarist Paul Barrere has been in at Cincinnati's QCA Studios recording his second solo album for Mirage/Atlantic with Ric Probst engineering, Jim Greene assisting. . . . Hard at work at Multi-Trac studios in Redford, MI are the underground band Negative Approach, who just finished their first LP with producer Corey Rusk and engineer Lloyd Grace; Joe Pullin & the Missiles, who completed an EP with producer John Rapp and engineer Breck Watt; and Karen Newman, who cut a demo with producer Paul Stanley and engineer Rick Canzano.



Sylvester, who has continued his winning ways with a series of hits for Megatone Records, is working on his latest dance disk for that label at SF's Automatt with Tip Warrick producing and Steve Fontano engineering.... Triad Studios in Redmond, WA, recently saw the up-and-coming group Queensryche recording a demo project for their next LP, while the band Allies made a five-song EP there with producers Marlin Greene and David Kincaid. At T&B Audiolabs in SF, Rhythm Riot has been laying down overdubs for a project produced by Ira Walker, bassist for one of the Bay Area's hottest local bands, Billy Satellite. Engineering is Jaimie Bridges. Also at T&B are Noh Buddies, recording their debut album for Sansei Records with engineer Gregory Jones. The band's music mixes rock with traditional Asian forms, and the buzz on the street about this group is growing every day. . . . Activity at Montage Recording Studio in Newark, CA, includes final mixes for an album by Max Lynx and the recording of a foursong EP by Atom, with Dave Hartzheim engineering, and Alan Tomlinson and Randy Spendlove assisting. . . . If you've seen Francis Coppola's intriguing and innovative new film "Rumblefish", you were no doubt intrigued by the percussive soundtrack by Police drummer Stewart Copeland. That soundtrack was entirely recorded at San Rafael's Tres Virgos Studios, with engineers Robin Yeager and Gordon Lyon.

#### SOUTHWEST

Austin's Reelsound Recording had its remote truck on hand recently to record some live dates by ex-Led Zep belter Robert Plant for a "King Biscuit" radio show. Three Texas shows were captured for the special, which was recorded and produced by Peter Kauff, with Malcolm Harper, Mason Harlow and Greg Klinginsmith engineering. Reelsound also worked a live show by Oingo Boingo for an RKO network special. Rob Dollinger produced with the same engineering trio as above. . . . Omega Audio of Dallas provided remote recording for a series of 26 30-minute TV specials shot over three weeks in Orlando, FL, for a show called "Church Street Station." Among the artists appearing on the shows were such top names as Charlie Rich, Tanya Tucker, T. G. Sheppard, Terry Gibbs,

# The Composer Package



Paul Bliss bought his first Soundcraft console in 1978. As a song writer and record producer, he has always enjoyed the benefits of composing straight onto tape – that's why so many of his songs have been hits for performers as varied as Uriah Heep and Olivia Newton John.

But we amazed him with the Producer Package. With the Series 1600 console and Series 760 multitrack, Paul found he could take an affordable leap from 8 to 24 track recording. And that took him from the realm of demos to top quality masters, all in a home studio facility.

"I recorded the master of 'Casualty' for the Hollies in my studio, and we overdubbed the vocals with Graham Nash over in the States. The engineers in the studio in LA were quite amazed at the quality of my recording.

"Where the Series 1600 really scores for me is the patchbay. That lets me connect up my keyboards,

synthesizers and drum machine to the console and tape machine with just 5 multicore cables. And lets me patch anything to anything without leaving my chair.

"Soundcraft call the 1600 and 760 the Producer Package. It really feels like it was designed especially for me. So perhaps they should call it the Composer Package too."



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Gary Morris and Gail Davies. Audio engineers for the show, which begins airing in January, were Paul Christensen, Marvin Hlavenka, Michael Parks, Garry Jones, Tim Yawn and Eric Brooks.

#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Missing Persons, whose "Spring Session M" LP was one of last year's biggest hits by a new artist. is recording its second album at Westlake Audio, with Bruce Swedien and the group producing, and Swedien and Matt Forger engineering. Also at Westlake are Mr. Mister, recording with Peter (Men at Work) McIan, his associate engineer Paul Ray and assistant engineer Ric Butz; and Luther Vandross, mixing his next Epic album, which he and Marcus Miller produced, with Ray Bardani engineering and Steve Bates assisting. ... Quad Teck studios has been in rockabilly heaven recently: The Blasters recorded three songs for an upcoming film there, with Blaster Phil Alvin producing, Pat Burnette engineering and Ken Gordon also assisted on that project. . Tim Pinch Recording of Glendale has been doing a lot of work in the San Francisco Bay Area of late-projects include DFX2 and Patrick Simmons, recorded at Keystone Palo Alto, Y&T captured in San Jose and Salinas, Greg Kihn at Wolfgang's in SF, and metal shouter Ronnie James Dio at the San Jose Civic. Closer to home, TPR handled a live radio broadcast of the Long Beach Blues Fest, and a con-

cert at the Greek Theatre with Culture Club. TV rules at Evergreen Studios in Burbank, Composers Barry Devorzan and Joe Conlan have been recording their score for the series "Just Our Luck" there, under the music supervision of David Franco, and engineer Rick Riccio has worked on sessions for the series "St. Elsewhere" and "Knots Landing," as well as the forthcoming mini-series "Princess Daisy," which is being scored by Lalo Schifrin. Assisting Riccio have been Mike Hatcher and Gary Luchs.... Meanwhile, at Group IV Recording, TV thememaster Mike Post scored an episode of the new "Bay City Blues" series with engineer Dennis Sands supervising and assistance from Andy D'addario..... Skip Saylor Recording has been kept busy working on the soundtrack for a PBS special called "Breaking and Entering," Producing are Topper Carew and Henry Johnson. Emmylou Harris' excellent new album, "White Shoes" was recorded at Magnolia Studios with Brian Ahern producing and Donivan Cowart engineering. Ahern also recently completed the second album by Karen Brooks, with Brad Hartman engineering. ... Lion Share Recording has seen myriad activity lately, including projects by Musical Youth, produced by Peter Waterman and Peter Collins, engineering by John Arrias, assisted by Larry Fergusson, Tom Fouce and Artie Farkas; Stanley Clarke, produced by Clarke, with engineering by Eric Zobler assisted by Steve Schmitt; and the Isley Brothers, produced by McKinley Jackson, engineered by Frank Clark, and assisted once again by Artie Farkas

#### STUDIO NEWS

T&B Audiolabs of San Francisco has added MDM TA 2A time aligned nearfield monitors, as well as Ellinger quad noise gates. . . . At Montage Recording Studio in Newark, CA, new equipment includes two more F-300 expander gates for the now-full Scamp rack; a stereo send modification for their Lexicon 224 digital reverb; an EMU Drumulator digital drum computer; and "The Tube," a special edition tube condensor mike from AKG. Also at Montage, David Hartzheim has been promoted to studio manager. . . . Three 3M 32-track digital mastering systems have been sold to major studios in Nashville. Two were purchased by Norbert Putnam of the Bennett House, another by Bill Roach's Castle Recording Studios. . . . After 16 years as chief engineer at Orlando, FL-based Bee Jay Recording Studios, Bill Vermillion has resigned to pursue his own interests. Besides engineering for such artists as Cameo, Long John Baldry and Molly Hatchet, Vermillion was responsible, in large part, for the design of Sphere's Eclipse C Console. . . . In Nashville, Pat Patrick, part owner of Audio Media Recorders, has acquired Sound Lab Studio. Patrick hopes this will facilitate a rapid growth in ad agency clients and independent label projects. . . . Unique Recording in New York has added a Yamaha DX-7 digital synthesizer, a PPG Wave 2.2 digital synth and sequencer, a second Emulator with J.L. Cooper mod., a Sony DRE 2000 digital reverb, and a set of eight Neve 1077 mike preamp and EO modules

Coming in April

# **Video Production Listings**

Plan now to be included in our 4th annual Video Focus (NAB) issue, which will be taking a close look at Music Video Production, new hardware and software and important trends to watch. If you or your company are involved in video production/post production and would like to be included in the directory listings for this issue, fill out and return the form below by January 1, 1984.

Please send me a listing questionnaire for the April issue.	Name	Title	
Also send me adver- tising information (Ad closing date: February 7, 1984)	Company Type of Business		
Mail to:	Address		
Mix Publications 2608 Ninth Street	City	State	Zip
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Tape Duplication and Record Manufacturing Update:

# Industries in Transition



#### by George Petersen

The past several years have brought significant changes to the record and tape industries. Cassette tape sales of releases by major label artists are taking an increasingly larger por-tion of the total number of units sold. While this can partially be attributed to the popularity of Walkman-type players and improved auto sound systems, the vast strides made in the area of prerecorded cassette sound have also been important. Record labels, tape duplication firms, and the manufacturers of bulk tape, cassette recorders, duplication equipment, and related gear (such as loaders and shells) have all contributed greatly towards this goal.

Meanwhile, the record mastering and pressing industries have also been advancing their state of the art. After a decade of declining record quality, consumers are now demanding better pressings, and the major record labels have started to realize the need for better product. Today, improved vinyl formulations, half speed mastering, analog  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and digital masters, and quality improvements in the manufacturing process itself, have proven that the disk is capable of superb performance if attention is paid to all areas of the tape-to-disk process. However, technical considerations aside, one of the most obvious changes in the pressing/tape duplication industry has been the emergence of regional independent labels and the distribution of product by bands and

#### U.S. Compact Disc Facility Opening

After eighteen months of planning, negotiations, testing and construction, Digital Images Incorporated will open the first compact disc manufacturing plant in the United States. Dave Drake, D.I.I. president, says the firm, slated to go on-line next month, will offer custom transferring of Sony PCM-1610 digital tapes to the compact disc format. All digital transfers, laser encoding, manufacturing, packaging, indexing and sub-coding will be handled at Digital Images' facility in Northern Virginia (near Washington, D.C.).

Drake estimates the plant's CD production capacity will be 12,000 discs per day, or 3-4 million per year. The company will accommodate both large and small orders, with a minimum of 500 discs.

The digital transfering charges are expected to range from \$950 to \$1200, depending on sub-code, indexing, and time code requirements. Disc prices (with jewel box and one-color labels) will range from \$2.50 to \$3.00 each, depending on quantity ordered. For more information, contact: Digital Images, Inc., Box 17229, Washington, D.C. 20041. (703) 450-6544.



#### Cetec Gauss high speed duplication equipment in action at Bonneville Productions in Salt Lake City.

#### -from page 13

musicians themselves. While the number of major label releases has decreased, the number of independent releases has risen dramatically, and mastering/pressing and tape duplication facilities have moved with the changes.

#### **HX** Professional Acceptance Growing

The HX Professional system for improving high speed tape duplication, introduced two years ago by Dolby Laboratories and Bang & Olufsen, has received increasing acceptance by record labels and duplication facilities alike. The Warner Communications Group (comprised of Warner Bros., Elektra/Asylum and Atlantic Records) was the first major label to adopt the system, followed by A&M/CTI, and Capitol. CBS is currently testing the system, having installed ten slaves equipped for the process.

John Baxter, Technical Manager at Dolby Labs, commented on the system: "Now that several tape duplication houses have installed new production facilities incorporating Dolby HX Professional, a number of major record labels are anxious to specify that the process be used in the production of their pre-recorded cassettes. They recognize that the ability of Dolby HX Professional to give an intrinsically more accurate recording of high freguency signals enables them to make higher quality recordings without increasing their duplicating costs. The fact that an HX Professional recording does not require special playback equipment is a further attractive feature of the system."

In almost all tape recorders, a supersonic bias current (at a frequency typically 5 times the maximum audio frequency) is added to the audio record current in order to linearize the record characteristic of the tape. In conventional recorders, the magnitude of the bias current is a compromise between the requirements for optimally recording highfrequency signals and those for optimally recording low-frequency signals.

However, even nominally optimum bias is a compromise for a given tape, because that bias level which gives best performance in one area, such as distortion, will not provide the best results in another area, such as frequency response. One reason for this inconsistency is a phenomenon known as "selfbiasing," which occurs on signals that are rich in high frequencies, such as music scored with an abundance of percussion instruments, cymbals, or sibilant voices.

In such cases, the high frequencies in the signal being recorded act as recording bias and add to the bias already present, leading to tape saturation-the very highest frequencies don't get recorded at all, resulting in a dulling of the sound, and the generation of considerable distortion

Dolby HX Professional is a special bias-related circuit which adapts to the signal being recorded to provide

kept optimally biased on such program material, and the usual effects of tape saturation are significantly reduced.

While the improvement will depend on the particular tape formulation, with Dolby HX Professional high frequencies can be cleanly recorded at levels higher by 6 dB or more than with the conventional fixed-bias technique. The degree of improvement possible is similar to that which a highperformance tape formulation provides over a conventional one.

At the present time, HX Professional licenses have been granted to Electro Sound and Gauss and both of these companies are offering cassette duplication slaves and retrofit kits for existing systems.



truly optimum bias at each moment in time. It constantly monitors the signal being recorded, which is a combination of the program material and the recording bias. If it senses the total effective bias increasing as a result of selfbiasing, it instantly lowers the bias from the recorder's oscillator to keep the total effective bias constant. Thus, the tape is

provement of up to 10 dB.

Dolby Labs is also marketing HX Professional modules for the Otari MTR-10 and MTR-12 recorders, and modules for the Otari DP-80 high speed duplication system should be available in the near future. For more information, contact Dolby Laboratories, 731 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94941 (415) 392-0300.

#### THE MIX VOL. 7, NO. 12

Jack Brown, the president and founder of Rainbo Records, a custom pressing house in Santa Monica, CA, says of the changing industry, "It's more than just a ripple. The four-billion dollar industry went way down. The majors are scared, compressed and taking a beating. There are no more small distributors — they've all been gobbled up by the majors. Today, bands who couldn't get a shot with a major are getting out there, raising the money, creating their own product, and doing whatever it takes to get it into the marketplace. They aren't all successful, but they do it. I have a lot of respect for them."

The trend towards more custom releases is prevalent on both coasts. James Miller, of Tracy-Val Corporation, a New Jersey record plating firm, observes "a lot more acetate work rather than stamper work," and is seeing an increase of independent and custom projects.

Another trend which is growing in popularity nationwide is the use of <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" mastering machines by recording studios. Paul Stubblebine, disk cutter at San Francisco's The Automatt, notes, "The trend towards <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" is almost 100% on major label projects, and it's starting to show up on independents as well."

In Nashville, Randy Kling of Disc Mastering Inc., reports "a very good portion" of 1⁄2" masters coming in, and he recently installed a new Neumann SAL 74B 550 watt transformerless cutting amplifier to complement his Studer A-80 1⁄2" playback machine with transformerless line amplifiers.

Gary Rice, of Future Disc Systems, a mastering studio in Hollywood, reports business is "outrageous" after being open for less than one year. He plans to add a Mitsubishi X-80 digital mastering recorder in the near future, and about 80% of their work is 30 ips  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". When asked about some of the low frequency problems which can occur at 30 ips, Gary explains, "We use a modified Ampex ATR-102, and the low frequency problems don't exhibit themselves since we switched to a Saki 1/2" glass head stack. With our machine modified for preview, we ran between both sets of heads, and the difference was fantastic. The bottom end was ultra smooth."

Also in Hollywood, Bill Lightner of K Disc Mastering says "business is quite good," and they are involved with about 70% label work. K Disc recently added a fifth Neumann lathe (VMS-70) to keep up with the demand, and they are considering adding another mastering room

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Award Record Manufacturing, of Inglewood, CA, is now completing the construction of a new 7800 square foot headquarters and manufacturing facility in Los Angeles, at 5200 W. 83rd Street, near the International Airport. According to George Abajian and Martin Ansoorian, Award's owners, the new \$550,000 plant will allow for a production increase beyond their current output of 12,000 records per day.

Jim Bosken, of Cincinnati's QCA Custom Pressing reports the firm has been involved with a number of upgrading projects, including the addition of a Neumann mastering system, and a separate plating room.

The new plating room, which utilizes a clean room environment with stainless steel walls and special filtration systems, was installed to accommodate QCA's nickel metalizing process, designed by K.R. Smith of Carmel Valley, California. Bosken says the process involves "metalizing the tace of the master lacquer with nickel rather than silver. You don't have to strip the metal off, so there's no high end loss. The remaining metalized nickel is harder than electroplated nickel, lasts longer, and you can get more mothers from it."

Frankford/Wayne Mastering Labs, with studios in New York City and Philadelphia have been involved with a large number of digital projects recently and are now in the process of adding a second Sony PCM-1610 system in New York, according to Lynn Steele. They are also now offering digital tape preparation services for the compact disc.

Masterdisk's new room should be on-line by January 1, 1984, reports Aimee Chiariello, production manager for the New York City-based mastering house. The new room will be compatible to their other two rooms, and will be equipped with a Zuma computer and a Neumann console and lathe. Masterdisk also added a Sony PCM-1610 digital system last summer.

Irby Mandrell, president of Mandrell/Gray, Inc., announced that the company will locate its record and tape production facilities at 38 Music Square East, in the heart of Nashville's Music Row. The firm will provide manufacturing services to recording studios, artists and independent labels across the country. Vice president and chief of operations is James E. Gray, Irby Mandrell is the father of the singing Mandrell sisters, and is also the president of Mandrell Management, an artist management and development company.

> Gray says the company was —page 19

#### EASY AUTOMATED OPERATION

The 6120 practically runs itself. The system features automatic end of-tape stop and auto recue on the reel master, and a choice of manual or auto rewind on the cassette master, providing virtually uninterrupted operation. Changes in equalization are made automatically when you change speeds on the reel master, thereby reducing setup time and avoiding errors.

#### EXPANDABLE

The modular, building block concept lets you buy just what you need today and expand the system to meet your growing needs tomorrow. Modules simply plug together. There's no need to add people or space as the system grows, because the 6120 is so compact that even a full system can be operated by one person.

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You can produce eleven C-60 cassette tapes in less than two minutes!

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#### EFFICIENT

The 6120 accepts either 7" (178 mm) or 101/2" (267 mm) reels, so you don't waste time rethreading from one reel format to another. All key setups and adjustments are made easily from the front of the system, so you don't have to waste time moving or disassembling the 6120. Accurate monitoring and precise adjustments of audio and bias levels are made possible even at high speeds, because of quick response LED level indicators. All cassette slaves are independent, so a jammed tape won't shut down the entire system, and a LED indicator warns you of an incomplete copy in case a cassette tape jams or ends before the master.



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## HANK WARING'S FULL DIMENSION STEREO

#### by David Goggin

This is the story of a dedicated knob-twister—Hank Waring: disk mastering engineer, maintenance wiz, and one of those electronic nuts who is never satisfied. There is a bit of the mad scientist in Hank, and on one of the limbs of his family tree sits Thomas Edison, Hank's great uncle. Hank has a tall tale to tell.

He was mastering records at Capitol in the late Fifties and early Sixties, 'round about the time they were trying to find a way to make records that were compatible with both mono and stereo cartridges. Hank developed his own cutting system that made the sum of the left and right channels stay at the same amplitude as in mono. He went on to start a successful mastering facility called DCT Recording and was cranking out as many as 500 disk masters a month. He claims credit for such classics as The Buffalo Springfield's "Again", numerous Three Dog Night records, and Steppenwolf's "Born to be Wild." Hank's system (which he calls Full Dimension Stereo) was perhaps too subtle for the day, or perhaps it got lost in the confusion of new formats, new exciters, and new enhancers.

Hank left the business for about five years in the Seventies to pursue some financial adventures and in 1976 started up Quad Tech Studios, a facility comprised of two 24-track rooms, the FDS mastering room, and a tape duplication operation. Lately he has been working with some of the more aggressive L.A. bands like The Blasters, and Rank and File. He claims to have saved many disaster projects from re-mixing by putting the tapes through his odd rackloads of modified gear, the only FDS system in the world.

"I wanted to get more realism in sound," he explains. When I process a master tape, each track is split into two signal paths. Then each of those is split into eighteen areas of the audio spectrum for processing—if needed. This is a demand system and kicks into action only when it is needed."

Why eighteen levels? "Because I don't like to work in octaves. You hear the metallic sound of filters and equalizers then. Eighteen worked out\_best," he continues.

That elusive step from tape to disk is one that constantly confounds recording engineers. Hank had to learn from working with limited equipment in the old days.

"When I started out I couldn't afford vertical depth control on my disk cutter, so I designed this system to solve the problem. We correct problems before they get to the cutter by a feedback system that utilizes a sum and difference circuit. We avoid vertical lift, so you don't lose the transient peak response."

How does he do it? "We have noise gates, we have parametric and paragraphic equalizers, there is an enhancer circuit—enhancers are equalizers—you might call it automatic equalization. We use tubes where tubes do the best job and transistors where they work best. My cutting system sounds like a combination of a Neumann and a Westrex. I've also developed a system for cassette and tape mastering that accounts for high speed duplication problems."

It's a hybrid and idiosyncratic system to say the least. Hank spent ten grand on the guts of his device with a manufacturer who agreed to destroy the plans after completion. His components have all been invited me to bring some records that I thought were well recorded. I listened to the "Barry Lyndon" soundtrack because there are some wild dynamics and the primitive drums are real boomers. The FDS sytem rounded out the individual instruments and gave them a noticeable warmth and clarity. My old albums got punchier and much less tinny and new highly produced albums *did* sound better. Was I hypnotized by Hank Waring?

I phoned Bill Robinson, grand gentleman of the recording world who was Capitol's director of recording for almost 20 years. Bill was a part of the major recording changes of the last three decades and recently heard a demonstration of Hank's FDS process. He evaluated it as follows:

"There appears to be some enhancement—but good enhancement. He's come up with something that increases the apparent loudness 3 to 6 dB without taking up any more groove space. I couldn't believe it. His process created more of a stereo image than the original

Hank Waring demonstrating his FDS system



modified. "It's like Rolls Royce buys GM transmissions and modifies them to their specs," he adds.

And how does it sound? He

record I listened to. If I had something like that I would patent it and market it, but he just wants to make masters for people, I guess."

#### -from page 16

formed with the idea of delivering prestige, high quality tape and record products, even on small orders. Among the many services the company will offer are up-to-date mailing lists, posters, display materials, and promotional aids. Mandrell/Gray, Inc. also plans to offer a series of seminars dealing with record and tape manufacturing, small label promotion, and independent distribution.

John Eberle of Nashville Record Productions, the oldest nonlabel associated cutting room in the city, reports they are moving into more label work, having completed Ronnie Milsap's Keyed Up album for RCA, and Amy Grant's Ageless Medley project for Word. John feels "people in Nashville are really thrilled with 1/2", 30 ips masters, particularly with the transformerless Studer, Ampex ATR, and MCI machines."

Mastering business has been steady at Masterfonics in Nashville and they have been running two shifts a day, according to owner Glenn Meadows, who feels "Nashville has weathered the recession better than either coast." Glenn has also seen a lot of interest in his other company, Master technologies, which has three JVC digital systems for rental and now offers digital format transfers: Sony PCM-F1 to JVC, and Sony PCM-1610 to JVC and vice-versa.

CMS is another company offering JVC digital rental services, and they are located in Altadena, in Southern California. Gene Shiveley says the firm rents to customers west of the Mississippi, as well as Canada and Mexico, and expects their new digital editing facilities (with the JVC AE-900 editor) will be operational sometime in January or early February.

Gordon Whiting of San Francisco's Sonic Arts Corporation reports they have been involved with a wide variety of projects ranging from punk and rockabilly to jazz. Recently they have been recording their own "Classical Digital" line of records directly onto a Sony PCM-F1 and have been transfering the tapes direct to disk, without editing, for an exceptionally clean product.

A number of record pressing plants have diversified into the cassette duplication area over the past year. Alshire International completed their cassette facility (which features ten Cetec Gauss 2400 duplication slaves) last summer and has been busy ever since. Wakefield, a mastering and pressing facility in Phoenix, AZ, has in-





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COtari Corporation 1982



dio History

#### -from page 19

troduced a high quality cassette duplication line, with cassette production facilities located in a Pasadena, CA, plant.

Also in Pheonix, Liv Singh, owner of GRD has seen an interest in real-time cassette distribution, and has expanded his duplication capacity to 125 machines running 24 hours a day. The company added a Sony PCM-F1 and a 34" VTR for digital mastering of real-time cassettes.

Another real-time cassette duplicator, Audiohouse in Denver, CO, has noted an upswing in duplication business, and has upgraded with 20 Denon DRM-3 auto-bias cassette decks in addition to the 20 Nakamichi LX-3 recorders they had, raising their total capacity to 1280 tapes per day. George Chapekis, owner of the company, also sees stereo video cassette duplication as another area of interest and expects to expand into that field next year.

Mike Callett, production vicepresident at Bonneville Productions in Salt Lake City, reports the company has completed the installation of an Apex imprinter for direct imprinting onto cassette shells, and is in the process of adding Dolby HX encoding equipment onto their Gauss slaves.

Kenneth Bacon Associates, a full-service cassette duplication firm in Novato, CA (San Francisco area) moved to larger facilities and added a four track voiceover and narration studio earlier this year. Lois Bacon, coowner of the company, says the studio was designed mainly for assisting clients with spoken word productions, and notes they have hired a staff graphics designer for packaging layouts and designs.

Sal Viola, owner of Arcal Productions, a 125 machine real-time duplication facility in Redwood City, CA, reports their facility, which opened last May, has been growing with a variety of duplication projects. Their stock music library of 12 record albums or tapes has been selling well, and a recent large duplication project involved audiophile tape editions of Vietnamese music cassettes.

Mother Dubbers tape duplication in Dallas does a lot of spoken word accounts, but recently installed an Infonics 200A duplication system which is capable of playing 15 ips, +6 dB two track studio masters for high quality music duplication runs. The 200A provides two equalization modes: flat NAB, and direct equalization while duplicating.

Paul Mooradian at IAN Recording Group in Andover, MA says the firm will be moving to a larger facility sometime early next year. He also notes an increase in cassette computer software duplication projects and that IAN is looking into the feasibility of offering floppy disc duplication services in the near future. The company has upgraded to an Otari DP-7000 bin loop system, has installed a second AVA 2001 automated loader, and has taken delivery of a new Ryobi 480 full color offset press for cassette insert printing.

Paul Cooper, of Éva-Tone Soundsheets Inc., in Clearwater Florida, has observed a rise in the popularity of Soundsheets as marketing and promotional tools. A number of record companies have used the Soundsheets as samplers to introduce new artists to the public; and computer program distribution, musical greeting cards, and education are just some of the varied uses the medium offers. Cooper claims the Soundsheets can be played as many times as a hard record if handled with the same care, and notes that some Soundsheets (particularly the Beatles' promotional disks from the 1960s) have become collectors' items.



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Editor's note: Over the past year or so we have been presenting Digital Discussions, Ken Pohlmann's serialized primer on understanding digital technology. We now embark on a new phase of Digital Discussions in which manufacturers involved with the evolution of digital audio will share their ideas, philosophies and developments on this emerging technology and its impact on the recording industry.

# An Update on Sony Digital Recording

Sony recently introduced the CD Modular System for multiple professional compact disc players, consisting of the CDS-3000 control unit and CDP-3000 player(s), designed for professional audio production applications.



## The CD off and running . . .

The Compact Disc is off to a fast start in Europe and Japan, according to industry executives. Hans Gout, senior director, Compact Disc, PolyGram Record Operations International, estimated that a total of 500,000 CD players will be sold in Europe and Japan in 1983 and that number is expected to double next year. Some 12 million discs are estimated for production abroad this year and the figure could jump to 35 million in '84, he said.

During a recent Compact Disc presentation sponsored by the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, John Briesch, vice president of audio sales and marketing for Sony Consumer Products Co. notes that 18 manufacturers are or soon will be selling 22 CD player models in the U.S. In additon, both Sony and Denon offer professional units for radio station use. "Over the next five years," predicts Briesch, "we will see an overwhelming number of products, including car and Walkman CDs, which will total over two million units."

"In addition, software production will double when the CBS/Sony plant opens in Terra Haute, IN in the spring," noted Emiel Petrone, vice president marketing/Compact Disc coordinator—U.S.A., Polygram Records Inc., and a leading spokesman for the Compact Disc Group (CDG), an association of 29 hardware and software manufacturers who officially launched their group at last summer's Consumer Electronics Show, in Chicago. "By the end of this year 260 classical, 177 pop, and 23 jazz titles wi'l be on the U.S. market," Petrone said, citing the 460 titles listed in the new CDG catalog."

A number of record companies are introducing CD recordings for the first time in the new catalog. Among them are A&M, Arista, Capitol, Delos, GRP, and Windham Hill. Additional software members represented in the new —page 34, CD

#### By George Currie, Vice President and General Manager, Sony Professional Audio Products

With the introduction of the Sony Digital Compact Disc and the availability of consumer digital playback equipment, the impact of digital audio has spread rapidly beyond the professional community. The CD system is sending shock waves throughout the industry and is generating the first real excitement since the recording boom of the midseventies.

The impact of these developments at the professional level is already apparent. The demand for professional digital hardware is increasing as top artists, engineers and producers realize digital audio is here to stay. If the product is to be released in the CD format a digital master must be created, either initially recorded digitally or transferred to digital.

Sony has been marketing professional digital audio equipment in the U.S. for almost five years. Among professionals, we have passed the introductory phase and are now in the state of serious implementation. At this point there are over 50 Sony digital mastering systems operating in this country. Many of these systems are owned by rental houses, and through their network of operations a great number of artists have been exposed to the dramatic differences of recording digitally.

Sony's commitment to the pro-

fessional recording industry is broad based. With the recent acquisiton of MCI, a leading multitrack equipment manufacturer, the strength of American studio expertise is wedded to the vast resources of Japan's research and development. We envision for the future a total digital signal path from microphone to console, to storage medium, whether it is tape or some form of solid state electronics.

We are all excited by the audible benefits of digital recording. The music that is being recorded digitally is more real, more dynamic and more exciting than ever before. However, the medium's ability to faithfully preserve information for posterity may be regarded as its most valuable longrange contribution.

To encourage and facilitate the preservation of irreplaceable analog recordings, Sony has issued a listing of studios in the U.S. that are equipped to offer digital transfer of analog masters. An added bonus, of course, is that digital transfers are ready for mastering as Compact Discs. (A copy of the list may be obtained by writing to: PCM-1610 Studios, Sony Professional Audio Products, Sony Drive, Park Ridge, NJ 07656.)

In pop music production, a

dependable and versatile multitrack system has long been awaited. Our PCM-3324 digital multitrack is now being delivered and has been performing reliably on major projects in New York, Nashville, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Two machines, purchased by John Moran of Digital Services Recording, have been running constantly on a rental basis to clients throughout the country

One of the first musicians to purchase the multitrack system is rock innovator, Frank Zappa, whose first digital release, "Zappa, Volume One," was recorded in England with the London Symphony Orchestra. Zappa's 8,000 razor blade edits made for the finished master provided a true test of the machine's editing capability. In addition, Zappa is transferring his entire catalog of 35 album masters to the digital format for preservation and rerelease.

Education is very important in ushering in a new technology. Sony's first intensive digital audio workshop/seminars were recently conducted in New York and Los Angeles by Curtis Chan, national engineering manager for digital audio.

Nearly all the owners of Sony PCM-1610 equipment attended and

were given a refresher course and an update on the state-of-the-art. Future seminars are scheduled for the DAE-1100 digital audio editor and the PCM-3324 multitrack. As time goes on this program will be expanded to accommodate new products and developments in digital audio.

For the future, Sony is working on new forms of recordable digital laser discs. When this technology becomes available, recording studios will have the ability to take a digital master tape and directly encode it into a laser disc. The recording would be done in real time, would be permanently encoded and would provide an economical way of making small numbers of discs. Sony is also investigating the possibilities of an erasable disc, which would not only have recording capability, but would also have the capacity for erasure and re-recording.

Digital recording is now a powerful force in the recording industry. Developments and refinements are progressing at an accelerated pace. Applications within the broadcast television and film industries are the next areas where we will feel its impact. Since its inception, Sony has been a leader in digital technology—a position we plan to maintain.

# The Sony PCM-F1 made digital audio recording affordable-the RTW analog to digital interface makes it practical.



The RTW A to D interface translates PCM-F1 code directly to PCM-1610 standard, enabling use of the F1 with Sony's professional editing systems, and for compact disc mastering. It also provides balanced line level inputs and outputs with headroom adjustment, selective or parallel interface to two VCR's, manual pre-emphasis control, and expanded display of the error correction status.

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# tereo Mastering Recorders



#### by George Petersen

Of all the equipment in a recording studio, the two track mastering recorder is one of the most crucial, representing the studio's final stage of sound manipulation before a mix goes to the disk mastering house, cassette duplicator, or digital facility. For this reason, the performance of the two track recorder becomes paramount. And mastering facilities as well must depend on the uncompromised operation of their playback decks for their reputation and very livelihood.

The performance specifications of today's analog machines can be truly awesome, particularly when listening to a well engineered direct-to-two track recording on a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " machine at 30 ips. However, recording specs alone do not a two track make, as most mastering recorders are also designed to accommodate the usually mundane (yet sometimes creative) job of tape editing.

Features such as real time counters, zero locaters, splicing blocks, variable speed search, manual (hand) shuttling, built-in monitoring, and tape dump all contribute greatly to the tape editor's job.

Most large studios set up separate tape editing rooms—this avoids tying up the studio's main recorder, which could otherwise be involved in more lucrative activities, such as mixing sessions. Of course, another advantage of having additional two track machines is the availability of the second recorder as a spare.

The selection of a two track recorder is an important decision for any studio, large or small. While this is not an area where a studio should try to cut corners, price should not be the sole limiting factor, as audio performance, tape format, features, serviceability, editing flexibility and even reel capacity are other important considerations.

In this special report, we will examine top of the line analog master-

ing recorders from major manufacturers. A brief survey of digital machines has also been included, however we will be following the developments of this technology in greater depth through our Digital Discussions column.

#### ACES ACTR 2

The British-made ACES ACTR 2 is a single speed two track recorder available in either  $\frac{1}{4}$ " or  $\frac{1}{2}$ " tape width configurations. The unit's transport system is essentially similar to that of the 16 and 24 track machines in the ACES line, and is mounted on a thick aluminum top plate which lifts for servicing. The maximum reel capacity is  $10\frac{1}{2}$ " NAB.

The deck's two spooling motors are Papst eddy current AC, and the capstan drive is a DC servo motor which allows operation at a precise 15 ips or 50% varispeed. A large diameter motion sensing roller reduces flutter, and controls the interlocked logic circuitry and electronic braking system.

The ACTR 2 is enclosed in a floor standing console and the fully —page 26

#### Digital Two Tracks: Hybrid Alternatives for the Studio

ertainly one of the most costeffective ways for an analog recording studio to offer digital recording is through the acquisition of a digital two track machine. Most studios with stereo digital recorders are content to simply offer mixing and direct-to-digital two track services, and rent digital multitracks from outside firms when the job requires it.

The economic realities of today's recording studio market dictate that hybrid facilities (analog multitrack/digital two track) will be with us for a long time, until digital becomes more of a universal recording medium. The growing public acceptance of the compact disc is another factor which will push more and more studios into the digital realm, as the demand for digital product increases.

At present, there is a good selection of digital two track machines

in a variety of configurations and prices to suit almost any studio.

At the lower end of the price



spectrum are the Technics P-100 digital cassette recorder and the Sony PCM-F1 digital processor. The P-100 is an integrated digital system which combines a 14 bit PCM processor and tape recorder into a single unit. The digital information is stored on a standard VHS videocassette. The unit's control layout is essentially similar to that of an analog cassette deck, with the selection of the analog/digital input selector and "edit" switches for programmable operation.

The Sony PCM-F1 is a lightweight, compact digital processor which can record digital audio signals onto any VCR. Three way powering (AC/DC/batteries) is provided, and either 14 or 16 bit quantization can be selected.

The dbx Model 700 digital audio processor became available in the U.S. this month. Priced under \$5000, the system uses CPDM (Companded Predictive Delta Modulation) —page 30

# *How to Build a Better Compact Professional Recorder*

Follow this step-by-step guide to build your own rugged, reliable, high-performance professional recorder.

- 1. For your design team, hire the same engineers responsible for world's premier multi-track recorder, the STUDER A800.
- 2. Employ meticulous Swiss and German craftsmen for all fabrication and assembly.
- 3. Use solid aluminum alloy die-castings for transport chassis and headblock.
- 4. Use the finest Swiss and German machine tools for milling, drilling, and tapping.
- 5. Use only professional-grade mechanical and electronic components.
- 6. Make your own audio heads to ensure the highest quality.
- 7. Apply gold plating to audio switching contacts.
- 8. Include the following standard features: Balanced and floating + 4 inputs and outputs Calibrate uncalibrate switches Self-sync Tape dump Edit mode Full logic transport control Servo controlled capstan motor Front panel input and output mode switching Universal power supply Rack mount.
- Provide the following options: Rugged, steel-legged console • Transport case • Monitor panel • Remote control • Varispeed control • Balanced mike inputs.
- Support your finished product with a worldwide parts and service network.

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\*Manufacturer's suggested list price \$2095.00 Contact dealer for further pricing information

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REVOX

#### -from page 24

regulated dual toroidal power supply is located in the cabinet's base for greater stability, better cooling and to minimize hum pick up. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ " version is priced at \$5000, and is distributed in the U.S. by ACES (USA) of Rochester, NY.

#### AEG-Telefunken M 21

The AEG-Telefunken Magnetophon M 21 is a ¼", four speed (3¾ to 30 ips), IEC/NAB/AES equalization two track recorder which became available in the U.S. this month. Although this machine is not Telefunken's top two track model, it represents their "new generation" of magnetophons with complete microprocessor control of all transport functions and amplifier adjustments. Data concerning tape speed, tape emulsion, and equalization are entered into the control system which automatically adjusts level, bias, motor speed, tape tension, etc.

The M 21's standard features include  $12\frac{1}{2}$ " reel capacity, return to zero, LCD display of functions and tape position,  $\pm 10\%$  pitch control, and an easy-to-use one hand transport control lever. Options include a ten key keypad

ANT Telecommunications, formerly AEG-Telefunken Telecommunications is pleased to announce a special promotional loaner program for qualified disc mastering facilities. For more information please contact Martin Munzer at Solway, Inc.†



for simplified data entry, an adjustable tilt/height editing desk mount, a cue speaker/amp panel and a tape marking device. The M-21 is distributed in the U.S. by Gotham Audio (of Los Angeles and New York City) and is priced at \$7380 in a two track configuration.



Ampex ATR-800

#### Ampex ATR-800

The Ampex ATR-800 is a versatile  $\frac{1}{4}$ " or  $\frac{1}{2}$ " microprocessor controlled two track machine made for a variety of broadcast and studio applications. This three speed (3.75/7.5/15 or 7.5/15/30 ips, field convertible) recorder provides for both NAB and IEC recording and is available in con-page 29

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# The Ramsa WR-8118. Two of the most versatile mixers you'll ever own.



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As a PA mixer, it gives you the flexibility to handle up to 18 mic and line signals. As a recording mixer, the WR-8118 accepts multiple tape inputs and easily handles multi-channel recording, overdubbing and mixdown.

Functions like stereo tape monitoring are switchable to become stereo effects sends for PA. And PA monitor sends can be switched to effects sends for recording or mixdown. And whichever mode you're working in, you'll have a truly remarkable console at your finger tips. There's switchable high and low EQ with continuously variable midrange. Twelve-point bar graph meters let you monitor every signal that passes through the board. And the solo function lets you isolate



But the only way to really appreciate what has gone into the Ramsa WR-8118, or its smaller 12 channel version, the WR-8112, is to see your nearest Ramsa dealer for a hands-on demonstration.

The Ramsa WR-8118. One versatile mixer that's two versatile mixers.



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Fostex A-2

#### —from page 26

sole, pedestal and rack mount versions. The ATR-800 was designed for editing, and features an extra wide head assembly for better tape access, recessed controls which prevent tape snagging, a single point search-to-cue, and electronic hours/min/sec tape display, "hands-on-reel" and tape dump modes, and unique interchangeable transport control panels which can be moved to accommodate left- or righthanded operating and editing pro-cedures. The machine also incorporates a quick change head assembly which allows head conversions without constant realignments, and a  $\pm$  10% variable speed control is standard.

A wide range of options is available, including microphone preamps, a neopilot tone playback kit (with special head stack and electronics), DIN hubs, a remote control, dbx/Dolby noise reduction interfaces, and a selection of head assemblies.

#### ACS/Hammond 6000

This German-made two track recorder is distributed in the U.S. by Hammond Industries of Madison, Alabama. The ASC 6000 is a three speed, 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" capacity, three motor deck which features a digital tape counter, peak reading meters, line/mike mixing (with a separate master gain control), and a twin playback head option. The 6000 is priced at \$1795.

#### Fostex A-2

The A-2 is the two track cousin in the Fostex line of 4, 8 and 16 track personal multitrack recorders. This compact, three head, two speed  $(7\frac{1}{2}/15$  ips with  $\pm$  10% pitch control) unit uses 7 inch reels, providing 24 minutes of recording on an 1800' tape at 15 ips.

The three DC motor transport (with a servo capstan motor) is governed via an IC logic control circuit located on a hinged PC board for simplified servicing. Calibration controls are also readily accessible, placed under a flip down bottom panel.

Editing features include an LED tape counter with return to zero, tape lifter defeat, a pop up head shield, and an edit (tape dump) switch. A factory sync resolver modification is available, and a remote control, punch in/out footswitch, flight case, and rack mount adapters are optional. The Fostex A-2 has a list price of \$850.

—page 30



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The GE 27 State Variable design has indeed revolutionized the ½ octave format, creating a new standard against which all other graphic

equalizers will be compared, regardless of cost. And yet the GE 27 is only \$449 suggested list price.

Which proves that smart technology doesn't have to be expensive.



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-from page 29

#### MCI/Sony JH-110B

The MCI/Sony JH-110B is a quartz-controlled three speed recorder which comes in a wide range of configurations: ¼" or ½" tape, 10½" or 14" reel capacity, recording or playback-only, high- or variable-profile cabinets, and a rackmount version.

#### —from page 24, Digital

rather than Pulse Code Modulation (PCM), and while designed for recording onto  $\frac{3}{4}$ " VTRs, it can also work with  $\frac{1}{2}$ " VHS or Beta recorders.

Early tests of Model 700 prototypes have indicated the unit compares favorably with more expensive PCM processors, although CPDM tapes cannot be transferred *directly* to the 16 bit compact disc format, and must first go through an intermediate analog stage.

The JVC BP-900 is a two channel PCM processor designed to work with any NTSC format ¾" VCR. The unit operates with 16 bit linear quantization and a 44.1 (or 44.056) kHz sampling frequency which is suited for compact disc mastering. A variety of accessories are available for disk mastering, tape editing, and dual machine synchronizing with the system. JVC also manufactures a full line of ¾" VCRs. The JH-110B offers totally transformerless electronics, NAB/IEC switching,  $\pm$  20% speed control, a relay-free transport with DC torque motors, and a modular design for improved serviceability.

Editing on the machine is facilitated by a number of standard features (microprocessor controlled

Another ¾" VCR-based digital system is Sony's PCM-1610 processor which provides two channels of PCM digital audio at a sampling frequency of either 44.1 or 44.056 kHz. Two U-Matic ¾" video recorders, the BVU-800DA and the VO-5850DA, were developed by Sony specifically for digital audio recording. When these are used with the PCM-1610 processor and DAE-1100 digital audio editor, a complete digital editing and dubbing system can be assembled.

The Mitsubishi X-80 is a fixedhead, reel to reel (¼" tape at 15 ips), two channel digital audio mastering recorder. The machine utilizes 16 bit linear PCM technology and has a set sampling frequency of 48 kHz. The Mitsubishi system allows either razor blade editing (actual physical splicing of the tape, as with analog) or electronic editing via the XE-1 editing system controller. The X-80 is also available in a large studio console version (the return to zero with four additional memory points, a pre-settable counter, and a manual velocity control with "paper backet" and "hand spool" modes), and optional accessories such as a monitor panel, DIN hub adapters, a remote transport control, and the MCI AutoLock synchronizer. The ¼" JH-110B is also available in a version with

X-80A) with an overhead meter bridge, and is distributed in Europe as the AEG-Telefunken MX-80 and MX-80A.

For those of us who have enough problems already, we look upon this multi-formatted digital world as yet another challenge for the future. Obviously more standardization of the medium is necessary, but such a phase is bound to be painful for both manufacturers and studios. The DASH (Digital Audio Stationary Head) standard proposals put forth by Sony/MCI, Matsushita, and Studer are a step in the right direction, but many more such steps will have to be taken before any kind of digital standardization becomes reality.

Until then, we will see a growth of hybrid analog/digital studios, and it may be a long time from now when studios completely abandon their analog mastering decks in favor of these digital wonders.

#### -George Petersen

JVC DAS Series 90 System







#### MCI/Sony JH 110B

center track recording for time coding applications.

#### Otari MTR-12

The Otari MTR-12 is a microprocessor controlled mastering recorder capable of handling reels up to  $12^{1}2^{"}$  in diameter. Available in  $^{1}4^{"/1}2^{"}$  two track and  $^{1}2^{"}$  four track versions, this 7.5/15/30 ips machine provides separate repro EQ, record EQ, and phase compensation as well as two preset master bias adjustments for each speed. IEC or NAB equalization is switch selectable.

Standard transport functions include return to zero, back timing, cue and shuttle modes, tape dump, and one hand microprocessor assisted reel rocking for convenient editing.

Standard features include a monitor speaker, splicing block, test oscillator, synchronizer editor interface,  $\pm 20\%$  variable speed, and transformer

Otari MTR-12





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Soundcraft SCM 20

Studer A80/VU

or electronically balanced inputs/outputs. A variety of accessories are available, including two remote control units, a ten memory autolocator, and an RS-232 C serial input transport control interface. The  $\frac{1}{4}$ " MTR-12 is \$6800, and the  $\frac{1}{2}$ " two track version is priced at \$8400.

#### Soundcraft SCM 20

The Soundcraft SCM-20 is a fully-microprocessor controlled mastering recorder which was unveiled at the Fall 1983 AES convention. The recorder can be programmed to automatically align itself to five different types of tape and three equalization standards at any of its three tape speeds. A center track is available for time coding.

Standard features include a remote unit, noise reduction switching outputs, 14" reel capacity, and varispool. Editing is simplified via open tape head access, built in monitoring, and three edit modes: dump, rock and roll, and tape stepping.

The SCM-20 is available in  $\frac{1}{4''}$  or  $\frac{1}{2''}$  versions and can be ordered with serial and parallel ports for external control.

#### Studer A80/VU

The Studer A80/VU two track line is built around the same transport as the A80/VU multitracks and is available in both <sup>1</sup>4" and <sup>1</sup>2" tape formats in a variety of head configurations, including prelistening machines for disk cutting applications.

All A80/VU models feature electronic tape logic, servo controlled spooling and capstan motors with a  $\pm 7$ semi-tone variable speed control, and a straight-line tape path design which eliminates the need for tape lifters and facilitates editing. An electronic tape timer with return to zero locator is standard. Each amplifier channel is a selfcontained unit with its own voltage regulator, playback, record and switching electronics. Transformerless line output amplifiers are supplied. Tape speeds are set at either 7½/15 or 15/30 ips.

Servicing the A80/VU is simplified via its hinged transport chassis, multiple test points, and modular sub-assemblies. Virtually all assemblies are interchangeable between any machine in the A80/VU line since identical sub-assemblies are used.

#### Tascam 52

The model 52 is the top of the line two track machine in the extensive TEAC/Tascam collection of recorders. The Tascam 52 offers  $7\frac{1}{2}/15$  ips recording on  $10\frac{1}{2}$ " reels of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " tape with a —page 34

Tascam 52



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#### by Ken Pohlmann

It is with great expectations that I begin this series of articles on applications with the intent of providing a bit of education on practical audio dilemmas. In other words, I hope to help people get better results or otherwise clean up their act by learning to reflect a little on their audio technique. Too often, I think, the correct way of doing things is lost in the shuffle—it disappears somewhere between the technical jargon and people's impatience to press new equipment into action without fully learning how to use it.

Studio users sometimes lose sight of the professional standards necessary to maintain a high quality product. The result is that slightly faulty equipment and sloppy technique increasingly interfere with achieving the optimal solution to the task at hand. People accept slight hums, out of phase cables, mediocre-sounding microphones, speakers with deficient bass response, a little tape saturation, automation buzz in a mix, an unfortunately audible click track, and a multitude of other slight errors and defects which individually are hardly worth worrying about, but collectively can significantly lower the sound quality of a studio's output. We're all guilty of it, to a greater or lesser extent, but the mark of a true professional is the ability to constantly evaluate one's work and never cease to believe that perfection is just around the corner.

Now, no one likes to calibrate every morning, read instruction manuals every afternoon, or spend their evenings looking for ground loops, but on the other hand, why pay good money for good equipment, and then under-utilize it? I think it boils down to two things—first, to best use a piece of gear, you have to know a little about how it works. Second, a little extra effort to learn about a task is going to make the task easier. So, in the spirit of enhancement and laziness, this series of application notes has been prepared. Incidently, I suspect there might be some controversy involved in this endeavor. In discussions of "the best way to do this is . . ." everyone has their own opinion based on their own experience. I can only plead for openmindedness. After using single-sided razor blades all your life, and then



Mixing for Mastering

someone shows you how to use surgical scissors, who knows—maybe you should consider switching.

Other articles in this December issue of MIX have perhaps set your mind thinking of disk mastering and the incredible complexities involved in transferring from oxide to lacquer. In talking to disk mastering engineers, and listening to their horror stories, one rapidly learns that the secret to the best transfer begins back in the mixdown room. It is critically important to understand the limitations inherent in mastering and properly design your mix to take them into account. One of my limitations is that I've never operated a cutting lathe; so rather than rely on my experiences and assumptions as a mixing engineer, I decided to consult a cutting engineer to try to head off any pressing problem. Mike Fuller is the chief cutting engineer at Criteria in Miami. He took time off from his current projects (Kenny Rogers—"Eyes That See In The Dark", Rod Stewart—"Body Wishes", Dionne Warwick—"Heart Breaker", and America—"Your Move") to outline some important aspects of cutting trouble-free disks.

A transfer to disk takes the signal from the relatively forgiving medium of magnetic flux to the hard limitations of mechanical movements; phase, frequency and amplitude range, and peculiarities in waveform such as sibilants all influence the quality of the transfer and the amount of playing time on the disk. Phase is perhaps the most critical aspect; since the stereo groove is modulated by the resultant of two stylus motions at 45 degrees to the disk surface, out-of-phase signals result in an hourglass shaped groove which can be untrackable by the playback stylus. The mixing engineer must monitor his phase information on an oscilloscope or phase meter to check stereo imaging which could cause cutting problems. Also, listening to the mix in mono reveals how much information would be lost in mono playback. Surprisingly, mono is alive and well; almost half of all radio listeners listen to mono radios. Of course, phase considerations begin at the microphones; at least one record company I know is careful to center their tympani precisely between their spaced-apart microphone pair to reduce out-of-phase information. If phase problems are present on a tape sent to the cutters, the engineer can apply remedies, but only at the expense of affecting the mix. In extreme cases an elliptical equalizer with low frequency crossover of 50 to 100 Hz must be employed to gradually move the lows closer to a mono conditions, achieving complete mono at perhaps 20 Hz.

Even properly phased low frequency information can contribute to cutting problems because it demands the greatest groove excursions. The amount of low frequency in a mix is dependent mainly on aesthetic considerations, but groove physics quickly determines how much can be cut on a disk; a muddy sound often signals the tolerance level. Sub lows at 40 Hz and lower are often not needed on disks and high pass filters remove them, and their complications. The panning of low fre-

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Sensitivity: 99.5db (1 watt / 1 meter)



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quencies, particularly hard-panned, high level drums, can create phase and thus cutting problems entirely independent of microphone related phase troubles and the elliptical equalizer is again called upon. On the other frequency extreme, high amplitude, high frequency information can overload the cutting head (analogous to tape saturation, but much more costly) and protection circuits must be used to limit these highs. Similarly, the explosive energy of sibilants, primarily on vocals, can belabor a cutting head. While sibilants could be removed by the cutting engineer, cymbals and other frequency-related instruments would also suffer. The solution lies in the use of a de-esser in the recording studio. Of course, master tapes with hiss would reguire equalization which would result in a dull sound, and tape dropouts find no remedy at all in the cutting room.

In the quest for louder playing disks, a careful decision must be made to determine how sophisticated the groove can be made before low budget turntables would begin to fail to track. Other factors such as record warpage would necessitate an even more conservative choice. Similarly, the greater the desired bass amplitude, the less playing time is available simply because wide excursions take a lot of disk real estate. The fact must be faced—this is as loud as we can cut the disk with this time length. An L.P. side length of 18 to 20 minutes accomodates loud levels but longer times (sometimes over 30 minute stereo sides) necessitate lower volumes.

Finally, a few things to remember before you book cutting time: Have all editing and assembling completed, use blank biased tape between songs to eliminate paper tape dropout, have takes completely labeled, use a 10 inch reel, include complete tones (e.g., SPARS standard of 1K, 10K, 15K, 100 and 50 Hz, 30 seconds each at O VU, Dolby reference or dbx encoded tones.)

It is critical to talk to the cutting engineer and discuss cutting philosophy especially with respect to the idea that cutting employs different equalization to optimally accomplish the transfer. The mixing engineer should listen to the transfer either firsthand or to reference acetates to be certain before pressing begins. Many artists are recognizing that extra sweetening is often best handled in the cutting room. As Mike Fuller noted, cutting is coming to be recognized not as the first step of production, but rather as the last creative step in recording.

If you're an engineer who believes in "fix it in the mix", now you can "repair it in the groove". But try to plan ahead, and use cutting in a constructive manner, rather than as a last resort.


# Otari just raised the quality of pre-recorded cassettes.

The new DP80 "Faster Masters" high-speed audio duplicating system: Quality comes up to speed. The new DP80 Master Reproducer runs 7½ ips masters at an amazing 480 ips. By doubling the old, marginal standard which relied on 3¾ ips masters plugging along at 240 ips, we've just taken the music cassette out of the early seventies and raised its quality to a higher level. The new DP80 will produce the kind of cassettes the discriminating new music buyers of the 80's want.

High production yields are still an essential aspect of the new DP80. This 64:1 system may be expanded up to 20 slave recorders and has been engineered with advanced design electronics and

#### these important teatures:

- Normal and chrome tape capability.
- Front accessible, plug-in modular electronics.
- Advanced dual capstan, D.C. servo drive for
- reduced tape skew and wear.
- Long-life Sendust ferrite heads.
- □ Status monitoring (optional).

Contact Mike Pappas, Otari Industrial Products Manager, for complete information on the duplicator that can bring your business up to speed — in both product and profits.

OTARI Industrial Products Division, 2 Davis Drive. Belmont, California 94002, (415) 592-8311 TWX: 910-376-4890



Audio Tape Duplicators & Video Tape Loaders

Circle #025 on Reader Service Card

The 480 ips Master Reproducer: the heart of the "Faster Masters" DP80 system.



## TAPE T©ÐISK

## Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States

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Park Ridge 53 Cenniry Sound & Slide Skokie & S.Y. Recording IOWA Council Bluffs 54 Electrosound Tape Services Inc Des Moines 62 Triad Productions Mishawaka 53 Audio Services Company Inc Michigan City KENTUCKY Nebo LOUISIANA Ville Platte 62 Ville Platte Record Mfg Co MARYLAND Silver Spring 43 DB Sound Studies MASSACHUSETTS Andover 47 Jan Re ording MICHIGAN Ann Arbor Detroit 60 Special Recordings 62 Tantus Productions East Detroit 54 Election Recording Studios Grand Rapids 5. AR 'Electronic Services Pontiac A&F Music Services Southfield 55 K&R Recording 61 Ron Rose Productions Warren 52 American Sound Corp MISSOURI Arnold 57 M:awest Custom Pressing 57 Midwest Custom riess Independence 53 Akati graphins Springfield 54 Akati Vark Recording NEW JERSEY Camden 49 Benerded Publications Lab Cranbury 4 ... b Serval Record Mig East Newark 50 San Plastics Company Dynamic LP Stereo In Glen Rock 4∠ ASR Haworth 52 Trut ne Records Hillsdale 4. Casere Productions In -Mountainside 42 Barwy Group Newark 49 Ferer Pan Industry Northvale 44 Freterred Sounds Oakhurst Shund Arts Company Somerdale 52 Tracy Val NEW MEXICO Taos 70 Bainbow ( NEW YORK Cassette Studio Bethpage 42 A dic Tech Labs Bronxville 47 International Clarence 46 The Grouve Shop Ferndale 43 The Cutting Edge Les mational Recording Ferndaie 43 The Cutting Edge Huntington 43 Cryst, Cry Tape Juphrators Station 46 G to Test Records Long Island City 42 April: Record Company 42 Cassette Recording Corp Lassette Recording Cr
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# **"I prefer Apollo Master blanks for my most critical work."**

## **Vladimir Meller**

Custom Mastering Engineer Columbia Records Mastering Studios, New York City



## "The Apollo has all the pluses mastering engineers look for."

We designed into the Apollo lacquer all the features the mastering engineers have been asking for: better flatness, less noise, clean cutting, longer stylus life, better uniformity and consistency. Ultimately, the Apollo results in better records.

## "Absolutely flat."

All aluminum blanks used for the Apollo are micropolished using a process originally developed for magnetic computer disks. This multistep process resurfaces the aluminum blanks and creates a fine finish, free from defects and with an improved flatness.

## "Free of ticks and pops."

Our elaborate lacquer manufacturing process insures that all particles and gels which could cause cutting problems are removed. Moreover, the new formulation resists lacquer buildup on the stylus, thus reducing groove wall scoring and loose debris in the groove, which contribute to ticks and pops.

## "Least abrasion."

The unique Apollo formulation reduces the cutting friction when contacted by the heated stylus. This results in lower abrasion, thus extending the stylus life. And, of course, the formulation does not use any abrasive ingredients in the first place.

## "Very consistent from batch to batch."

The excellent consistency of the Apollo lacquer masters is the result of complete control we have over the critical raw materials and the blending of the formulation. In addition, the extensive process and quality control methods assure the maintenance of tight manufacturing tolerances.

We've Mastered the Master. APOLO=

#### Master Audiodisc.

Capitol Magnetics Products, 6902 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, CA 90028 1983 Capitol Magnetic Products, A division of Capitol Records, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Circle #026 on Reader Service Card



## Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States

Eastern

AAA RECORDING MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 130 West 42nd Street (Room 552), New York, NY 10036 (212) 221-6626 Contact: Wirren Allen Smith, President

ALPHA RECORDS, INC PRESSING 1400 N W 65th Ave , Plantation, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33313 (305) 587-6011 Contact: Dick Smith Tresident

AMERICAN MULTIMEDIA. INC TAPE DUPLICATION Rt. 8, Box 215-A, Tucker Street Ext., Burington, NC 27215 (919) 229-5559 ontact: Tim Mallard: Plant Manager MASTERING Tape machines: IVC Dicital, Otari, Studer Ampex Monitor speakers. UREI 813 JBL 4440 Signal processing: Ar nex: EXB: Prime Time: Super Prime Time 224 224X Engineers. Severa Rates. Call find unles Credits: Ur chun aury Other services: Complete video productor, multitadx mix downs. Grass Villey Didital Video Editin, Chyron Graphus Generator: complete assortmen, of UREL ORBAN, dbx Pro ressors

### TAPE DUPLICATION

Duplicator: Eastro Sound 8000 20 silves: Other DP 7000 40 slaves: Amilex 15 slaves: Gauss 1200 Capacity: 1 000 000 weeky Method of duplication. In cassette it in loop Mastering equipment: IVC Digital, Oran: Studer: Ampex Tape used: All major brands in acck Shell used: All major brands Duplicating speed: 16.1.3.2.1.64.1 Type of loading: 46 King 790 types Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: 4 automatic label ingrand printing lines Rates: Call bir gliotes.

Other services: Complete in house film processing, color separations, four rolor process printing inserts labels prochures books)

ANGEL SOUND, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 1576 Broadway, New York, NY 10036 (212) 765-7460 Contact: Sandy Sandeva, Press and

APON RECORD COMPANY, INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION P O Box 3082 Steinway Station, Long Island City, NY 11103 (212) 721-5599 Contact. Anarew Ponton Mana Fer

PAT APPLESON STUDIOS, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 1000 NW 159 Dr., Miami, FL 33169 (305) 625-4435 Contact: Pat Appleson, Press unit

ASR 21 Harrison Rd., Glen Rock, NJ 07452 (201) 652-5600 Contact: Larry Block

AUDIO DUPLICATING SERVICE TAPE DUPLICATION 915 NE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304 (305) 764-0333 nt. Production Manager TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: MTI Corporation Capacity: 60 000/month Method of duplication: Bin loop Mastering equipment: Ampex ATH 100 abx. Parametri - other . O equipi Tape used: BASE & AGEA Shell used: IPS USI Duplicating speed: +2 1 -h4 1 Type of loading: Electrosound Packaging availability/Fulfillment services Complete parkaung & in-house custom desi Rates: Available upon request Other services: Blank cassettes marketing

AUDIO-TECH LABORATORIES MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1158 Stewart Avenue, Bethpage, NY 11714 (516) 433-0171 Contact: Owner AUDIO MATRIX, INC. PRESSING 91S Westchester Ave., Bronx, NY 10459 (212) 589-3500 Contact: Bob Stillman, General Mana Ret

BESTWAY GROUP (Peerless Audiophile Div.) MASTERING & PRESSING 1105 Globe Ave., Mountainside, NJ 07092 (201) 232-8383 Contact: Pa il Stevens

BURLINGTON AUDIO TAPES, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 106 Mott St., Oceanside, NY 11S72 (561) 678-4414 Contact: R.ity St.twartz

CASSETTE CONNECTION TAPE DUPLICATION 41 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 248-3131 Contact: Karen Irby

CASSETTE PRODUCTIONS, INC TAPE DULPLICATION 109 Prospect Place Hillsdale, NJ 07642 (201) 666-3300 Contact: Julius A. Konins. President, Webdy M. Konins, Vice. President, Kevin Yatarola, General Manager, Paul Antepara Diant Manager TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: 6 custom designed Dubbin is tuch speed duplicators with 14 slaves ea in **Capacity**: 70 000 wk Method of duplication: Bin .cor Mastering equipment: Ampex Tape used. BASE Cr02 BASE LHD and Amperx 496 407 Shell used: Various Duplicating speed: 161&81 Type of loading: King 790 Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Al. forms Rates: Write for price li Other services: Mastering from grantal sources (PCM F)

CASSETTE RECORDING CORP. TAPE DUPLICATION 41-34 27th Street, Long Island City, NY 11101 (212) 937-3344 Contact: John Moriarty General Manager

CENTRAL AUDIO VISUAL, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 1212 South Andrews Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316 (305) 522-3796 Contact: M. Lever, V. & President

COMMERCIAL AUDIO TAPE DUPLICATION 77 South Witchduck Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23462 (804) 497-6506 Contact: Alan Sawyer, Manager

COOK LABORATORIES, INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 375 Ely Ave., Norwalk, CT 06854 (203) 853-3641 Contact: E.G. Cook. President



CRITERIA CUTTING CENTER Miamı, FL

#### CRITERIA CUTTING CENTER MASTERING, TAPE DUPLICATION 1755 N.E. 149th St., Miami, FL 33181 (305) 947-5611

Margie Curry Studio Manager MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Tandem lathes Scully LS 76 with Ortofon D-SS 731 and 732

Console: Cybersonics MC 2004

Tape machines: MCI modified '+ and '2' Mitsubishi & JVC

Monitor speakers: Custom designed Ed Long Time-Aligned, Yamaha MS-100, Auratones, Acoustat, Electrostat Signal processing: Sontec MES 430B EQ, Sontec DFC 200 dynamic range control. All available Criteria rcdg gear

Engineers: Mike Fuller

Rates: Custom cutting + \$125 hr Laguer 45's \$75 set LP's

Credits: Bee Gee's, Rod Stewart, Kenny Loggins, Barry Manilow, Eric Clapton, Eddie Money, Dionne Warwick, Franke & the Knockouts, John Courger, Chilliwack, Pat Travers

Other services: Full recording services available. We use exclusively Apollo lacquers

### CRYSTAL CITY TAPE DUPLICATORS, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 48 Stewart Ave., Huntington, NY 11743 (516) 421-0222 Contact: Frank Russo, President TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Otan DP7500 bin loop, Pentagon in cassette Capacity: 12,000 pieces per shift, per day Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: Otari, Scully Tape used: CBS, Agta BASF Shell used: Data Packaging IPS Duplicating speed: 16 1 32 1, 64 1 Type of loading: King, Electro Sound Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Shrink wrap, custom packaging

Rates: Please call for rates

Other services: Cassette labels inserts specialists in computer software duplication



Tape used: Columbia Shell used: Sonic seal and screw type Duplicating speed: 120 ps Type of loading: Electrosound 1800 Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Full parkaging Other services: Custom duplicating in Manhattan

CUSTOM RECORDING & SOUND, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 1225 Pendleton St., Greenville, SC 29610 (803) 269-5018 Contact: Jere Davis, General Manager



THE CUTTING EDGE Ferndale, NY

#### THE CUTTING EDGE MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 217, Ferndale, NY 12734 (914) 292-5965

Contact: Paul Gerry Owner and Chief Cutting Engineer MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Scully Lathe with Westrex 3DII Cutterhead, Ransteele Audio 250 watt per channel cutting amps, video monite ring

Console: Custom-built setup for direct to disk Tape machines: Ampex 351 specially modified for tape to disk transfer

Monitor speakers: IBL 4311's, Auratones, Altec Voice of The Theats

Signal processing: Fairchild €70 compressor, Ashly Parametric EQ, dbx 1 & 2, Graphic EQ, Pultec EQ, UREI 1176N and misc other jear

Engineers: Paul Gerry

Rates 12" \$70/side, 45 \$40/side; many more services available Write for free brochure Credits: on request

Other Services: Pressing and tape duplication

#### PRESSING

Presses (Mfg. and quantity): all 12" pressing work is audiophile quality by an outside facility Rates: on request

Other services: Disc cutting and tape duplication TAPE DUPLICATION

## Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): All tape duplication is handled

by outside top-quality tape duplicators Method of duplication: In cassette and in bin loop depending on job specifications

Rates: on request Other services: Record pressing and disk cutting

## DB SOUND STUDIOS, INC

MASTERING 8037 13th Street, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301) 585-2776 Contact: Jules Damian, President MASTERING Tape machines: Ampex Monitor speakers: JBL Signal processing: dbx Rates: 555/hr. 16 track, \$35/hr. 2 track Credits: GI Scott Heron, Tim Eyermann & East Coast Offenng, BBS Unlimited, "Latin Hussel", Vernon Burch, Hugh Masekela, Jerry "Swamp Dog" Williams, Honey Combs, Truetones, Earlston Ford & the Ford Singers, Skip and the Casuals

## DISC COMMUNICATIONS LTD.

MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 743 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10022 (212) 371-0390 Contact: Jerry Rendich

## DISKMAKERS, INC. PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION

925 N. 3rd St., Philadelphia, PA 19123 (215) 627-2277 Contact: Paul Deny, General Manager PRESSING Presses (Mfg. and quantity): 10 presses Tracey Val Capacity: 80,000 wk Vinyl used: Keser and Lenahan Rates: Write for price list Other services: Mastering, plating and labels cont'd



Circle #027 on Reader Service Card

# When it comes to professional Audio/Video/Printing...

# We deal you a full house.

When it comes to top quality audio, video, or print services, AMERICAN MULTIMEDIA is your best bet! Whether your needs are big or small, we deal it straight with:

AUDIO: We have multi-track sound recording, digital time compression/expansion, analog and digital mastering, using all the big names in sound processing: Lexicon, Neve, DBX, Otari, JVC, Studer, Aphex, and much, much more.

DUPLICATING: We offer music, spoken word, and computer cassettes, produced on the finest equipment available: Electro Sound, Otari, and Gauss loop-bin slave duplication systems. We inventory all major brands of tape (including chrome) for your selection, and with our 36 King 790 type loaders, we can supply you with any quantity you need. To top it off, our four finishing lines make your product as great to look at as it is to hear!

VIDEO: Our video department uses only the best: Grass Valley Group 300 production switcher with DVE, Ikegami HK357, HL79, and Ampex cameras, Chyron RGU, and much more. We are completely mobile, too! We can do  $1^*$ ,  $3^*$ , and  $12^*$  formats to meet your specific needs.

PRINT: For that added touch, our own in-house printing department offers full-color features to handle any label, insert, brochure, booklet, poster, or any other literature your product requires.

Each of our departments gives you quality service on which we'll stake our reputation. Here at AMERICAN MULTIMEDIA, quality is no gamble!



For information call or write: American Multimedia, inc.•Rt. 8, Box 215A•Burlington, N.C. 27215•(919) 229-5559 Circle #028 on Reader Service Card



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States

## Eastern

TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Electrosound 10 slave Capacity: 30,000/wk Method of duplication: Bin loop Mastering equipment: Scully and Ampex Tape used: CBS and AGFA Shell used: Shape Duplicating speed: 16:1 Type of loading: King Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: All types Rates: Write for price list Other services: Labels and insert cards

DISOUES SNB LIMITED MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 8400 Cote de Liesse, St-Laurent, PQ H4T 1G7 Canada (514) 735-2271 Contact: Sabin Brunet, President

MASTERING Cutting lathes: VMS-70 Zumaudio computer control Console: Neumann SP Tape machines: Telefunken (Preview & Record Play), Studer (Record Play) Monitor speakers: Klein & Hummel, Tri-Amp Signal processing: Dolby's, dbx, Orban Parametric EQ's, NTP LIM/COMP., Neumann GV 74-B transformerless Engineers: Sabin Brunet, Emile Lepine, Alain LaLancette Rates: Mastering LP: \$96. per side; 45 rpm: \$46. per side; Studio time: \$80/hr Eq'd tape copy \$84 CANADIAN FUNDS Credits: DGG, Polygram, Virgin, Arista, RSO, Phillips Other services: Pressing/cassette duplication (real time), eq'd tape cor PRESSING Presses (Mfg. and quantity): Pressing available on demand TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Real time duplication Capacity: 500 per 8 hour shift Method of duplication: In cassette Mastering equipment: AKAI/Sony Tape used: AGFA Shell used: Ampex Duplicating speed: Real time

Type of loading: Semi-automatic Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: In-house packag ing, no direct printing on cassette, complimentary printing of insert card; labels and related printing services available. Rates: On demand

DIVERSIFIED SOUND TAPE DUPLICATION 3391 Lilla Lane, Marietta, GA 30060 (404) 433-1156 Contact: Tom Smith, Kelly Monroe, Owners

#### DYNAMIC RECORDING PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 2846 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616 (716) 621-6270 Contact: Dave Kaspersin, Owner

EUROPADISK, LTD. PRESSING 75 Varick St., New York, NY 10013 (212) 226-4401; TWX 710 581 2034 Contact: Wes Phillips, Production Manager PRESSING

Presses (Mfg. and quantity): Two Hamilton automatics; two Toolex Alpha automatics Capacity: 8,500 LP's per day Vinyl used: Teldec (imported from Germany). Rates: Three types available: Ultimate Audiophile, Audiophile, and Europa Classical. Prices range from 59c to \$1 21 depending

Credits: All RCA digital and .5 Series: Moss Music Group digital Telarc; Vanguard Digital; Audiophon; CRI; Musical Heritage digital; the Franklin Mint (classical product). Other services: Central plating, internationally reknown, audiophile quality.



EVA-TONE SOUNDSHEETS, INC. Clearwater, FL

EVA-TONE SOUNDSHEETS INC. MASTERING, PRESSING P.O. Box 7020, Clearwater, FL 33518 (813) 577-7000 Contact: James Dunne, Vice President Marketing/Sales. Call 1-800-EVA-TONE

EXECUTIVE RECORDING LTD. MASTERING 300 W. 55th St., New York, NY 10019 (212) 247-7434 Contact: Gene Sayet, Boss

FINK/PINEWOOD RECORDINGS P.O. Box 5241, Chesapeake, Virginia 23324 (804) 627-0957 Contact: Bill Johnson, Executive Producer MASTERING Cutting lathes: Bayport Record Pressing, Chesapeake, Virginia 23324 Rates: \$85/hr PRESSING Presses (Mig. and quantity): Bayport Pressing, Chesapeake, Virginia 23324 Capacity: Unlimited

#### FRANKFORD/WAYNE MASTERING LABS, INC. MASTERING & PRESSING 1697 Broadway, New York, NY 10019

(212) 582-5473 Contact: Tom Steele, President; Norvell Miller, General Manage

MASTERING (6 Cutting Rooms/Mastering Suites) Cutting lathes: (8 lathes total) 1 Neumann equipped with Compudisk Computer, 4 Scully/Ransteele equipped with Compudisk Computer, 1 Scully/Ransteele equipped with Caps Varpitch computer, 2 Scully-Ransteele fully automated. Lathes equipped with the following cutting systems: 1 Neumann SX-74/SAL-74 with tracing simulator, 5 Neumann SX-74 with custom Ransteele driver electronics, 2 Westrex 3DIIAH/RA-1700 driver system Consoles: 6 Ransteele Audio custom consoles (3 are digitally equipped)

Tape machines: 5 MCI/Sony JH-110MB ¼" and ½", 1 Soully/Ransteele custom 280M, 1 Ampex ATR-102, 1 MCI JH-110B, 1-3M 64-2-½", 6 Technics Pro RS-1520, 4 Ampex AG-440B. 1 Sony BVU-2008/PCM-1600 digital, 2 Sony PCM-10/100 digital, 2 Sony VC-5800 Umatic, 2 Sony Beta SL-2000/2500, 1 Sony PCM-F1/RTW

Monitor speakers: 4 JBL 4350B, 2 JBL 4343, 4 JBL 4330, 4 JBL 4311, 2 Altec/Mastering Lab, 4 ADS-300, 4 Auratone 5C, 2 ROR cubes, 4 Technics Pro.

Signal processing: Equalizers by Sontec, UREI, Pultec, Technics Pro, Orban; Ransteele Audio. Limiters by Sontec & CBS Labs Digital processing by AMS, Sony and Ampex. Noise reduction Dolby, dbx, CBS CX. Custom audio processing equipment by Ransteele Audio Labs.

Engineers: Dom Romeo, Tom Coyne, Herb Powers Jr., Tom Steele, Don Grossinger plus 2 freelance engineers

Rates: Client attendance \$90 to \$160 per hour (depending on room and availability) LP masters \$100/side, 45 masters \$40/side, LP refs D/F \$100, 12" single refs D/F \$60, 45 refs D/F \$40 Other prices upon request

cont'd





(215) MA-7-2277/(212) 966-3185 Washington, DC area (301) 340-6280

Circle #030 on Reader Service Card

on type and quantity



(516) 234-0200 Contact: Donald L. Olesen: Executive Vice President

Circle #032 on Reader Service Card



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States

## Eastern



GEORGE HELD PRODUCTIONS Pittsburgh, PA

GEORGE HEID PRODUCTIONS TAPE DUPLICATION 701 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA (412) 561-3399 Edward Heid, Owner TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Otari (1 master & 4 slaves), Gauss (1 master & 2 **Capacity**: Typical production of C.45 cassettes, 150 per hour, 1200 per 8 hr. day for either system Method of duplication: Bin loop Mastering equipment: Ampex and Otari Tape used: Agfa-Gevaert (normal and high bias formulas) (612/812 627/827) Shells used: IPS, Magnetic Media, Shape, & Data Packaging Duplicating speed: 16.1, 32.1 & 64.1 Type of loading: Semi automatic and fully automatic (Otari 2700 & King **790**) Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Automatic labeler/graphic at & printing Rates: Upon request, please call Other services: Complete studio production available for recor-

Other services: Complete studio production available for recording, editing, and creating the original program material. Special packaging (binders, mailing containers, etc.) Mailing service available.

HMC PRODUCTIONS 5457 Monroe Rd., Charlotte, NC 28212 (704) 536-0424 Contact: Hank Poole, Chuef Engineer

HUB-SERVALL RECORD MFG. CORPORATION Cranbury-South River Road, Cranbury, NJ 08512 (609) 655-2166 Contact: Barry Ruegg, Vice President Sales, Jean Stembel, Director Customer Relations PRESSING Pressee (Mig. and quantity): 11–12" Tracy Val Presses with Hamilton Automation Capacity: 25,000 per day Vinyl used: Keysor, Vitec Rates: Upon request Credits: Ansta, IEM/Passport, Savoy, SQN, Shanachie, Musical Hentage, Capitol, RCA, Bruno Dean, Moss Music, Pickwick, Columbia Other services: Plating Jackets Tabels, DJ services distributor

THE MIX VOL. 7, NO. 12



IAN RECORDING GROUP, INC. Andover MA

IAN RECORDING GROUP, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 76 Bellevue Rd., Andover, MA 01810 (617) 475-4056 Contact: Richard Berbenan, President TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (Mig. and quantity): Otari DP-7000 bin loop system, Otari DP-4050 in casse Capacity: 5,000 per day Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: Otari MTR-10-4, Otari MTR 10-2 Tape used: Scotch, BASF, AGFA, Magnetic Media Shell used: IPS,Magnetic Media Duplicating speed; 8:1, 16 1, 32:1, & 64 1 Type of loading: Otan DP 2700, AVA 2001 computenzed adına Packaging availability/etc.: Automated labeling, shrink wrapp-

Rates: On guotation basis varying with type of tape, length, guantity, printing required, packaging required, etc. Complete ckages available

Other services: blank audio and video cassettes full color inhouse print shop for custom labels & inserts, shrink wrapping, drop shipping, warehouse

INTERNATIONAL RECORDING CO MASTERING 49 Desmond Ave., Bronxville, NY 10708 (914) 337-5726 Contact: Claire Rie, President

JAN PRODUCTIONS TAPE DUPLICATION 106 Mott St., Oceanside, NY (516) 678-4414 Contact: Jan Schwartz, President

MAGNETIX CORP MASTERING, PRESSING, TAPE DUPLICATION 770 West Bay Street, Winter Garden, FL 32787-2699

THE MASTER CUTTING ROOM. INC. MASTERING 321 W. 44th St., New York, NY 10036 (212) 581-6505 Contact: Randi Greenstein, Traffic Manager



MASTERDISK CORP. New York, NY listing on following page

## "You Supply the Recording" We'll Produce the Rest



LAYOUTS/ARTWORK/COMPUTER TYPESSETING/COLOR SEPARATION FINAL NEGATIVES/COLOR KEYS/4 COLORS PRINTING/POSTERS/RECORDS LABELS/JACKETS/COMPLETE CASSETTE & 8 TRACK LABELS/6 AUTOMATIC SMT RECORDS PRESSES/L.P. & 45/MASTERING/STAMPERS/COMPLETE

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Built to challenge the compact digital disc, the MARK 10 features a specially formulated crystal shell providing a unique product rigidity designed to offer maximum optical clarity. Together with the specially designed bridge insert, where crucial tape guidance features have been isolated, and components designed to enhance the 3-piece shell construction, the MARK 10 is truly the cassette of the future...available now. Rollers, gated away from the tape bearing surface, are precisely molded to eliminate the effects of ID to OD eccentricity and skew. All liners and leaders are created from a specially formulated anti-static polyester. In addition, our stringent manufacturing controls ensure consistant, repeatable part-to-part performance with optimum side A and side B quality. The MARK 10 is available with standard, I want to sample the extraordinery ette. Impress me! chrome, or metal tape sensing features ideal for mastering and digital recording. Clip this, attach your business card Nichael Tremblay, National Sales Manager Michael Products Mudio PE, INC: Biddelord Industrial Park SHAP Bot 366, Biddelord SHAP Bot 366, Naire 04005 P. O. deford, Maire 04005

Sound impressive? It is. Give it a try.



SHAPE, INC. P.O. Box 366, Biddeford Industrial Park Biddeford, Maine 04005 [207]282-6155 Telex 944325 SHAPE INC BIFD

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and mail to:

......

MASTERDISK CORP. MASTERING 16 West 61st St., New York, NY 10023 (212) \$41-5022 Contact: Jill Dix, General Manager MASTERING Cutting lathes: VMS 70 Console: SP79 Tape machines: 6 Studer A-80s Monitor speakers: Altec model A-19s Signal processing: Sontec equalizers, Aphex Aural Exciters Engineers: Bob Ludwig, Howie Weinberg, Bill Kipper, Alan Moy Rates: Upon request Credits: The Police, Rolling Stones, Journey, David Bowie, Joan Jett, Bryan Adams, Kinks Other services: Sony digital, BVU-800 video, DPU 1610 delay line, PCM 1610 processor

McCLEAR PLACE STUDIOS LTD. MASTERING 22S Mutual St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada (416) 977-9740 Contact: Traffic Manager



MUSICAL RECORDS CO. MASTERING, PRESSING, TAPE DUPLICATION 780 W. 27th St., Hialeah, FL 33010 (30S) 887-2638 Contact: Alba V. Eagan, General Manager

MUSICAL TAPES INC. MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 770 W 27th St., Hialeah, FL 33010 (30S) 88S-9156 Contact: Larry Fernandez, General Manager

MYSTIC OAK RECORDS TAPE DUPLICATION 1727 Elm St., Complex C, Bethlehem, PA 18017 (21S) 86S-1083 Contact: Bill Byron, Coordinator

NATIONAL CASSETTE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 11S2, Mechanicsburg, PA, 170SS (717) 766-0943 Contact: Chen Baldwin, Sales

PETER PAN INDUSTRY PRESSING 88 St. Francis St., Newark, NJ (201) 344-4214 Contact: Al Cohen, Custom Pressing Sales Manager PRESSING Presses: Southern Maine & Tool Co Vinyl used: Keysor Century, Tenneco Rates: Low Other services: Fulfillment, blister sealing, radio frequency seal ing, warehousing, heat sealing, shrinkwrap, order picking, mail



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States

## Eastern

PRC RECORDING COMPANY MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 422 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10017 (212) 308-2300 Contact: David A Grant, President

PREFERRED SOUNDS INC TAPE DUPLICATION 13S Ludlow Ave., Northvale, NJ 07647 (201) 768-8007 Contact: Al Santoro, Vice Presiden: Sales

PROGRESSIVE MUSIC STUDIOS TAPE DUPLICATION 1904 S. MacDill Ave., Tampa, FL 33629 (813) 251-8093 Contact: Ken Veenstra, Owner/Manager

QUIK-CASSETTE CORP TAPE DUPLICATION 2S0 West S7th St., Room 1400, New York, NY 10019 (212) 977-4411 Contact: Mark Milchman, President

RANSTEELE AUDIO, INC. MASTERING 1697 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 (212) 26S-SS63 Contact: Thomas Steele, Owner

RECORDED PUBLICATIONS LABORATORIES MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1100 State Street, Camden, NJ 0810S (609) 963-3000 Contact: William Young, Marketing Manager



RESOLUTION. INC. Burlington, VT

listing on following page

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RESOLUTION 299 COLLEGE ST. BURLINGTON, VT 05401

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RESOLUTION, INC TAPE DUPLICATION 299 College St., Burlington, VT. 05401 (802) 862-8881 Contact: Ty Atherholt, Manager TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: 100 NAD high end decks, real time Capacity: 800 real time duplicates per day Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: MCI JH 110 B transformerless, Sony PCM-F1 digital Tape used: AGFA Gevaert Premium, normal or chrome Shell used: Best five-screw American made Duplicating speed: real time, 1:1 Type of loading: Custom loading by us using new King loaders Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Full packaging services Rates: Very competitive with high speed dupl. rates Other services: Digital mastering, test cassettes, shrinkwrapping, full printing services, drop shipping. All materials and workman ship full guaranteed

#### RGH RECORD MANUFACTURING CORP. MASTERING & PRESSING 750 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10036

750 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10036 (212) 354-4336 Contact: George Srolovits, President

## ROMABA RECORD CORPORATION PRESSING

33-34th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11232 (212) 499-3060 Contact: Theodore Kolsky, President

SERVISOUND, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 35 West 45th Street, New York, NY 10036 (212) 921-0555 Contact: Nat Levy, President

#### SOUND-ARTS COMPANY, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 5 Cindy Lane, Oakhurst, NJ 07712 (201) 493-8666 Contact: Frank Gspann, Vice President TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): Otari DP7300 with 17 slaves Capacity: 10 to 20m/day. Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop. Mastering equipment: Scully, Otari MTR-10 Tape used: AGFA, Scotch, Ampex Duplicating speed: 64:1, 32:1, 8:1 Type of loading: King 790 Packaging availability/etc.: Shrink film. etc. Rates: On request Other services: Computer software & special packaging.

#### SOUND TECHNIQUE INC. MASTERING

MASTERING 130 West 42 St., New York, NY 10036 (212) 869-1323 Contact: Gladys Hopkowitz, President MASTERING Cutting lathes: Scully lathe with Capps Vari-Pitch & Vari-Depth computers Console: Custom Tape machines: MCI-JH-110M, MCI-JH-110-B, Studer Revox PR-99 Monitor speakers: Dahiquist DQM-9, Technics SB-7000, Minimus 11 Signal processing: Teletromic LA-3A, Dolby, dbx Engineers: Gladys Hopkowitz, Sidney Feldman, Chief Engineer Credite: All types of music, ranging from classical through contemporary, including jazz and reggae Other services: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch 2-track mastering, AV pulsing and DuKane 30/50 mastering

#### SOUNDWAVE RECORDING STUDIOS, INC. MASTERING 2 West 45th St., Suite 903, New York, NY 10036 (12) 720 7265

(212) 730-7366 Contact: Carol Baker, President

SPECTRUM FIDELITY MAGNETICS, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 1770 Lincoln Highway East/P.O. Box 218, Lancaster, PA 17603 (800) 441-8854; (717) 295-9275 Contact: John O Yoder, President: Wendy J Rineer, Director Customer Relahons TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (Mig. and quantity): Ampex BLM 200A w/10 slaves Capacity: 80,000/wk. Method of duplication: Bin loop Mastering equipment: Ampex-Inovonics.



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States



Tape used: BASF, Mag Media, Ametai, CBS Shell used: IPS, Mag Media, Trans Am Duplicating speed: 64-1 Type of loading: Ava Automated Packaging availability/etc.: Yes, in house Rates: Upon request. Other services: 8T duplication & packaging



SPECTRUM FIDELITY MAGNETICS, INC. Lancaster, PA

STERLING SOUND, INC. MASTERING 1790 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 (212) 757-8519 Contact: John Kubick, Studio Manager

SUN PLASTICS CO., INC. - DYNAMIC LP STEREO RECORDS, INC. PRESSING 900 Passak Ave., East Newark, NJ 07029 NJ: (201) 482-6749; NY: (212) 349-0777 Contact: Jerry Salerno, President.

SUNSHINE SOUND INC. MASTERING 1650 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 (212) S82-6227 Contact: Frank J Trimarco, President

SWEETSONG PRODUCTIONS PRESSING, TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 2041, Parkersburg, WV 26102 (304) 489-2911 Contact: Roger Hoover, Owner

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guard and Inner City all put their trust in us. Switch to BASF Pure Chrome duplicating tape. Because when you put "CrO" on your label,

you put CrO on your label, you're not just guaranteeing the public the pure music they're paying for. You're paying your way to platinum with BASF Pure Chrome.



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TRACY-VAL CORPORATION RECORD PLATING 201 Linden Ave., Somerdale, NJ 08083 (609) 627-3000 Contact: Junies Miller: President, Joan Miller: Officer Manager PRESSING Presses (Mig. and quantity): 42 high specific cary plating positions Capacity: Miller: In these and stamper - 200 per lay

Rates On the test of the Savoy Sure Quality to Capitol Credits Article Likes of JFM, Savoy Sure Quality to Capitol BCA Columna Literwise Vitx Tommy Bay Streetwise



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States



A & F MUSIC SERVICES 2834 Otsego Pontiac, Michigan 48054 (313) 682-9025

> A & F MUSIC SERVICES Pontiac, MI

A & F MUSIC SERVICES TAPE DUPLICATION 2834 Otsego, Pontiac, MI 48054 (313) 682-9025 Contact: Frank Merwin Manager

#### A&R RECORD & TAPE MANUFACTURING MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 902 N. Industrial Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207 (214) 741-2027, or 748-7460

Contact: Vera McGrew V.P. Cathy Stearns Sales MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Neumann VMS 70 computer assisted with Sal 7YB transformerless cutter and tracing simulator

Console: Neumann with EMT, Ortoton and Sontec outboard EQ. Tape machines: Studier A-80, B-62, Otari MX 5050, 30 ips Monitor speakers: IBL 4311 Crown ESS 224, Auratone, Real Time

Signal processing: EMT PDM Compression, OrtoFon EQ. Neumann EQ. Dolby A. B, dbx I

Engineers: Dick McGrew Mark Malone Rates: Competitive quoted for particular job Credits: Numerous jazz groups: Monterey Festival rock bands Van Cliburn Competition Mami Symphony Portland

Symphony Other services: Record pressing tape duplicating direct disk

recording on location, Audiophile mastering PRESSING Present: Full unterration process controlled 5.1.TA

Presses: Full automation process controlled 5 LTA Capacity: 200.000 LPs, 400,000 45's Vinyl used: Viroin Keysor Vitek Telder, Tenneco Color available

Rates: Highly competitive Special rates for volume accounts Credits. USAF Bonneville Productions Beto numerous rock aroups and dospel droups. Country Music Time Broadcasts, Austin City Limits

Other services: Album production Design printing, packaging Individual mailing Mailing lists for promotion. Audiophile disk manufacturing Sample available

TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: 10 slave Otari DP6000 stereo bin Capacity: 650 C-60/hr

Method of duplication: Bin loop Real Time Mastering equipment: Dolby License full EQ and processing available

Tape used: AGEA exclusively Shell used: Optional with customer. Normally 5 screw Duplicating speed: 240 - 60 ips Type of loading: King Automatic Packaging availability/etc.: You name it! Rates: On request. Very reasonable Other services: Label and insert printing Packaging, mailing Sample available. Audiophile Real Time duplication



AARD-VARK RECORDING SERVICE, INC. Springfield, MO

AARD-VARK RECORDING SERVICE, INC TAPE DUPLICATION 335 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO 65806 (417) 866-4104 Contact: Bill Jacobsen, President

AMERICAN SOUND CORPORATION TAPE DUPLICATION 25133 Thomas Drive, Warren, MI 48091 (313) 536-9100 Contact: Don Armstrong, Sales Manager

ARC ELECTRONIC SERVICES INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 2557 Knapp N.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49505 (616) 364-0022 Contact: Ron Harkai, President



ARDENT MASTERING, INC. Memphis, TN

ARDENT MASTERING, INC. MASTERING

2000 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104

(901) 725-0855 Contact: Larry Nix, Chief Engineer

MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Neumann VMS 70 with Zuma digital computer control.

Console: Neumann

Tape machines: MCl - 1/2" 2 track available

Monitor speakers: JBL

Signal processing: Limiters: Neve, EMT, EQ's, Neve, Neumann, Proc. Outer Ear, EXR, Noise reduction. Dolby, dbx Engineers: Larry Nix, Al Smith

Rates: On request

Creditis: Bar-Kays, Amazing Rhythm Aces, Jessie Winchester, Robin Trower, Charlie Rich, ZZ Top, Staple Singers, Paul Butter field, Con Funk Son, Memphis Horns, Issac Hayes, Point Blank, Tony Joe White

#### MASTERING & PRESSING 163 Terrace St., Haworth, NJ 07641 (201) 385-0940 Contact: Admanne Bow ith Prod. Coordinator MASTERING Cutting Lathes: Neumann VMS 70. Shully wild up to Varipitch II Console: Neumann & Custom Tape machines: Shuder A 60 Ampex ATB 200 MCI JH 210B Monitor speakers: URL 81 4A JBL A antone Signal processing. URE: Plate: Neumann Engineers: Carl How ith Phil Austin, Steve-Rouch Rates: Upon request

TRUTONE RECORDS DISK MASTERING LABS

TRUTONE RECORDS DISK MASTERING LABS

Haworth, NJ

Credits: Upon request

Other services: High quality short run cassette dupl

#### VARIETY RECORDING STUDIO MASTERING, PRESSING, TAPE DUPLICATION 130 West 42nd St., Room 551, New York, NY 10036 (212) 221-6625 Contact: Fred Vargas, Owner

VCA-TELETRONICS 231 E. 55th St., New York, NY 10022 (212) 355-1600 Contact: Will Roth, General Manager TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: 2", 1", 44", 12" video with or without time code and Doby Mastering equipment: Sony 1", and professional -4 & ½" video equipment Rates: On request

VIRTUE RECORDING MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1618 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19121 (215) 763-2825 Contact: Frank Virtue, President

WEA MANUFACTURING INC. PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 321 Olyphant, PA 18447 (717) 383-2471 AUDIO ACCESSORIES CO. MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 38 W. 515 Deerpath Road Batavia, IL 60510 (312) 879-5998 Contact: John S. Maloney, Sales Manager

AUDIOGRAPHICS DIV./HERALD PUBLISHING HOUSE MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 3225 S. Noland Road Independence, MO 64055 (816) 252-5010 Contact: Jerry Riegle Director Dennis Kaleikau Producticin Manager

AUDIO MIXERS RECORDING COMPANY, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 740 N. Rush St., Chicago, IL 60611 (312) 943-4274 Contact: Studio Manager



AUDIO SERVICES COMPANY, INC. Mishawaka, IN

AUDIO SERVICES COMPANY INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 3016 Home St. Mishawaka, Indiana 46545 (219) 255-5198 Contact: Philip L. Ostrander. President

BODDIE RECORD MFG. & RECORDING MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 12202 Union Ave., Cleveland, OH 44105 (216) 752-3440 Contact: Louise Boddle Vice President

CENTURY SOUND & SLIDE MASTERING, TAPE DUPLICATION 1018 Busse Hwy, Park Ridge, IL 60068 (312) 696-0675 Contact: Al Tallman, Owner

CHUMLEY PRODUCTIONS, INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 2802 Foster Avenue, Nashville, TN 37210 (615) 833-6184 Contact: P.E. Chumley, President

COOKSOUND TAPE DUPLICATION 6626 Hornwood, Houston, TX 77074 (713) 772-1006 Contact: Emily Ge'z

CREATIVE SOUND PRODUCTIONS TAPE DUPLICATION 9000 Southwest Freeway, Suite 320, Houston, TX 77074 (713) 777-9975 Contact: Edward Smith President TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Ofan bin loop (3 slaves) Intonics (2 slaves) Capacity: 25:00 per shift Mastering equipment: Ampex 2 track & 4 track Tape used: A SFA 61181; Ampex 607 608, Ampex 603/604 Shell used: Data Pak Pathfinder 5-screw, IPS 5-screw Duplicating speed: 161 & 321 Type of loading: King automatic loaders Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Custom labels, full-color caseliners shrink Rates: Call for quotations

Other services: Custom bulk tape loading to any length w Ampex AGFA Capitol Catalog available upon request



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DISC MASTERING, INC Noshville, TN

DISC MASTERING INC. (formerly known as Randy's Roost) MASTERING Thirty Music Square West, Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 254-8825 ontact: Randy Kling. Presi ient MASTERING Cutting lathes. Neumann SX 74 head SAL 74B cutting amplitier Console: Neumann ST75 Tape machines: Studer A 80 MKII Studer B 67 & B 77 Monitor speakers: Tannoy Super Reds Signal processing. Neve 2087 EQ. Neve limiter compressor v x 8710 2) Engineers: Randy Klino Lois Walker Rates: Avmatile upon request Credits: Alabama John Denver, Liven Everette, Elvi, James Galway, Vern Gosun, Waylon Jennings. Cristy Lane. Loreita Lynn Bart ara Man trell. Dolly Parton Charley Ende Jerry Reed George Strait, Jimmy Sturr, Jimmy Swaggart, Sylva, The White Animais Chet Atkins Boger Whittaker Les Paul, Alice Cooper Other services: Distributing in Quild products & Tableoy proving home speakers

DIXIE RECORD PRESSING, INC. PRESSING 631 Hamilton Ave. Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 256-0922 Contact: Greg Gam. Production Manager.

DUPLI-TAPES INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 4545 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77401 (713) 432-0435 Contact: Gul Moseley, President

ELECTROSOUND TAPE SERVICES INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 2101 S. 35th St., Council Bluffs, IA 51501 (712) 328-8060 Contact: Marvin Kind, President

ELEPHANT RECORDING STUDIOS MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 21206 Gratiot Ave, East Detroit, MI 48021 (313) 773-9386 Contact: John Giazer, Owner

GENESIS RECORDING, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 645 N St. Clair, Chicago, IL 60611 (312) 649-5711 Contact. Larry Hoot, President TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): Magnetax & Telex Capacity: 2000 aver use per 8 hr shift Method of duplication: Bin loop or in tassette Mastering equipment: Studer Ampex, Scully Tape used: Ampex & AGFA Shell used: Magnetic Media Type of loading: Kind Modified MK Series Packaging availability/etc.: Bulk or individed perkign, r and shipping



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States



Rates: On request

Other services: High speed 14, tape dig bintion, parkaging and shipping



GENESIS RECORDING, INC Chicogo, IL

HANF RECORDING STUDIO TAPE DUPLICATION 1825 Sylvania Toledo, OH 43613 (419) 474-5793 Contact: Jim Thomson, Gieter & Mittaiser



Woco, TX

HIX RECORDING CO., INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 1611 Herring Ave., Waco, TX 76708 (817) 756-5303 Contact: David Hix: President: Homer Hix: Vice President

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INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS CORP. TAPE DUPLICATION 1609 McGavock St., Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 244-4236 Contact: Jerry Moore, General Manager.

INDUSTRIAL AUDIO/FILM SERVICES TAPE DUPLICATION 6228 Oakton, Morton Grove, IL 60053 (312) 965-8400 Contact: Lauren Leiler, President

INFONICS, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 1111, 238 Hwy. 212, Michigan City, IN 46360 (219) 879-3381 Contact: Carol Lant. President

JRC ALBUM PRODUCTIONS (JEWEL RECORDING CO.) MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1594 Kinney Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45231 (513) 522-9336 Contact: Linda York, Vice President.

JOEY RECORDS INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 6703 W. Commerce, San Antonio, TX 78227 (512) 432-7893 Contact: Joey Lopez, President MASTERING Cutting lather: Sub-contracted to Ardent Mastering, 2000 Madison Ave , Memphis, TN 38104 PRESSING Presses (Mfg. and quantity): 8 Fine Bilt Presses Capacity: 2000 LPs, 4000 45s per 8-hr shift Vinyl used: Lenahan Plastics pure viny! Rates: 60 LPs, .26 45s TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Liberty Tape Duplicator Capacity: 3000 cass, 2000 8 trk per day Method of duplication: Bin loop Mastering equipment: 3M Tape used: Ampex 603 for cass, Ampex 456 for master Shell used: El Mar Plastics Duplicating speed: Radio 32 1 Type of loading: Otari & King loaders

K&R RECORDING MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 29111 Greenfield, Southfield, MI 48076 (313) 557-8276 Contact: Bob Gajewski, Manager

KIDERIAN RECORDS PRODUCTION MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 4926 W. Gunnison, Chicago, IL 60630 (313) 399-5535 Contact: Ray Peck, President

MAGNETIC STUDIOS, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 4784 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43214 (614) 262-8607 Contact: John Fippin, President

MASTERCRAFT RECORDING CORP. MASTERING, TAPE DUPLICATION 437 N. Cleveland, Memphis, TN 38104 (901) 274-2100 Contact: Howard Craft, Owner Manager

MASTERFONICS, INC. MASTERING 28 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 327-4533 Contact: Glenn Meadows, President. MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Room 1: (2) Neumann VMS-70 operated by Zuma computer; SAL74B amplifiers, SX74 cutter heads Room 2 Scully lathe w/Capps computer; Westrex 3DIIAH cutter head, Westrex RA1700B amplifiers

Console: Room 1: Neumann SP75: Room 2: Neumann SP72: Tape machines: Room 1: Studer A80 preview machine; Studer A80R and B67 copy machines (2 track)

Monitor speakers: Room 1 Modified Westlake TM 1's w/TAD drivers Room 2: John Gardner cabinets w/JBL woofers and TAD high-frequency drivers.

Signal processing: Sontec parametric EQ, Neve stereo compressor/limiters, Sontec DRC 200 compressor/limiter Engineers: Glenn Meadows, Jim Loyd, Brian Burr

Rates: Please call for rates Other services: Ampex ATR-102 1/2" 2 track for rent Master Technologies offers JVC Series 90 digital 2 rack rental, editing and mastering. Call Masterfonics for details



MASTERFONICS. INC Nashville, TN

Contact: Duane Lundeen, President TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Ampex, Grandy, Magnetax, Telex (6 lines total) Capacity: 20,000 units per shift Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: Studer & Ampex Tape used: Agfa, BASF, Capitol, Ampex, Columbia Shell used: Elmar, Sorco, Mag Media Duplicating speed: From 4:1 to 64 1 depending on product Type of loading: High speed King Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Shrinkwrap custom boxes, cartons, albums, etc Rates: From 21 unit Other services: Duplicating & AV equip sales, services, design installation-new, used, reconditioned. (Low cost financing avail on some equip )

MIDWEST CUSTOM RECORD PRESSING CO., INC. PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 92, Arnold, MO 63010 (314) 464-3013 Contact: Rick Schaumberger, President

## Mother **Dubbers. Inc.**

MOTHER DUBBERS, INC Dallas TX

MOTHER DUBBERS INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 13626 Gamma, Dallas, TX 75234 (214) 980-4840 Contact: Arnett Peel, President MASTERING Console: Tapco-EV 12 x 4 x 2 x 1 Tape machines: Ampex 440 MCI JH 100B, TEAC 80-8, 40-4 Monitor speakers: ADS 810s Signal processing: UREI LA-3A, UREI 1176LN Crown EQII, dbx 157, UREI 565 Engineers: Russell Smith

Rates: \$50/hr. studio mastering, \$30/hr. editing TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: Infonics 200A, Magenfax bin loop. Capacity: How many would you like? We'll meet your deadline! Method of duplication: In cassette & bin loop Mastering equipment: Ampex, MCI. Tape used: AGFA PE 611, BASF, CBS, Ampex Shell used: Magnetic Media, Lenco and data packaging Duplicating speed: IN cassette, 10-1; bin loop, 45:1 Type of loading: Automatic King model 700s Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Labeling, casset binders, Poly & Norelco boxes, shrink wrapping-full packaging service available Rates: Call (214) 980-4840 and ask for A Peel

MUSHROOM STATION STUDIOS MASTERING 5511 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77007 (713) 868-9326, 868-9724 Contact: J.C. Freeman, COE

MUSICOL INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 780 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus, OH 43224 (614) 267-3133 Contact: John Hull, V.P



NASHVILLE RECORD PRODUCTIONS, INC. Nashville, TN

NASHVILLE RECORD PRODUCTIONS, INC MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 469 Chestnut St., Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 259-4200 Contact: George Ingram, Co-owner

cont'd

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# Soundcraft

Soundcraft Electronics 1517 20th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 (213) 453-4591 Telex: 664-923

Soundcraft Electronics Canada, Inc. 1444 Hymus Blvd., Dorval, Quebec, H9P 1J6 (514) 685-1610 Telex: 05-822582

Soundcraft Electronics Limited 5-8 Great Sutton Street, London, EC1VOBX, England Telephone: 01-251-3631 Telex: 21198



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States



#### MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Neumann & Capps computer two Console: Sphere & Neve Tape machines: Studer & MC1 Monitor speakers: Super Reds & Electro-Voice Sentry 3 s Signal processing: Parametric & graphic EQ revert amit malcomproseor Engineers: Glen Builar i Chiet Engineer John Eberle Shidio Mgr., Doug Lawrence Engineer Rates: \$80 per side 12 \$40/per side 7 Credits: Ronnie Milsap Amy Grant Bick & Janice Carries Richard Lee, Shana-na, Tupperware, American Airlines, U.S. Govt, PSA Sperry New Holland Drifters Bill Anderson Other services: Editing, reference adetate, 12 speed cutting, tape album packaging PRESSING Presses: 24 Southern Machine & Tool automatics LP s and 45 s Capacity: 1 000,000 per month Vinyl used: Lenanan Rates: 58 LP's - 28 45's large runs per guote Credits: Same as mastering Other services: Same as listed above, printing record labels

NORWEST COMMUNICATIONS TAPE DUPLICATION 123 South Hough St., Barrington, IL 60010 (312) 381-3271 Contact: Mark Karney, Owner

PHONODISC LAB MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 3950, 2006 E. Center Street, Kingsport, TN 37664 (615) 246-2610 Contact: Bick Salyer: President



THE PRESSING PLANT PRESSING 2727 Irving Blvd., Dallas, TX 75207 (214) 630-6401 Contact: Fhil Kuan, ir Brendii Elery, Salos Reps



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- Music & Sound Effects Library

Mother Dubbers, Inc. 13626 Gamma Road Dailas, Texas 75234 214/980-4840

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Capacity: 3,000 C-60 per day; 2,500 reel to reels per day (3 min) Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: MCI, Otari, Teac Tape used: Ampex 456, 632, AGFA 526, Ampex 603, 604 Shell used: Mag Media, Kyric Special on request Type of loading: Two King loaders Packaging availability/etc. Labeling, boxing, expedity Rates: Call Other services: Computenzed expediting, ¾" video editing, commercial recording, 24 track audio post

SOLID SOUND TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 7611 Ann Arbor, MI 48107 (313) 662-0667 Contact: R. Martens, President

SOUND OF NASHVILLE, INC. A Division of Southern American Record Pressing Co., Inc. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 305 11th Ave. S., Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 244-1124 Contact: Martha Ivanits, Sales Manager





SOUND OF NASHVILLE, INC Nashville, TN

SOUTHERN AMERICAN RECORD PRESSING CO. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 305 11th Ave. S., Nashville, TN 37203 (615) 256-2521 Contact: John Ivanits, President

SPECIAL RECORDINGS, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 3026 East Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202 (313) 873-4655 Contact: Tony Camunita, Vice President & General Manager

STANG RECORDS MANAGEMENT LTD. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION P.O.Box 256577, Chicago, IL 60625 (312) 399-5535 Contact: Pete Stanos. President

STREETERVILLE STUDIOS TAPE DUPLICATION 161 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60611 (312) 644-1666 Contact: Dorothy Schweigert

STUDIO PRESSING SERVICE MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 320 Mill St., Cincinnati, OH 45215 (513) 761-8294 Contact: B Hyrne, President

SUMA RECORDING STUDIO MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 5706 Vroman Road, Cleveland, OH 44077 (216) 951-3955 Contact: Michael Bishop, Studio Manager/Engineer

## INTRODUCING MAGNETIC MEDIA'S NEW CASSETTE TAPES THE FINEST MAGNE )A ΓΛΛ NORM RI SIAP -5 $\mathbf{k}$ A'S AA(AN) $\mathsf{R}^{+}$ S



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## Central Listings cont'd



S Y RECORDING Skokie, IL

S Y. RECORDING TAPE DUPLICATION 7876 N. Lincoln, Skokie, IL 6007 (312) 982-9693 Contact: Saraim Yonas, Owner: Paul Berolaneimer: Mistager

TANTUS PRODUCTIONS, INC TAPE DUPLICATION 18461 W McNichols, Detroit, MI 48219 (313) 533-3910 Contact Mary Ann M Grath, Studio Minager

TRIAD PRODUCTIONS, INC TAPE DUPLICATION 1910 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309 (515) 243-2125 Contact Comme Seaa + Production Joord

TRUSTY TUNESHOP RECORDING STUDIO TAPE DUPLICATION Rt 1, Box 100, Nebo, Kentucky 42441 (502) 249-3194 Contact Mrs Else Childers Owner

VILLE PLATTE RECORD MFG CO MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 120 E. Cypress, P.O. Box 10, Ville Platte, LA 70586 (318) 363-2104 Contact for the Science Minister

VOLUNTEER RECORD PRESSING, INC. PRESSING, TAPE DUPLICATION P O Box 956 - 1142 Haley Rd , Murfreesboro, TN 37130 (615) 890-3222 Contact Jumy Lenatur, Prescient



WOODLAND SOUND STUDIOS Nashville, TN WOODLAND SOUND STUDIOS MASTERING 1011 Woodland St., Nashville, TN 37206 (615) 227-5027 Contact Mary Intel Index Michael Indon Mich MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumanni Indom Tape machines: Studet 3M, Sow His Junta, Monitor speakers: Wert wei Guister MI M. 4. Autor the Signal processing. Vincus Engineers: Denny Purise, Terry Dimakan Rates Heria, Liner studies Ther Vintal Autor the Credits: While Neuson, Barnara Mandreal, Hisme Musap, Olik Histo Hism, Withou Section 10, Context, Sylvar Alarama, Hallows



A&M RECORDS MASTERING 1416 N Labrea Ave , Hollywood, CA 90028 (213) 469-2411 Contact Dense Porter MASTERING Cutting lathes: Sculy lathes tifed with Clapps computer tally redesioned by A&M Console Custom designed and bialt by A&M Tape machines MCI with ATH neals and modified ATR electronics Monitor speakers: Assembled by A&M with Tannoy and EV components with H&H imps

Signal processing: Monthee UA EQ, inniters and filters. CSG for mono disks and De 'S'ing equipment designed by A&M Engineers: Bernie Grun Iman, Frank Deuna, Bot, Carbone Rates: On request Credits: Michae, Jackson, Supertramp, Donna, Sommers, Hert Aper: Prince Brothers Johnson, Sreely Dan, O Linny Jones, Gap Band, The Police, etc.

ACCU - SOUND AND VIDEO STUDIOS 4274½ El Cajon Blvd. San Diego 92105 (619) 281-6693 Contact John Meiner Owner

ALLEN ZENTZ MASTERING MASTERING 7083 Hollywod Blvd. - Suite No. 302, Hollywood, CA 90028 (213) 851-8300 Contact: Nancie boykiss: Studio Traffic Manager

#### ALSHIRE INTERNATIONAL MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1015 Isabel Street, Burbank, CA 91506 (213) 849-4671, 843-6742 Contact & Scorr, is be set

MASTERING Cutting lathes Neumann VMS / SAL 48 TV 1 plante at vertors in 2 and completer value epithtic ance. Console TVC subtiminatiscle Tape machines M-1 w TV to the electric to Monitor speakers. Clast m-TBL vitem Signal processing. Doltw. dbx

Engineers Lanky Luistrint Stan Bricker Rates On request Other services Hull basedter a job ration

PRESSING Presses (Mfg. and quantity): Len SMU entomate Capacity 50.000 Vinyl used Key or bOC Rates Quoted on request Other services We rate to 7 in we as the wirk TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (1.)) 2400 Celec Gauss saves Capacity 15,000 - Cistemar 21, 1,001 Capacity Repairson 1300 porter the Method of duplication Barlocy Mastering equipment: 2), 400 Celec Gauss Tape used BAS Duplicating speed H. speed to 1994 to 1897 Type of loading of Kin (790 automatic assetted baser Packaging availability/Fulfillment services Apex product isseme dirandia what and starting Rates: Pater on real lest

ARCAL PRODUCTIONS INC TAPE DUPLICATION 2732 Bay Rd., Redwood City, CA 94063 (415) 369-7348 Contact. Sal Vio4

THE MIX VOL. 7, NO. 12



## REAL-TIME DUPLICATION

ARCAL PRODUCTIONS, INC Redwood City, CA

ARTISAN SOUND RECORDERS MASTERING 1600 N. Wilcox Ave , Hollywood, CA 90028 (213) 461-2751 Contact: Greg Fulginit. Cinet Engineer and Managing Director for MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumann Zuma

Console: Neumann Tape Machines: Studer Monitor Speakers. Custom Signal Processing: Sonter Neumann Engineers: Gred Fulamit Credits: Asia, Pat Benatar, Heo Speedwauon Hick Springtield, Barry Manilow, Peter Gabriel, Elton John, John Lennon, Human League, David Grisman, Madness Sammy Hagar, Heart, Gratebul Dead Berlin

ASR RECORDING SERVICES INC. 8960 Eton Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91304 (213) 341-1124 Contact: Bill Dawson, V.P. Sales



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Familities Throughout the United States

## Western

AUDIODYNE TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 825, San Jose, CA 95106 (408) 287-3520 Contact: L.H. Cruaramonte: Owner President

AUDIO CASSETTE DUPLICATOR CO. TAPE DUPLICATION 6143 Morella Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91606 (213) 762-ACDC Contact: Steve, Owner

AUDIO ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1029 N. Allen Ave., Pasadena, CA 91104 (213) 796-9127 Contact: Sara Bebee General Manager

AUDIO-VIDEO CRAFT, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 7710 Melrose, Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90046 (213) 655-3511 Contact: Mart: Hasen, Manager Tape Duplication



THE AUTOMATT San Francisco, CA

THE AUTOMATT MASTERING 829 Folsom Street, San Francisco, CA 94107 (415) 777-4111 urbierine. Mastenno Engineer MASTERING Cutting lathes: Scully Westrex Console: Custom Tape machines: MCI Monitor speakers: UREL +. + Hogers ISA-SA BL Yamaha Aurater Signal processing: All types available Engineers: Paul Stubblebme Rates: (2 master \$110 .2 Het \$100, 7 master \$40, 7 Het \$40 EQ & Bundown \$125 nr Credits: Bue Oyster C.1ª Herbie Hancock. Con Funk Shun Tratislator Holly Near Jane Fonda Romeo Void Red Rockers



AWARD RECORD MFG., INC Inglewood, CA

AWARD RECORD MFG., INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 11016 La Cienega Blvd., Inglewood, CA 90304 (213) 645-2281 Contact: Marty Amsoonan Fresident PRESSING Pressee (Mig. and quantity). Lened automatics Capacity: 12 000 per day Vinyl used: Pure Virgin Key or Century KC'600 Rates: Furnished upon request Credits: Concord Jazz, Cayatol Production Music, Library of Congress, Sonic Arts, Youngheart Music Other services: Printing, mattering, matrix, & packaging, tapes and picture records



View through observation window at Kenneth Bacon Associates' new Novato tape duplication facility. One bank of real time decks in the mastering room can be seen through the rear window.

> KENNETH BACON ASSOCIATES, INC Novato, CA

KENNETH BACON ASSOCIATES, INC TAPE DUPLICATION 24 Commercial Blvd. Suite E, Novato, CA 94947 (415) 883-5041 Contact: Kenneth A Bacon President TAPE DUPLICATION: High Speed In Cassette - Otan, Sony, Alpha, Wollensak, Hi Spied Bin Loop — Accurate Sound 12 4 track staggered head  $\rightarrow$  slave, real time — Onkyo Capacity: 1 500 C 60 per shift Method of duplication: In cassette & bin loop Mastering equipment: Otari MK 2 412 , Otari MX 5050, TEAC 40-4. AIWA & ONKYO rasset Tape used. AGFA PEM 468 PE 526 PE 614 PE 627 etc. as rerared by job Shell used: Kyric Mag Media Duplicating speed: 1.7.8 ups, 3% ups, 15 ups, 30 ups, 60 ups, as required by job Type of loading: King, Dtar: Audico Packaging availability etc. Yes Rates: Trade rates to reporting studios Other services: Custom computer and flat sheet labels, computer teed labels for 5" and 7" reels and reel boxes, blank label stocks, blank pre-loaded cassettes, boxes, inserts, shrink wrap mailers, equipment and supplies division sells most equipment and supplies used by professional durilications and master distributor AGFA Gevaert video mastering and cassette tapes

AUDIOHOUSE Denver, CO

AUDIOHOUSE 10288 E. Jewel Ave. No 45 Denver, CO 80231 (303) 751-2268 George Chapekis Cwner Contact: TAPE DUPLICATION. Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity) 20 Dench DBM3 20 Naxamich. Capacity: 1:00 C30/day Method of duplication: real time Mastering equipment: Revox B77 MKII Tape used: Ail brands Shell used: Mag media Duplicating speed: real time Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Shrink wrap Rates: As low as 96<sup>s</sup> tor C30 Other services: Doiby B. C. abx. Apex processing



The DOD Dual 15 band graphic equalizer R-830A offers quality and performance at an incredible price.

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The R 830A was designed for both professional sound reinforcement and studio recording use. With balanced and unbalanced inputs and outputs, ow cut and bypass switches with LED outputs, ow cut and bypass switches with deter-indicators, center detented potentiometers, 12 db of boost or cut, and illuminated power rocker is witch, the DOD R-830A offers a great deal of the billity. The DOD R-830A has two sets of 15 flexibility. The DOD R-830A has two sets of 25. flexibility. The DOD R-830A has two sets of 25. don EQ sliders on 2/3 ISO centers placed at 25. don the factory to insure a high level of tested at the factory to insure a high level of reliability, quality and performance.

Intermodulation distortion: Signal to noise ratio: Maximum input level Balanced + 20 dbm Unbalanced + 17 dbm (ref: 1mWi600 ohms) Balanced 80K ohms Unbalanced 40K ohms Balanced 940 ohms Unbalanced 470 ohms + 12 db

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± 12 db 299.95

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Balanced + 20 dbm

Unbalanced + 24 dbm

Maximum output level:

Input impedance

Output impedance

EQ control range Suggested retail:



Call or write: DOD Electronics Corp. 2953 South 300 West Salt Lake City, Utah 84115 (801) 485-8534

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Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States

BAMCO RECORDS PRESSING 1400 S. Citrus Ave., Fullerton, CA 92633 (714) 738-4257 Contact: G. Baker, Manager

BAY AREA TAPE SALES TAPE DUPLICATION 1059 Huckleberry Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (408) 730-TAPE Contact: Walt Neal, Owner.



BONNEVILLE PRODUCTIONS Salt Lake City, UT

BONNEVILLE PRODUCTIONS TAPE DUPLICATION 130 Social Hall Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84111 (801) 237-2559 Contact: Dave Michelson TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): Gauss 1200 system (4 systems). Capacity: 20,000 pieces/day. Method of duplication: Bin loop Mastering equipment: Ampex ATR 104 Tape used: BASF. Shell used: Magnetic Media (5 screw) Duplicating speed: 64:1 Type of loading: King 790's Packaging availability/etc.: Yes Rates: Call for quote Other services: Complete 24 track recording, three studios, video sweetening.

BRANDT'S RECORDING STUDIOS MASTERING, TAPE DUPLICATION 1030 48th Street, Sacramento, CA 95819 (916) 451-3400 Contact: Charles M Brandt, Chuel Engineer & Owner

BUZZY'S RECORDING SERVICES TAPE DUPLICATION 6900 Meirose Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038 (213) 931-1667 Contact: Jill Shapiro.



CAPITOL RECORDS, INC. Hollywood, CA

CAPITOL RECORDS INC. MASTERING 1750 No. Vine St., Hollywood, CA 90028 (213) 462-6252 Contact: Barbara Hein, Office Manager

CORY SOUND CO. TAPE DUPLICATION 1255 Howard St., San Francisce, CA 94103 (415) 861-4004 Contact: Phil Markinson, Owner.

THE CREATIVE WORD TAPE DUPLICATION 17885 B-2 Sky Park Circle, Irvine, CA 92714 (714) 549-0138 Contact: Bryan Hill, President

CUSTOM DUPLICATION INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 3404 Century Blvd., Inglewood, CA 90303 (213) 670-5575 Contact: Rick Hively, Sales Manager

#### DAVKORE COMPANY TAPE DUPLICATION

TAPE DUPLICATION 1270 Lawrence Station Rd., Bldg. G, Sunnyvale, CA 94096 (408) 734-2796 Contact: Chris Webber, Owner. TAPE DUPLICATION: Duplicator: Magnetax Bin-loop Duplicator, stereo Capacity: 4,000 cassettes per day Method of duplication: In cassete, bin loop Mastering equipment: Revox & Tandberg reel to reels Tape used: Agia, BASF Chrome, Magnetic Media Shell used: Magnetc Media, Data-pack Duplicating speed: 16:1 Type of loading: King & Electro-Sound loaders Other services: Duplication for Atan & Commodore computer tapes

DCT RECORDERS MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 4007 W. 6th St., Los Angeles, CA 90020 (213) 461-2841 Contact: Pat Burnette



DIDAKSO TAPES Portland, OR listing on next page



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Circle #056 on Reader Service Card

DIDAKSO TAPES TAPE DUPLICATION 1519 S.W. Marlow Ave., Portland, OR 97225 (503) 297-8751 Contact: Bob Seal

DINKUM RECORDING SERVICES MASTERING & PRESSING 301 N. Hollywood Way - H, Burbank, CA 91505 (213) 464-7418; 843-2308 Contact: Jo Hansch, President

DYNASTY STUDIO MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1614 Cabrillo Ave., Torrance, CA 90501 (213) 328-6836 Contact: Phil Kachaturian, Owner

#### THE EXXEL COMPANY MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 102 North Ditmar, Oceanside, CA 92054

(619) 722-8284 Contact: Bill Berry, Account Representative MASTERING:

Console: Langevin by Cetec

Tape machines: Ampex AG 440 i track and 2 track, Ampex ATR700, Revox A700

Monitor speakers: Custom installation using JBL speakers Signal processing: Crown and IBL amplification, Fairchild reverberation

Engineers: Richard Garwood and Bill Kottcamp Rates: Mastering and editing \$35/hr

Other services: New recording studio; instruments and musicians availab TAPE DUPLICATION:

Duplicator: Pentagon (15 Slave), Wollensak (5 Slave) Capacity: Magnetax (17 Slave)

Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop

Mastering equipment: Ampex ATR700, Revox A700 Tape used: Cassette: Agfa 611,811, Mag. Media Cobalt. Reel-Ampex 406 456

Shell used: Magnetic Media Duplicating speed: Cassette Mono-12X stereo-16x Reel-60ips Type of loading: 2 King computer modified 790 loaders, 675

Packaging availability/Fullfillment services: Labeling, Shrinkwrap, Blister Card

Rates: Please call for price quote Other services: Automated labeling, world-wide shipping. average 24-hour order turnaround

FANFARE RECORDING STUDIOS TAPE DUPLICATION 120 E. Main St., El Cajon, CA 92020 714) 447-2555 Contact: Carol Compton, Studio Manager

## FANTASY STUDIOS MASTERING

MASTERING 10th and Parker, Berkeley, CA 90028 (415) 549-2500 Contact: George Horn MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumann mastering system utilizing the Zuma audio computer, Studer tape machine Rates: LP lacquers \$105/side, 45 lacquers: \$35/side, mastering room run down and EQ\_\$100/hr Other services: Mastering from Mitsubishi digital master tapes



FUTURE DISC SYSTEMS Hollywood, CA

#### FUTURE DISC SYSTEMS MASTERING

3475 Cahuenga Blvd. West, Hollywood, CA 90068 (213) 876-8733

Contact: Gary Rice or Steve Hall

MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Cybersonics DM2002-SA lathe with Ortofon DSS821 (green head) cutting system Console: Cybersonics MC2003 fully automated mastering con-

Tupe machines: ATR102 1/4" and 1/2" mastering machine. TRIO2 copy machines

Monitor speakers: Custom Bi-Amped monitors

Signal processing: Sontec equalizer and compress/limiter Engineers: Steve Hall Chief Engineer

Rates: Upon request

Credits: Al Jarreau Sheena Easton Jean-Luc Ponty, Donna Summer, Martin Briley, Jaco Pastorius, Bow Wow Wow, The Fixx, Bill Summers



FANTASY STUDIOS MASTERING

Berkeley, CA

GOLD STAR RECORDING STUDIOS, INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 6252 Santa Monica Blvd , Hollywood, CA 90038 (213) 469-1173



GRD RECORDINGS Phoenix, AZ

GRD RECORDINGS TAPE DUPLICATION 376 E. Alvarado, Suite 2, Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 252-0077 Contact: Liv Singh Kha'sa, Owner TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: 100 Denon DR-F8 Real Time recorders Capacity: Orders up to 10 000 Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop, real-time Mastering equipment: Otar: Denon Orban limiting Lexicon reverb Tape used: AGFA 511 AGFA chrome metal on request Shell used: Mag Media. Duplicating speed: 1.7 , ups (Real Time) Type of loading: Ctari Packaging availability/etc.: 4 color printing, labels assembly shrink Rates: C15 \$1 05 each. C30 \$1 07 each, C45 \$1 12 each, C60 \$1.23 each C75 \$1.8 + each C90 \$2.00 each (all prices real time subject to change" Other services: Record and produce new music high-speed duplication for voice, cristom load blank cassettes

HI SPEED TAPE DUPLICATING TAPE DUPLICATION 940 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103 (415) 543-7393 Contact: John Trinaday Engineer

#### PRESSING

Credits: H.R. Productions has provided custom record pressing and album manufacturing for numerous clients throughout the western U.S. We srecialize in high quality short-run projects for small companies and producers on tight budgets



JVC CUTTING CENTER, INC. Hollywood, CA

#### IVC CUTTING CENTER INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION

6363 Sunset Blvd. Suite 500, Hollywood, CA 90028 (213) 467-1166

Contact: Larry Boden, Chief Engineer MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Neumann VMS 7C with JVC quartz lock motor w Zuma comp

Console: JVC Custom Disc Mastering console Tape machines: MCI w/custom hields & playback electronics/-JVC digital DAS-90

Monitor speakers: Fostex LS-3 Signal processing: Sontec & JVC equalizers and limiters dbx &

Dolby Engineer: Joe Gastwirt

Rates: Upon request

Credits: Adrian Belew Dokken, Faul McCartney Miles Davis, Ramsey Lewis, Winton Marsilis, Isley Brothers, Jethro Tull, Ronald Shannon Jackson

Other services: <sup>1</sup>VC Digital-DAS 900-rentals, remote, and digital editinal Sole distributor for Adamanat/JVC cutting stylu, JVC test

PRESSING: Pressing: JVC Custom presses VinyT used: JVC Custom compounds including JVC super vinyT

Rates: Upon request Credits: Mobil Fidelity Sound Labs, Telarc, Delos Records

Other services: Complete printing and art service, including

#### lackets and inserts TAPE DUPLICATION

Duplicator: JVC Custom duplicators Method of duplication: Bin loop

Rates: Upon request.

Other services. Complete printing and art service-including jackets and inserts



H.R. PRODUCTIONS Lafayette, CA

H.R. PRODUCTIONS MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 3099 Diablo View Rd., Lafayette, CA 94549 (415) 930-7573 Contact: Hillel Resnue

## DECEMBER 1983



KM RECORDS, INC. Burbank, CA listing on next page



- Printing
- Plating
- Masters
- Cassettes
- Picture Records

## SINGLES • ALBUMS TAPES

Your Tape to Finished Product

Any Quantity

## AWARD **RECORD MFG.**, INC.

11016 LA CIENEGA BLVD., INGLEWOOD 90304

(213) 645-2281

Circle #058 on Reader Service Card

PROFESSIONAL CASSETTE EQUIPMENT TAPE DUPLICATION 2909 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405 (213) 450-4499 Contact: Dean Theodos, Owner



PROJECT ONE A/V Hollywood, CA

PROJECT ONE A/V TAPE DUPLICATION 6669 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028 (213) 464-2285

Contact: Mana or Dalton, Owners

TAPE DUPLICATION

Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): 30 Audio cassette decks, 5 reel to reel recorders: 5.34" Umatic: 12.12" video decks: Dolhy A. dbx Type 1

Method of duplication: In cassette bin loop

Mastering equipment: Ampex ATR 102, Sony PCM FI, Sony 5850 <sup>3</sup>4" Umatic

Tape used: AGFA 611/627, TDK, Maxell, Sony, Scotch 3M

## K M RECORDS INC



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States



Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Custom painted

Rates: Call or write for catalog or quote No job too small Other services: The most complete mastering tape store in I. A Dealers in AGFA, Ampex, Scotch 3M TDK, Maxell Sony Both

Contact: Jack G Brown/Steve Sheldon, President General

working arrangement with all top mastering studios

audio and video professional tape at wholesale prices

Shell used: Magnetic Media, Maxell, TDK, Sony, 3M

Duplicating speed: Real time or hi speed Type of loading: King

RAINBO RECORDS MANUFACTURING MASTERING & PRESSING

(213) 829-0355; 829-3476

1738 Berkeley St., Santa Monica, CA 90404

labels and inserts

Manag

Special

MASTERING

PAINBO RECORDS MANUFACTURING

RAINBOW CASSETTE STUDIO TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 472 Taos NM 87571

Santa Monica, CA

P.O. Box 472, Taos, NM 87571 (505) 776-2268 Contact: Tony Isaacs, Production Manager



RAINBOW CASSETTE STUDIO Taos,NM

RAINBOW VENTURES, INC. PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 2219 West 32nd Avenue Denver, Colorado 80211 (303) 433-7231 Contact: Michael Moryn, Strucio Mana Jer

BILL RASE PRODUCTIONS, INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 955 Venture Ct., Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 929-9181 Contact: Bill Rase, Owner

RECORD TECHNOLOGY, INC. PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 486 Dawson Dr., Camarillo, CA 93010 (805) 484-2747 Contact: William Bruer President

RECORDING ETC. TAPE DUPLICATION 663 Cowper St., Palo Alto, CA 94301 (415) 327-9344 Contact: Dennis Reed, Owner

RECORTEC, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 475 Ellis St., Mountain View, CA 94043 (415) 962-0220 Contact: Ed Wong Vice President

REELTIME DUPLICATING TAPE DUPLICATION 2563 S. El Camino Real, San Mateo, CA 94403 (415) 345-7335 Contact: Japp Sinch or James Hay, Owner, Munader

MASTERING, MANUFACTURING & JACKET PRINTING, CALL OR WRITE TODAY.

## SONIC ARTS

665 HARRISON STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107 • (415) 957-9471 • TELEX 176-123

Circle #062 on Reader Service Card

Packaging availability/etc · Complete alhume hoves labele

GOLD STAR RECORDING STUDIOS, INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 6252 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90038 (213) 469-1173



GRD RECORDINGS Phoenix, AZ

GRD RECORDINGS TAPE DUPLICATION 376 E. Alvarado, Suite 2, Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 252-0077 Contact: Liv Sirgh Khalsa Owner TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: 100 Denon DR-F8 Real Time recorders Capacity: Orders up to 10 000 Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop, real-time Mastering equipment: Otari. Denon Orban limiting Lexicon reverb Tape used: AGFA 61: AGFA chrome metal cn request Shell used: Mag Media

Duplicating speed: 1 De ups (Real Time) Type of loading: Otar:

Packaging availability/etc.: 4 color printing, labels, assembly, shrink

Rates: C15 \$1 05 each C30 \$1 07 each, C45 \$1 12 each, C60 \$1 23 each, C75 \$1 8<sup>±</sup> each, C90 \$2 00 each, (all prices real time subject to change)

Other services: Record and produce new music, high-speed duplication for voice, custom load blank cassettes

H.R. Productions

H.R. PRODUCTIONS Lafayette, CA

HI SPEED TAPE DUPLICATING TAPE DUPLICATION 940 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103 (415) 543-7393 Contact: John Trinadae: Engineer

#### PRESSING

Credita: H.R. Productions has provided custom record pressing and album manufacturing for numerous clients throughout the western U.S. We speculize in hund quality short-run projects for small companies and pixeducers on hult budgets.



JVC CUTTING CENTER, INC. Hollywood, CA

IVC CUTTING CENTER INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 6363 Sunset Blvd. Suite 500, Hallywood, CA 90028 (213) 467-1166 Contact: Larry Boden, Chief Engineer MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumann VMS 70 with JVC quartz lock motor w-Zuma computer Console: JVC Custom Disc Mastering console Tape machines: MCI w/custom heads & playback electronics/-JVC digital DAS-90 Monitor speakers: Fostex LS-3 Signal processing: Sontec & IVC equalizers and limiters dbx & Dolby Engineer: loe Gestwirt Rates: Upon request Credits: Adrian Belew, Dokken, Paul McCartney, Miles Davis, Ramsey Lewis, Winton Marcilis, Isley Brothers, Jethro Gull, Ronald Snannon lackson Other services: VC Digital-DAS 900-rentals, remote and digital editing Sole distabutor for Adamanat/JVC cutting stylu, JVC test records PRESSING Pressing: IVC Custom presses Vinyl used: IVC C istom compounds including [VC super vinyl Rates: Upon request. Credits: Mobil Fidelity Sound Labs, Telarc, Delos Records Other services: Complete printing and art service, including ackets and inser TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: JVC Custom duplicators Method of duplication: Bin pop Rates: Upon request. Other services Complete pnning and art service-including lackets and inserts



KM RECORDS, INC. Burbank, CA listing on next page



Any Quantity

## AWARD RECORD MFG., INC.

11016 LA CIENEGA BLVD., INGLEWOOD 90304



Circle #058 on Reader Service Card

3099 Diablo View Rd., Lafayette, CA 94549 (415) 930-7573 Contact: H.llel Resner

MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION

## DECEMBER 1983

H.R. PRODUCTIONS

"From One Serious Music Maker To Another"







- Audio Cassette Mastering
- Stereo Duplication
- Printing/Package
   Design

Hi-output/Low Noise AGFA Tape in 5-screw Premium Cassettes duplicated with **OTARI** 16:1 bin loop equipment.



Circle #060 on Reader Service Card

K M RECORDS, INC. MASTERING & PRESSING 2980 N. Ontario St., Burbank, CA 91504 (213) 841-3400 Contact: Jim Auchterlonie, Bill Riley, Sam Broadhead MASTERING Cutting lathes: VMS-70, SX-74, SAL 74-B Console: Neumann SP-78 Tape machines: Modified MCI JH-110 Monitor speakers: Custo Signal processing: EMT 140 Engineers: Michele Stone Rates: Upon request Other services: Half speed mastering PRESSING Presses (Mfg. and quantity): Toolex-Alpha (6) Capacity: 12,000/day Vinvl used: KC 600, Teldec, Outex Rates: Upon request Credits: Nautilus, Angel, Moss, Discovery, Varese/Sarabande Other services: In house metal processing, printing labels, jacket covers and liners, jacket fabrication

KDISC MASTERING MASTERING & PRESSING 26000 Springbrook Ave., Saugus, CA 91350 (805) 259-2360 or (213) 365-3991 Contact: Sharon Summerfield, Customer Relations, Bill Lightner, Vice President, MASTERING Cutting lathes: Scully/Capps w/Westrex heads Tape machines: Studer A-80 Monitor speakers: JBL. Signal processing; Neve, API, ITI Sontec, Sphere, dbx, Dolby Engineers: 6 Rates: Call for information PRESSING Presses: SMT 5-12" 1-7" Dual Vinyl used: Keysor Rates: Call for quotes Other services: Matrix, printing (lackets & labels)

KDISC MASTERING MASTERING & PRESSING 6550 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028 (213) 466-1323 Contact: John Golden, Studio Manager, Bonnie Kipper, Traffic Manage MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumann. Console: Custom & Sphere Tape machines: Studer, Ampex-ATR Monitor speakers: Custom JBL, Cetec-Gauss. Signal processing: Neve, API, ITI-Sontec, Sphere, dbx, Dolby Engineers: John Golden, Carol Hibbs, Bill Lightner Rates: Call for rates Credits: Merle Haggard, Patrice Rushen, A Taste of Honey, Friz zell & West, Burnto Bros , Pat Boone, Men at Work, Tom Scott, Clint Eastwood, etc. Other services: Studer 1/2" 2 track preview machine and Ampex ATR-102 1/2" 2 track record machine

721 S. Glenwood Place, Burbank, CA 91506 (213) 843-5900 Contact: Jeff Sanders, Director of Mastering; Kent Duncan, Engineer, Llady Griffin, Engineer MASTERING Cutting Lathes: Neumann VMS 70/SX 74 Console: Sierra/Sphere Custom with Graphic EQ/Transformerless Tape machines: A800 1/2" & 1/4" Preview and Studer A80 copy machine. Monitor speakers: Sierra/Hidley, Yamaha, Auratone Signal processing: Dolby/dbx/Sontec Engineers: Jeff Sanders, Lindy Griffin, Kent Duncar Rates: \$125.00 per hour EQ & rundown; \$115.00 LP Master; \$45 00 Single Master Credits: REO Speedwagon/ Jefferson Starship/Paul Kantner/Santana/Greg Guidry/The Third World Band/Stan Bush/Stevie Wonder/Chuck Mangione/Heart/Isley Bros Other Services: Zuma Computer/1/2" to 1/2" copies

KENDUN RECORDERS

LIGHTNING CORPORATION TAPE DUPLICATION 7854 Ronson Rd., San Diego, CA 92111 (619) 565-6494 Contact: Mike Larsen, President TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): Wollensak (3M) 10, Pentagon. Capacity: 26 cassettes/run (8,000 C-60/day) Method of duplication: In cassette Mastering equipment: Ampex, Otan 2 and 4 track reel to reel; BIC & Superscope cassettes Tape used: BASF, DPS. Shell used: Magnetic Media (5 screw), white or black Duplicating speed: 30 ips (16.1) Type of loading: King. Packaging availability/etc.: Complete albums, boxes, labels, shrink-wrap Rates: C-30 \$1 00; C-60 \$1 15, C-90 \$1 40 Other services: Voice studio, remote recording, video taping ¼ and ¼", multi-media slide shows and sound tracks

MASTER DIGITAL INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 202 Main St., Venice, CA 90291 (213) 399-7764 Contact: Paul Addis, Vice President Sales TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator: 16 bit digital Sony or analog Method of Duplication: Real-Time only Mastering equipment: Studer B67 Sony PCM 1600 Tape used: Sony UCXS - BASF chrome - custom loaded to length Shell used: Shape Duplicating speed: Real-Time Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Color stock typeset | cards & labels Rates: \$3.00 & up Other services: 100 for the fulfill and a speeding.

Other services:  $Film \,\,\&$  video production, digital audio recording, digital transfers for compact disk



THE MASTERING LAB Los Angeles, CA

THE MASTERING LAB MASTERING 6033 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90028 (213) 466-8589 Contact: Susan Fridgen, Studio Manager



MCA WHITNEY RECORDING STUDIO Glendale, CA

MCA WHITNEY RECORDING STUDIO MASTERING & TAPE DUPLICATION 1516 W. Glencake Blvd., Glendale, CA 91201 (213) 245-6801 Contact: Frank Kejmar, Studio Manager MASTERING Cutting lathes: 2 Neumann VMS 70, Tandem w/Zuma computer Console: Neumann w/custom electronics Tape machines: Studer A80 w/custom electronics, ATR-100, Hitachu D2200M Monitor speakers: UREI 813 Signal processing: Sontec parametric. Engineers: Steve Hall, Dave Hernandez. Rates: Upon request Credits: Blondie, Pat Benatar, The Knack, Berry White, Love Unhimited Orchestra, Aretha Franklin, Andrae Crouch, One Way, E.T., Crusaders, Tanya Tucker, Suzie Quatro, etc TAPE DUPLICATION Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): 12 Ampex reel to reel, Otan cassette Method of duplication: In cassette Tape used: BASF Pro I Shell used: Magnetic Media Duplicating speed: 8 I Packaging availability/etc.: Labelling, insert card, delivery. Rates: Upon request Other services: Professional 24 track recording

ML TAPE DUPLICATING TAPE DUPLICATION 6935 Valjean Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91406 (213) 988-2737 Contact: Bill Ball, Owner

MOBILE FIDELITY SOUND LAB MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 21040 Nordhoff, Chatsworth, CA 91311 (213) 709-8440 Contact: Pete Senoff

MOTOWN/HITSVILLE STUDIOS MASTERING 7317 Romaine St., Hollywood, CA 90046 (213) 850-1510 Contact: Diane Martin, Studio Manager. MASTERING Cutting lathee: Neumann VMS 70 with SX/SAL 74, Compudisk Computer Technics Console: Neumann SP 77 Tape machines: Telefunken/M15A ¼" & ½", Sony PCM 1610 & Fl with Preview Monitor speakers: UREI 813 Engineers: John Matouchek Rates: Digital included with mastering

MUSIC LAB, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 1831 Hyperion Ave., Hollywood, CA 90027 (213) 666-3003 Contact: Manager

### NORTHWESTERN INC.

TAPE DUPLICATION 1224 SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97205 1 (800) 547-2252; 1 (503) 226-0170 Contact: Paul Buescher, Sales Manage MASTERING Console: Altec Tape machines: Ampex ATR102-ATR 800 Monitor speakers: Altec 604 Signal processing: Spectra Sonics, Echoplate Engineers: Gary Shannon Bob Lindahl Rates: \$50.00 per hr TAPE DULPICATION: Duplicator: AudioTek 2000 BL Capacity: 4000 per day C-45 Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: Ampex ATR 102-104 Tape used: Ampex 603 Shell used: Kyric Duplicating speed: 32-1 Type of loading: 2-King 760 automatic Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Shrink wrap, in serts, labels Other services: Reel to reel/at speed Ampex A6 440-C, 6 slaves.

OUTBACK STUDIOS TAPE DUPLICATION 489½ Cavour St., Oakland, CA 94618 (415) 655-2110 Contact: Nancy Dyer, Traffic Manager

PRAISE SOUND PRODUCTIONS MASTERING, PRESSING, & TAPE DUPLICATION 7802 Express St., Burnaby, B.C., Canada (604) 420-4227 Contact: Paul Yaroshuk, U.S. office: 1308 Meador St., Unit C5, Bellingham, WA 98225 (206) 671-9562

PRC RECORDING CO. PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 18700 Laurel Park Rd., Compton, CA 90220 (213) 979-8545 Contact: Debbi Scofield, West Coast Sales Rep PRESSING: Richmond Indiana plant: Capacity per day: 7' - 140,000; 12'' - 110,000



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States

## Western

Compton, CA plant Capacity per day: 7" - 60,000; 12" -60,000 Rates: Upon request Credits: Upon request TAPE DUPLICATION: Richmond, Indiana plant only Capacity: 70,000 per day Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: Gauss Duplicating speed: 32-1, 64-1 Type of loading: King Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Complete Rates: Upon request

PRECISION LACQUER MASTERING 1008 North Cole Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038 (213) 464-1008 Contact: Kate Emenne, Studio Manager.

### MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Compudisc - Ortofon Console: Custom/NTP. Tape machines: Ampex. Monitor speakers: K&H, Horrible Tones - 604E. Signal processing: NTP. UREI, Ortofon, Stephen's ears. Engineers: Stephen Marcussen Rates: Call for information Credits: Stevie Wonder, Fleetwood Mac, Rod Stewart, Pointer Sisters, Stevie Nicks, Lindsay Buckingham, Tom Petty, Nick Fleetwood, Betre Midler, Duran Duran, Joan Rivers

PRESENT TIME RECORDERS TAPE DUPLICATION, 5154 Vineland Ave., N. Hollywood, CA 91601 (213) 762-5474 Contact: Bob Wurster

THE PRESSING PLANT (Formerly International Automated Media) MASTERING & PRESSING 17422 Murphy Avenue, Irvine, CA 92714 (714) 474-2015 Contact: Mike Malan, General Manager MASTERING

Cutting lathes: Sontec Computsk, Technics Quartz drive, Neuman Lathe & SK-74 head with custom electronics Console: Custom high speed, minimum electronics

Tape machines: Studer A 80 ¼" & ½", Soundstream. Others upon request

Monitor speakers: UREI 813, Auratones Others upon request Signal processing: Dolby, dbx, Sontec EQ, PSE Limit/Expand/Noisegate.

Engineers: Bruce Leek, Richard Donaldson

Rates: 12" Full Speed \$100.00 a side; \$175.00 for ½ Speed. Room time for rundown \$110.00 an hour Call for singles. Credits: A&M, CBS, Delos, Nautilus, Telarc, Warner Brothers,

Fleetwood Mac, Joe Jackson, and many others too numerous to mention.

Other services: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Speed, Audiophile Complete matrix in house for instant plating after mastering **PRESSING** 

Presses: 6 Toolex Alpha

Vinyl used: Teldec, Vitec, Keysor Custom blends Rates: Call for rates Other services: Complete Matrix services available



Circle #061 on Reader Service Card

PROFESSIONAL CASSETTE EQUIPMENT TAPE DUPLICATION 2909 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405 (213) 450-4499 Contact: Dean Theodos Owner



PROJECT ONE A/V Hollywood, CA

PROJECT ONE A/V TAPE DUPLICATION 6669 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028

(213) 464-2285 Contact: Maria or Dalton, Owners

TAPE DUPLICATION

Duplicator (Mfg. and quantity): 30 Audio cassette decks. 5 reel to reel recorders, 5 ¾" Umatic, 12 12" video decks, Dolby A, dbx

Type I Method of duplication: In cassette, bin loop Mastering equipment: Ampex ATR-102, Sony PCM FI, Sony

5850 %" Hmat Tape used: AGFA 611/627 TDK, Maxell, Sony Scotch 3M





Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States



Shell used: Magnetic Media, Maxell, TDK, Sony, 3M Duplicating speed: Real time or hi speed Type of loading: King

Packaging availability/Fulfillment services: Custom painted labels and inserts

Rates: Call or write for catalog or quote. No job too small Other services: The most complete mastering tape store in L A Dealers in AGFA, Ampex Scotch 3M, TDK, Maxell Sony Both audio and video professional tape at wholesale prices

## RAINBO RECORDS MANUFACTURING MASTERING & PRESSING 1738 Berkeley St., Santa Monica, CA 90404 (213) 829-0355; 829-3476

Contact: Jack G. Brown/Steve Sheldon, President/General Manage

MASTERING

working arrangement with all top mastering studios Special

## best (best) adj. 1. Surpassing all others in quality, most excellent.



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## SONIC ARTS

665 HARRISON STREET · SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107 · (415) 957-9471 · TELEX. 176-123



RAINBO RECORDS MANUFACTURING Santa Monica, CA

RAINBOW CASSETTE STUDIO TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 472, Taos, NM 87571 (505) 776-2268 Contact: Tony Isaacs, Production Manager



RAINBOW CASSETTE STUDIO Taos, NM

RAINBOW VENTURES, INC PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 2219 West 32nd Avenue Denver, Colorado 80211 (303) 433-7231 Contact: Michael Morve, Studio Manager

BILL RASE PRODUCTIONS, INC. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 955 Venture Ct., Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 929-9181 Contact: Bill Hase, Owner

RECORD TECHNOLOGY, INC PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 486 Dawson Dr., Camarillo, CA 93010 (805) 484-2747 Contact: William Bauer President

RECORDING ETC TAPE DUPLICATION 663 Cowper St., Palo Alto, CA 94301 (415) 327-9344 Contact: Dennis Reed, Owner

RECORTEC INC TAPE DUPLICATION 475 Ellis St., Mountain View, CA 94043 (415) 962-0220 Contact: Ed Wong, Vice President

REELTIME DUPLICATING TAPE DUPLICATION 2563 S. El Camino Real, San Mateo, CA 94403 (415) 345-7335 Contact: Japp Singh or James Hay, Owner, Manager

Circle #062 on Reader Service Card

70

REX RECORDING CO. TAPE DUPLICATION 1931 SE Morrison, Portland, OR 97214 (503) 238-4525 Contact: Russ Gorsline or Rhiner Johnson



ROCKY MTN. RECORDING Cheyenne, WY

ROCKY MTN. RECORDING MASTERING & PRESSING 8305 Christensen Rd., Cheyenne, WY 82009 (307) 638-8733 Contact: Georgia Alexander Sales

SEACOAST RECORDING TAPE DUPLICATION 926 Turquoise St., San Diego, CA 92109 (619) 270-7664 Contact: Jack Elliott Owner

SHUR-SOUND & SIGHT, INC. TAPE DUPLICATION 3350 Scott Blvd., Bldg. #5, Santa Clara, CA 95051 (408) 727-7620 Contact: Glenn L. Cardon. Vice President

#### RICHARD SIMPSON MASTERING & PRESSING 6331 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90038 (213) 462-2545 Contact: Richard Simpson, Owner MASTERING Cutting lathes: AM 32B with SX 68 cutting head. VG66 amps Tape machines: MCI JH 110M 2 VP Monitor speakers: Altec 604 Signal processing: Orban parametric EQ 622B. INovonics com pressor limiter Engineers: Richard Simpson

Rate: 1 000 7" 45's \$518 includes mastering plating (full process) labels and sleeves

Credits: John Denver Elvis Presley Johnny Mathis, Henry Mancini Mac Davis Bill Withers Willie Nelson Leon Russell, Glenn Campbell, movie sound track 10° & 'Victor Victoria' numerous projects for major as well as small independent labels and artists Other services: 12 LP and 'assette packages



SONIC ARTS CORP. THE MASTERING ROOM San Francisco, CA

MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 665 Harrison St., San Franicsco, CA 94107 (415) 781-6306, 957-9471 Contact: Ron Sullivan Custom Accounts MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumann fully automated and computerized VG66 amp w/Neumann SX cutting head Console: Custom Tape machines: Neumann, Telefunken, 3M, Inovonics, Ampex Monitor speakers: Altec 604 w JBL vooters Signal processing: Parametric and graphic EQ, Inovonics, Dolby A and dbx noise reduction, UREI and Inovonics limiters, AKG echo chamber Engineers: Leo de Gar Kulka Kenneth Lee (asst.) Rates: \$25 per ¼ hr, plus lacquers - 7" \$40/side 12" \$50/side Credits: Phillips Warner Bros Concord Jazz, Ralph Records, DDG, Catero, and many local labels Other services: Half speed mastering digital mastering PRESSING Vinyl used: Keysor, Teldec Rates: Call or write for brochure Other services: Jacket label and poster printing, colored vinyl, onal buttons, stickers matchbooks, and T-shirts TAPE DUPLICATION Mastering equipment: 3M Tape used: AGFA PE 611 Shell used: Data packaging Packaging availability/etc.: Album art reproduction labels Rates: Call or write for brochure

SONIC ARTS CORP./THE MASTERING ROOM

SOUND IDEA PRODUCTIONS TAPE DUPLICATION P.O. Box 9587, Berkeley, CA 94709 (415) 832-5171 Contact: Glenn Davidson Owner

SOUND IMAGE STUDIO MASTERING 6556 Wilkinson, North Hollywood, CA 91606 (213) 762-8881 Contact: Chuck Kopp Studio Manacer



SOUND MASTER AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING STUDIOS North Hollywood, CA

SOUND MASTER AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING STUDIOS
MASTERING
10747 Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601
(213) 650-8000
Contact: Barbara Ingoldsby Studio Manager
MASTERING
Cutting lathes: Cybersonics with Ortoton cutting amplitiers and
head
Console: Cybersonics
Tape machines: MCI and Ampex
Monitor speakers: House
Signal processing: Everything
Engineers: Brian Ingolasby Joe Beniche, Ken Ingolasby
Rates: On request
Credits: Elton John Olivia Newton John Joe Cocker, many
others
Other services: 24 track automated repording studio and full pro-
duction video complex

SOUNDMARK, LTD. TAPE DUPLICATION 4950-C Nome St., Denver, CO 80239 (303) 371-3076 Contact: Ray Pryor Sales Rep



Circle #063 on Reader Service Card



- CASSETTE TAPE DUPLICATING
- DELUXE-QUALITY-PURE VINYL PRESSING
- STATE OF THE ART MASTERING
- QUALITY PLATING SERVICE
- WAREHOUSING AND DROP SHIPPING

Personalized On Time Service

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## The Finest Cassette Duplication in Real Time Just Got Finer

**Equipment:** 

20 Nakamichi LX-3 20 Denon DR-M3 **Revox B77** Tascam 40-4 Ecoplate II Aphex Type B Symetrix CL-150 **DBX 150** Ampex, BASF, TDK, Maxell, Agfa



Audiohouse is committed to bring you clean, crisp cassette copies at the lowest possible price. Rates upon request.



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duplication Facilities Throughout the United States



SOUNDS UNIQUE TAPE DUPLICATION 2514 Seaboard Ave San Jose, CA 95131 (408) 262-8793 (pm) Contact: Mike Steiner, Owner

MARK STARR RECORDINGS 1609 64th St., Emeryville, CA 94608 (415) 658-0109 Contact: Gary Wood, Owner



STOUGHTON PRINTING CO City of Industry, CA

STOUGHTON PRINTING CO. JACKET & LABEL PRINTING 130 N. Sunset Ave., City of Industry, CA 91744 (213) 961-3678 or (213) 686-2753 Contact: Ace or Jack Stoughton Other services: Sleeves and picture disks

### STUDIO MASTERS

MASTERING 8312 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048 (213) 653-1988 Contact: Larry Wood, Executive Vice President MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumann VMS 70 with SAL 74 electronics Console: Neumann SP-272 with EMT PDM compressor limiter Tape machines: Studer A-80's (1/2" and 1/4" formats) Monitor speakers: TM-1 Signal processing: Orban/Parasound parametric EQ, Orban Sibillance controller Engineers: Chief engineer Don Blake Rates: Call for rates Other services: State of the art complete service studio. Live recording, mix, mastering, dub, edit

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Phoenix, AZ



Listings of Mastering, Pressing and Tape Duphciation Facilities United States

#### Western

TAPE SERVICE UNLIMITED TAPE DUPLICATION 3249 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA 94610 (415) 834-6912 Contact: Walt Lee Owner

TAPELOG TAPE DUPLICATION 10511 Keokuk Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311 (213) 882-4433 Contact: Don Hollingsworth or Kristin Crisalli

TAPES AGAIN TAPE DUPLICATION 1135 Pearl St. Ste. =7, Boulder, CO 80302 (303) 447-8787 Contact: Mir in Rose Pres, ient

UNIVERSAL AUDIO CORP. MASTERING, PRESSING & TAPE DUPLICATION 6540 E. Lafayette Blvd., Scottsdale, AZ 85217 (602) 994-5528 Contact: John A. Mi haelson President

VIDEO RECORD ALBUMS OF AMERICA TAPE DUPLICATION Number 8471, Universal City, CA 91608 (213) 462-1099 Contact: Troy Cory, Owner



WAKEFIELD MFG , INC. Phoenix, AZ

WAKEFIELD MFG., INC MASTERING & PRESSING P.O. Box 6037, 1745 W. Linden, Phoenix, AZ 85005 (602) 252-5644 Contact: an Account Executive MASTERING Cutting lathes: Neumann VMS 70, SM 74 head, SAL 74B elec ioni inte Console: SP 172 Tape machines: Studier A.8 — Of an MTR 10 , MK II , 4 ,  $\sim$  . Monitor speakers: UREL8 ( 3s Signal processing: Senter parametric EQ. Doitly, ubx Neumann EQ. PDM limiter

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Engineers: Roger Seibel Rates: Contact an Account Executive Credits: ECM, June Appal, Titanic, 1750 Arch, Rounder Other services: Digital mastering Sony BVU-200B and PRESSING Presses (Mfg. and quantity): SMT automatics Vinyl used: Keysor KC 600, Vitec Quex I and II, Teldec

vailable Bates: contact an Account Executive Credits: contact an Account Executive Credits: Angel Records ECM Records, Rounder Records, American Gramaphone, 1750 Arch Records, Titanic Records Other services: Complete tape to disk manufacturer. All printing (labels, jackets, stickers, inserts, etc.), complete matrix depart

TAPE DUPLICATION Rates: Contact an account executive Other services: Complete duplicating and printing services Engineer: Joel Brooks

HANK WARING DISC MASTERING MASTERING 4007 W. 6th St., Los Angeles, CA 90020 (213) 383-2155 Contact: Hank Waring

WEST AMERICAN SOUND TAPE DUPLICATION 8120 Webb Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91605 (213) 768-6100

WINTER SUN TAPE DUPLICATION 10802 N. 23rd Ave. Phoenix, Arizona 10802 (602) 864-1980 Contact: Mark Bruno, Manager

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#### Correction:

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In our October issue on page 135 we incorrectly spelled the Timrep Company as TIMÉREP.

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# Announcing the mixers that the competition has been trying to build for ten years.



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#### equalizers, effects panning, a built-in high output headphone amp, and much more. **Human Engineering To Make Life Easy**

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#### by Mr. Bonzai

"I was a very quiet and introverted child, like my friend Ray Bradbury. We had very similar parallels in childhood. We are now helping to design an indoor theme park for the Six Flags people in Baltimore."

Think of it. Stan Freberg and Ray Bradbury creating an amusement park! Humor and science fiction might be just the E-ticket to save the human race.

I met Stan Freberg not because I recognized his face, but because I overheard his voice in a crowded L.A. supermarket. I did a mental double take, looked around, and pushed my way through the shopping carts to shake this man's hand. He cordially introduced his 12-year-old son Donavan and we made plans for a lunching. I thought it would be revealing fun to meet with two generations of Frebergs.

The first week that we tried to meet was taken up with cancellations due to his work on some Jeno's Pizza commercials. The next week was interrupted by a sudden need to transport his props and archives from a warehouse that was being torn down. He told me that he was having trouble getting an eight-foot rubber pizza into his basement. I also learned that he was getting flack from The Magic Castle, an unusual L.A. nightclub, because he was storing the 12-foot soup can from the Heinz "Great American Soup" commercials in their garage. "It's getting a little dented from the busboys squeezing by," he told me.

It was altogether appropriate that I met Stan Freberg because of his auditory presence. His imaginative use of character voices, sound effects, and unlimited music have forever altered the course of popular audio. Those of you who have followed his career as a distinctive musical satirist and the man who created an unmatched success in humorous advertising would be tickled to tour his home in Beverly Hills. He lives in an eccentric sanctuary: a villa filled with elegant 16th century Spanish antiques, an occasional plumbing problem that cracks the plaster (as on the day I arrived), and the biggest knick-knacks in the domestic world. (Remember the U.S.-shaped briefcase from the cover of "The United States of America?" album?)

Because of the forced Freberg archival project, I was invited to join Donavan, Stan, and his son-in-law Todd Fisher (brother of Princess Leia) in the refurbished basement. Todd is a recording wiz who once had a stateof-the-art mobile van that he used to record such acts as The Beach Boys. Today he is creating new electronic interfaces for Stevie Wonder's studio laboratory. The four of us sorted through old records, tapes, and props



PHOTO MR. BONZAI

and magazine clippings from the past thirty years.

Stan began his career at the age of 17 when he voiced cartoons for Warner Bros. with Mel Blanc. "Donavan and I find at least one of those old cartoons on the Bugs Bunny/Roadrunner Show every Saturday morning," he informed me. His son is already voicing an animated ABC show, "The Littles", which airs at 9:30 AM, and before that was the voice of Bill Melendez's "Charlie Brown." It conjured up a heartwarming image when I thought of the two of them sharing the Saturday morning TV.

The first Freberg record was "John and Marsha," released in 1949. It is simply the voice of a man and woman repeatedly uttering each other's names and expressing inquisitiveness, sensuality, laughing lunacy. Add to that vocal a soap opera music bed and you have a single that sold half a million copies.

His "St. George and the Dragonet", a 1957 Dragnet spoof set in medieval times, sold a million copies in three weeks, resulted in a recreation on the Ed Sullivan Show, and is credited as the fastest rising single in the history of the record business.

When asked how he arrived at a career that combined a lavish in-

come and a hilarious lifestyle he simply replied, "It was just one of those lovely things that happened. I wanted to make records, even if I didn't get paid for them."

The success of his recording career was propelled by his fame as a radio comic. In 1957, he took over Jack Benny's network slot and his legendary show was the very last network radio comedy series. The double album culled from the programs won the Grammy as Comedy Album of the Year. As a record industry footnote, Stan was one of the founding members of NARAS, and wrote their credo. In the opening segment of the radio show he had an argument with himself, which eventually grew into a multi-voiced tirade among six or seven Frebergs. It was live radio, but he had pre-recorded the argument to the memorable delight of radio audiences.

"That was the first time that I had done it," he told me. "We did it the hard way, in mono, by taking the outputs of two recorders and going into a third machine. Overlap, overlap, overlap. I also did a record that was a take-off on Les Paul and Mary Ford." **Bonzai:** But he was doing true multitracking on the tape recorder he built with the help of Ampex . . .

Freberg: Yeah, he was the first to do

it. I was very interested in the way it sounded, but he wasn't about to tell me his secrets. I did experiment with a musical conductor by the name of George Burns, who was also a mathematics major. He helped me figure out how to get musically correct results by re-recording at different speeds-how to start in one key at a certain speed and then end up in the right key after re-recording at a different speed. The most interesting and well-known multi-tracking thing that I ever did was for the radio advertising bureau in which I dropped the ten-ton maraschino cherry into Lake Michigan.

[The 60-second spot promoted the unlimited possibilities of radio production as opposed to the restrictions of TV. The tightly choreographed piece of audio art is a montage of moving mountains of whipped cream and the sound of the Royal Canadian Air Force dropping the big cherry.] Bonzai: Did you use a multitrack recorder on that one? Freberg: No, we didn't have them yet. I had to use seven mono machines lined up with different sound effects going into an eighth machine. It all depended on a sense of timing and I wanted the sounds to overlap so that you would hear a new sound coming in while the old one was



Circle #076 on Reader Service Card

decaying. The man from the ad bureau conked out after the seventh take. He told me that all seven sounded fine. "Why do you keep stopping," he pleaded. I told him that it wasn't swinging yet. The booth gradually emptied until the only survivors were my wife Donna, who is my associate producer, the engineer, and myself. The master take is number 72. When I got what I wanted, I stopped. Remember, each of the machines had to be re-cued each time. The engineer, Ralph Valentine, had to take ten days off to recuperate after that 15 hour session.

**Bonzai**: Do you have a reputation for taking a long time?

**Freberg:** Only among the more jealous people on Madison Avenue. It takes what it takes, that's all. It's like Michaelangelo hanging on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel and the Pope is yelling "When will it be done?" He answered, "When I'm finished." I have already heard the finished recording in my mind and I stay in the studio until the performance syncs up with the tape in my head.

There was **one** job where I did 114 takes for a TV commercial. It was a 12-hour day and I never did get it. I had to cash it in because the actor couldn't remember his lines. The man just about had a nervous breakdown. I even wrote the lines on the back of the Cheerios box and he still couldn't do it. My wife deduced the solution on the way home. He was a stand-up comedian and I had him sitting at a kitchen table. He would stand up and do it perfectly while we were reloading tape, then he would sit down and blow it every time.

[Stan's commercials are an irritating legend on Madison Avenue. He somehow manages to grab his audiences, lead them through an auditory labyrinth, mock the medium, and still generate astronomical increases in sales. His "Today the pits tomorrow the wrinkles!" campaign for Sunsweet Prunes caused a 400% sales boost. He achieved incredible radio penetration with a series of public service announcements he produced for the Presbyterian Church. National surveys were the stuff of The Guinness Book of World Records when it was found that he had accomplished almost 100% total recall with radio audiences.) Bonzai: How did you get involved in

**Freberg:** I was approached by Reverend Charlie Brackbill, a minister who worked in their radio and television department in New York. He flew to California and told me that if I could soft-sell Chun King Chow Mein, then I should be able to do the same for God. I backed off at first because of the seriousness, but Charlie said that if I didn't at least try, I was doing a disservice to God. Eventually I agreed—I guess I was just in awe of the client at first.

**Bonzai:** Do you have any advice for aspiring advertising people? **Freberg:** Perhaps they should get into some other line of work. I'm not so sure that we need so much advertising and I've seen the blood drain out of 1000 faces when I've made this statement at ad banquets.

**Bonzai:** But wouldn't that diminish your income?

**Freberg:** Maybe a little, but what if it did? That would be a small price to pay for not being assaulted day and night by too much advertising. I once said that suppose Proctor and Gamble didn't do any soap advertising—do you think that people would be any dirtier? If we had a moratorium on advertising, people would eventually go staggering into drugstores with headaches and gradually they'd figure out which remedy gave them the fastest relief.

**Bonzai:** Your odd musical compositions have been a key factor in your recording career and your commercial projects—where did you get your background in music?

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#### ---from page 83, BONZAI

Freberg: I learned it all the hard way, by not going to music school. Actually, I listened very carefully and I also had great teachers-Billy May and Judd Conlon. On "The United States of America" album I wrote the music and lyrics and Billy orchestrated it. He can write in any style, but he also writes with a sense of humor. He does shocking things and goes into totally strange keys for a great humorous ef-fect. I wrote "Take an Indian to Lunch This Week" not just for the Indians. It's a satirical comment on the stuffed shirt liberals' patronizing of blacks, as well. Remember, I did this before the civil rights movement got going. Anyhow, Billy May, totally on his own, brought in the strains of "Dixie" at the end of this song. Brilliant.

One time I conducted the Omaha Symphony Orchestra for the world's first 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> minute commercial. It was for The Butternut Coffee company and we didn't mention their name until the fifth minute. Billy rode back with me on the train and gave me 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> days of lessons on the way. I can still see the two of us lurching back and forth with the baton.

**Bonzai:** "I've heard that you have plans to record some parodies of the music of the 70's and 80's . . . **Freberg:** I'm working on that album now. I'm waiting for Rod Stewart to have another hit.

Bonzai: Why do you single him out? Freberg: Because he's satirizable. He's one of the few singers today that has a recognizable style. And he and I have the same throat doctor. Dr. Kantor has his gold record on the office wall, which I thought was the least that Rod could do. I told Dr. Kantor that I didn't find his singing voice all that great and the implication was that I should have heard it before it got worked on. Stewart has terribly abused his voice—he must have nodes on his vocal chords the size of cauliflowers.

Bonzai: I hear you may mount a stage version of the USA album . . .
Freberg: Yeah, Burt Reynolds wants me to do it at his dinner theater in Florida for a six week run.
Bonzai: And you would appear in it as well as direct?
Freberg: I daresay.
Bonzai: Would you like to take it to Broadway after that?
Freberg: There's a strong possibility we might do that.
Bonzai: Donavan, do you plan to follow in your dad's footsteps?
Donavan: I think so, but I'm not really sure what I want to be I suppose I

ly sure what I want to be. I suppose I want to continue to be an actor, but that's a shaky field to go into. If I don't go into the industry I think I'll fall back on computers and become a scientist. I love computers. **Freberg:** I don't feel that the schools today are very adequate. I think Donavan gets more out of watching Nova on TV than he does from going to three months of science classes. **Bonzai:** Have you ever done any teaching?

Freberg: I taught a class in telecommunications at USC, but I had to rename the class. It used to be called "Broadcasting the Arts and Sciences" and I asked them what that meant. Nobody talks like that in real life. I said that Walter Cronkite wouldn't say to his wife, "Well, dear, I'm going down to CBS now and broadcast a few of the arts and sciences." I renamed the class "Freberg on Communications." I was an unorthodox teacher and did away with the finals. A couple of people from the class have gone on to become quite successful.

Stan Freberg is a loving father, the clown in the back of the media classroom, an impish eccentric, and a timely 20th Century joker. I hope that you were able to imagine his distinctive sarcastic drawl and his hypnotic leisurely speaking rhythms as you read of his exploits.



DECEMBER 1983

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#### by David Wilson

To try to understand the audiophile merely by definition as "one who loves sound" is to be literally correct, but woefully inadequate in human insight. There are many folks out there who would, at least partially, fit the above definition, but are obviously not true audiophiles. For example, the preadolescent with a "bleacher buster" glued to his ear loves sound, or at least the rhythmic pulses of pain which assault his senses and the sensibilities of those around him.

Also never to be confused with the audiophile is the casual consumer of various and sundry electronic entertainment appliances. This is the guy who, when he gets a few disposable bucks, chooses to spend it on a stereo. Last year it was a large screen TV. Next year it will be a personal computer. He will derive from each acquisition a modicum of pleasure, and even utility. But an all-consuming, totally involving passion? Nope. In short, this is merely a consumer who buys whatever electronic bauble strikes his fancy at the moment. This is not to say that the size of the purchase is inconsequential, for it may well run into several thousands of dollars. But the study, the weighing of options, the *involvement* in the selection of the system, were not a part of a life-long pursuit. What little research was invested in the purchase of the stereo probably came from a single issue of *Consumer Reports, Stereo Review, Playboy*, or any of a number of other rags, all of which are considered technically worthless by most audiophiles.

So what is an audiophile? He (or she . . . more women audiophiles all the time), is in love not only with the sound of music, but more specifically, the sound of the actual musical event-the presence, the sense of space, the dynamics of being there when it happened. The audiophile pursues this elusive goal, sometimes carefully and logically—sometimes intuitively and with almost careless abandon . . . but always with a hunger, a passion, a religious zeal. Among sophisticated audiophiles, the standard of accuracy is the sound of live, unamplified acoustic music. However, very well engineered and produced studio recordings can also work their

magic with the audiophile, but only under certain circumstances, as we will see.

How old are they? The age range of audiophiles is very wide, from around 15 up to the 60's and 70's; not too many "child prodigies" because those under 15 usually lack the discernment to appreciate the art of refinement . . . which is what high fidelity is all about. They also usually lack sufficient disposable income to realize any but the most modest of audiophile equipment fantasies.

A susceptible person becomes infected with acute audiophiliosis when he hears a sound system do sonically satisfying things he didn't think were possible . . . and he wants that for himself! It's a revelation of sorts, enlightening and thrilling, and (if you have the recessive audiophile gene) once you've experienced it, you want more and more and more of it.

So, once infected, the audiophile proceeds to seek out recordings and equipment which satisfy his cravings for more accurate tonal balance, clearer transient response, more lucidity of low level detail, and a more dimensionally

# The Author's Audiophile Habitat

The overall character of the listening room is slightly on the live side of neutral, but the reverberant field is symmetrical. Carpeting is wall to wall and the rear wall is almost completely absorptive. These factors contribute to a soundstage which is large and precise. The actual "focal point" of the system is located at a moderate low frequency null point.

The preamp, turntables, and smaller tape deck are located in an alcove which was custom-built to pro-

—page 98, HABITAT

(Right) David A. Wilson and his wife Sheryl Lee



convincing sound stage. In short, he desires recordings which are more musically accurate and/or convincing.

With all of today's sophisticated technology, surely our audiophile is thrilled by countless state-of-the-art offerings from the recording industry. Ironically he is not, and therein lies a seemingly basic conflict between what the discriminating audiophile desires in a recording, in terms of accuracy to musical values, and what the studio recording industry feels it has to produce. There are enough great recordings extant to prove that the industry has the talent and the technology to satisfy the most fastidious listener. Yet the signal processing used to make a given recording sound reasonably spectacular on a trashed-out AM radio makes that same recording sound unbelieveably bad on a decent component stereo system. Unfortunately some of these processing techniques have crept into the production of countless otherwise excellent recordings. The indiscriminately overprocessed record ends up being a sort of "sonic twinkie". . . hardly palatable to someone accustomed to the haute cuisine of naturally spectacular-sounding recordings. The most serious and obvious victim of overprocessing is the recorded sound of the human voice. All too often it comes off as being over-bright, lacking in harmonic richness and warmth, with sibilants that can cut glass. As if these "signal processing excesses" weren't enough, most commercial records are pressed in vinyl of only moderately good quality . . . or worse. Noisy lacquers, hastily matrixed and sometimes carelessly pressed, result in records of grossly inferior quality. Produced and manufactured to sell cheaply and be acceptable only to the most indiscriminating consumers, the "standard release" further alienates the audiophile. In desperation, the audiophile seeks out higher quality imports and ultra-high quality "audiophile recordings".

Ironic, isn't it? And sad, because there is not another audience in the world which is as appreciative as the approximately 150,000 audiophiles in America, of the creative genius of those engineers and producers who understand and care. Audiophiles show their appreciation by buying great recordings. Oh, sure, they will make cassette copies of "OK" records, but audiophiles will not want to lose the quality of a great recording by making a cassette of it-they will buy the great record.

How does the audiophile judge quality in recordings and equipment? We've already alluded to a preference for "natural sounding" recordings, but what about equipment?

—page 88

#### **RECORD PLAYBACK EQUIPMENT WHICH IS** POPULAR AMONG SERIOUS AUDIOPHILES

BRAND	CONFIGURATION	PRICE BANGE
Phono Cartridges		IANGE
Accuphase	Moving Coil (MC)	\$200 E00
Denon	Jewel Cantilever (JC) MC, Boron Cantilever (BC), Aluminum	\$300-500
Dynavector	Cantilever (AC) MC, JC, AC	80-1000 150-1500
Grace	Moving Magnet (MM), JC, AC	60-200
Grado Kilpsch	Moving Iron (MI), AC MC, JC, BC, AC	15-500 200-1000
Kiseki	MC, JC, BC	600-3500 650-1300
Koetsu Monster	MC, BC, JC MC, BC	500-1300 500
Shure Stanton	MM, AC, BC MM, Induced Mag (IM), AC	45-250 40-250
Vanden Hul	MC, AC, BC	400-1300
Turntables		200,0200
Denon Goldmund	Direct Drive (DD), Hard Rubber Mat Direct Drive	200-6200
Linn-Sondek	Acrylic Platter (AP), No Mat Belt Drive (BD), Felt Mat	2300-11,000 1000
Oracle	BD	
Sota	Soft Rubber Mat BD, Soft Rubber Mat	1000-3000 750-1250
Thorens	BD, Hard Rubber Mat	250-1750
<b>Tone Arms</b> Goldmund	Linear (L), Servo(s), R	2900
Grace	P, F, Removable Cart. Mount (R)	225-325
Linn Products SME	Pivoted (P), Fixed Cart. Mount (F) P, R	200-650 300-1750
Souther	L, R	850
Sumiko Syrinx	P, F P, F	1200 250-700
Technics	P, R	450
Loudspeakers		
Acoustat B&W	Full-Range Electrostatic (FRE) Staggered Cone (SC)	1 300-5000 450-3500
Dahlquist GNP	SC SC	400-1200
Infinity	Ribbon/Hybred (R/H)	350-1800 150-30,000
KEF Magnapan	SC Ribbon/Hybred (R/H)	300-2200 4 <b>75</b> -3000
Pyramid	SC, R/H	370-1750
Quad Soundlab	F-RE F-RE	1780-3310 1200-6000
Spica	SC F-RE	420-600
Stax Theil	SC	3100-5800 350-1500
Vandersteen WAMM	SC Electrostatic Tweeters	630-3000
··· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	SC Sub-Wooter	42,000
Power Amplifiers		
Acoustat Audio Research	FET Class AB Vacuum Tube	1100 2000-6000
Bel	Transistor Class A	1300-2400
Conrad-Johnson Hafler	Vacuum Tube Transistor Class B	850-4350 350-750
Krell Mark I avine v	Transistor Class A	1800-6000
Mark Levinson PS Audio	Transistor Class B Transistor Class B	1750-6500 430-1200
Threshold	Transistor Class B	1300-3300
Preamps Acoustat	FET	800
Audio Research	Vacuum Tube	1000-3500
Conrad Johnson Counterpoint	Vacuum Tube Vacuum Tube	300-2850 500-1600
Denneson Hafler	Transistor, FET Transistor	500-3500 150-400
Mark Levinson	Transistor, FET	1250-6000
Spectral	FET	2400-3500

#### -from page 87

"Natural" or "accurate" would both be apt descriptors, but these adjectives tend to mean different things to different people. All of which brings us to a point of schism among audiophiles. When discussing the merits of a piece of equipment, audiophiles seem to become polarized into one or the other of two dichotomous "camps"-the "meter-readers" or the "golden-ears". Meter-readers believe that any phenomenon which is audible can be measured, quantized, and repeatably demonstrated to a high statistical probability. Carried to excess, this attitude suggests "if it can't be measured, it doesn't exist." Golden ears believe that there are many audible phenomena which are not measurable but, nonetheless, important. It is not a simple matter of "objective" vs "subjective", just because one group is dealing in numbers and the other group in sensory perceptions. Both approaches have their validity, and have produced worthwhile contributions to the science and art of audio. The author's attitude is that, if a piece of equipment measures good and sounds bad, it is bad.

As was mentioned earlier, we are dealing with enthusiasts who derive great pleasure out of perceptive listening. And, like anyone who loves doing something, and does it a lot, some audiophiles become very skillful listeners. Many audiophiles will claim to hear things which seem incredible or preposterous to non-audiophiles. These perceptions, even more than published specs, tend to influence equipment purchasing decisions among audiophiles. Essentially, the total novice relies only on his ears, although he doesn't really trust them, and is ignorant of specifications. The beginning enthusiast relies primarily on specs, still not trusting his ears. Very experienced listeners tend to rely on, and trust, their own ears or the observations of trusted reviewers and critics. Most experienced audiophiles have developed a healthy skepticism of the relevance of many specifications. The most enlightened audiophiles understand how to interpret meaningful specifications. This, plus perceptive listening provides them with great insight and usually accurate observations.

Where do audiophiles turn for advice on equipment and recordings? Beginning enthusiasts, in the U.S., usually read only the commercial magazines such as *Stereo Review* (circulation est. at 400,000-500,000) or *High Fidelity*, primarily because of newsstand availability, breadth of scope and format (lots of color pics, attention to popular music, low cost equipment etc.). I would emphatically state that many readers of these magazines are not audiophiles. More experienced audiophiles, i.e., those who have been burned a few times when they have bought equipment based only on measured performance reviews, become more selective in their reading. "High-end" audiophiles (i.e., serious audiophiles who tend to buy and trade expensive equipment) like investors, subscribe to private circulation newsletters and "underground" magazines for variety of opinion and depth of insight. These publications include The Absolute Sound (Sea Cliff, New York), Stereophile (Santa Fe, New Mexico), International Audio Review (Berkeley, California), Sensible Sound (Snyder, New York), and High Perfor*mance Review* (Stanford, Čalifornia). The only commercial U.S. publication widely read by the audio cognoscenti is Audio These publications are often lively, controversial, and a very useful advance indicator of audio-equipment trends. Recording engineers would find them fascinating.

Audiophiles buy a lot of stereo equipment. The average amount spent is in the range of \$650-\$1,000 per year; high-end types spend considerably more than that. It is easier, believe it or not, to track buying preferences and their rationale among high-end audiophiles than among beginning enthusiasts, because the high-end uses sonic performance as the major consideration, whereas beginners prioritize price and features. The market is glutted with low-priced, feature-laden, mediocre equipment clones, but of greater interest and significance are the high performance offering of smaller firms.

Loudspeakers are the most conspicuous components of any system. Audiophiles are often willing to sacrifice very high SPL capability and very extended bass in order to achieve cleaner resolution of low level detail. accurate tonal balance, and more expansive sound stage performance. These gualities are not really mutually exclusive, it's just that is takes a lot of space and money to do it all. Typical studio monitor speakers, even though they are quite dynamic, are not popular among audiophiles because they are perceived as performing poorly in the above-mentioned sonic areas. Dipole radiators, such as full-range electrostatics, and various ribbon configurations, are popular as are some cone-type systems whose drivers are staggered to achieve alignment in the time domain.

Many audiophiles prefer the sound of tube power amplification to that of solid state. Fine quality tube units often render an extremely accurate mid-range harmonic structure and expansive soundstage (dynamic channel separation). Tube power amplifiers almost without exception, however, are

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underdamped in the low frequencies, slow in transient response and sometimes lacking in textural definition. They tend to be very forgiving of upper mid-range and high frequency grit and harshness. In contrast, many solid state amplifiers, particularly those which are biased class B or AB, which use electrolytic or tantalum capacitors in the signal path, and have small, high source impedence power supplies, tend to sound bright, thin, edgy, and lacking in soundstage specificity. Conscientious amplifier designers who use class B or AB biasing can, by paying close attention to the above and other details, produce exceptional sounding amplifiers. Class A amplifiers, properly executed, are (theoretically) the best solid state has to offer. They can be very smooth, dynamic. They are expensive and large because of the heat they must dissipate. In case you haven't noticed, the author firmly believes that different amplifiers, having similar published specs, can sound guite different.

To a certain extent, the same differences noted in the sound of tubes vs. solid state in power amps also hold true for preamps. The major qualifier, however, is that tube preamps don't usually have output transformers, so their sound is more purely that of the tube circuit itself. Bass can be guite extended and reasonably tight. Upper mid-range and trebles can be very linear, lucid and extended. Although their noise floor is high by solid-state standards, the author believes that the real glory of the tube is most apparent in preamp applications. The FÉT is (in its transconductance mode) the solid state analog of the tube, offering most of the tube's sonic strengths but with a very low noise floor. Can most audiophiles hear the differences between these circuit topologies? Yes. Can many audiophiles hear the sonic fingerprints of the recording and mastering chains used to produce today's records? Yes!

What about the pickup system? The most popular audiophile cartridges are those which exhibit a fairly fast transient rise-time (5 u sec to 12 u sec on the CBS STR 112 test record), portray a good soundstage, and preserve dynamic contrasts. This usually means a moving coil design with either a jeweled, boron or berylium cantilever, and a hyperelliptical stylus. A great deal of attention is currently being focused by the audiophile on the linearity of mechanical transmission and subsequent damping, of vibrations by the stylus cantilever, cartridge body, armtube, bearing mechanism, turntable, mat/platter system, and turntable

—page 146, AUDIOPHILE

## Techniques and applications in the next generation recording studio

#### by George A. Bowley Audiooptic Technologies, Inc.



an you envision a recording studio without electricity and wires???—where musicians are playing optic guitars instead of electric ones?—where there are no ground loop problems

because there are no cable shields to cause them?—where there are no electrical interference or hum problems because the "wires" are made of glass?

The next generation recording studio may very well use light instead of electricity to create music; to transfer and process audio signals, and even to produce the final master recording. Amidst the current preoccupation with digital recording, enhanced signal processing technigues and evolving video markets, the recording community has not yet recognized a new technology knocking at the studio door; waiting to be let in. Its concepts are new and its application in the recording environment (and audio media in general) are revolutionary.

This technology is called Audiooptics—a term created by the author to describe the integration of the principles of audio engineering with the science of optics to effect improvements in the way we reproduce sound and transmit audio signals. Light has not been previously considered as a viable replacement for electricity because there has been no practical way to harness it. However, with the advent of optical fibers, which channel light down tiny "light pipes", it is now possible to contain and manipulate light in many of the same ways we now process electrical signals. In fact, fiberoptic communication links have now been perfected to the point where they are now commonplace in a number of commercial and military systems; including possibly your own telephone. More recently, it has been discovered that optical fibers can be used to detect vibrations, acoustic pressure, magnetic fields, electrical current, rotation and other energy fields—creating a new realm of optical sensors.

-page 93





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Audiooptics takes advantage of the many performance improvements afforded by these fiberoptic sensor and communication concepts to eliminate the many problems present in audio systems today—such as induced noise and hum, cable attenuation, frequency response constraints, nonlinearity and electrocution hazards. However, before we get into a discussion of how audiooptics can be applied in the next generation recording studio and how it can be used to improve system and signal performance, let's take a brief look at how an optical fiber works, and how it is used in the three major functions of audiooptic technology: Fiberoptic communications; fiberoptic sensors and optical signal processing.

#### **Optical Fiber**

An optical fiber is not a hollow glass tube as some would suspect, but a thin strand of two concentric glass materials, as shown in Figure 1. The two glasses differ in that one glass allows light to travel at a speed slightly faster than the other glass. They are said to have "different indices of refraction". The inner glass (the "Core"), and the outer glass (called the "Cladding"), form a cylindrical boundry where they meet which runs the length of the fiber.

A law of physics (Snell's Law) states that, when light hits such a





Figure 3



Stereo 1/4" balanced line in Line/mic switch Phase reverse switch High pass filter EQ in/out switch Mute switch Variable gain (45 dB) Two monitor sends Two effects sends Direct out (%

Cue send 100 mm fader EFFECTS Two individual effects modules 5 band EQ dual peak reading meters (effects & monitors) Access in/out on effects & monitors

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boundry of materials with different indices of refraction at a small enough angle, the light will be totally reflected back off the boundary. In the case of an optical fiber, any light entering one end of the fiber will continue to reflect off the cylindrical boundary and propagate within the inner glass core down the length of the fiber. The light then exits the other end as shown in Figure 2. Optical fibers can be as small as a human hair or as big as a pencil lead, depending upon their intended use and desired optical properties.

#### **Fiberoptic Communications**

In 1970, researchers at the Corning Glass Works discovered that light attenuation in glass optical fibers could be reduced from 1000 dB/kilometer to less than 20 dB/kilometer, and the communications industry started to seriously consider fiberoptics as a viable alternative to more costly wire systems.

A light source, such as a laser, Light Emitting Diode (LED) or other source, is modulated by the analog or digital information to be transmitted. The modulated light travels down the length of the fiber as illustrated in Figure 3. When the light exits the fiber at the other end, it illuminates a detecting device such as a phototransistor or PIN diode, which converts the varying light back to an electrical signal for subsequent reproduction.

During the past ten years, significant improvements have been made in fiberoptic communications systems. Light attenuation in the fiber has been reduced to under ½ dB/kilometer and more sophisticated fiberoptic transmitter and receiver devices have been perfected. Fiberoptic systems have replaced a number of major telephone trunk lines, and are now being used to interconnect computers and cable television systems.

#### **Fiberoptic Sensors**

The mechanics involved in the propagation of light within an optical fiber have been greatly simplified for the purposes of this article, and there are a number of other physical and optical parameters involved. All these factors result in a system operating in precise equilibrium: that is, the light exiting the fiber is essentially equal to the light entering the fiber; less any losses due to connections and other intrinsic optical losses.

If any parameter of this lightpropagating system were changed; such as altering the index of refraction of one of the glasses, or causing a discontinuity in the core/cladding glass boundry, the system equilibrium can be tipped off-balance causing



Figure 4

light losses within the fiber before it exists the other end, as shown in Figure 4. It has recently been shown that a number of different energy fields acting upon a fiber's surface (such as pressure, acoustic waves, and magnetic fields) can modify the physical characteristics of the fiber and cause some light to be lost. The net effect is that the light traveling down the core is modulated in direct proportion to the variation of that external field. The fiber therefore acts as an extremely sensitive sensor of external energy.

#### **Optical Signal Processing**

Optical signal processing involves the modification of a particular signal to another desired state while such a signal is still in the torm ot light. As with electrical processing, the intensity, phase and frequency spectrum of an optical signal can be altered to achieve specific qualities and effects. One obvious method is to insert devices in the path of the light; such as a density or polarization filter which can alter the amount of light that passes. Passing light through diffraction gratings, slits and prisms can separate the optical path into various wavelengths. Lenses can concentrate, diffuse and route light in different directions.

More esoteric optical signal processing techniques involve the use of Liquid Crystal Displays (LCDs) used as variable filters, masks, photographic negatives and other apertures in conjunction with optically sensitive surfaces and devices such as Charge Coupled Devices (CCDs) to alter the nature of the optical signal. Frequency spectrums can be changed; phase relationships altered and other special effects (such as tremolo, vibrato, flanging, pitch transposition, etc.) can be created in the optical domain. Optical modulators can heterodyne signals to create multichannel paths, and optical switches on chips the size of an integrated circuit can route these signals to any desired location.

#### Audiooptics

What do these basics of fiberop-



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tic communications, fiberoptic sensing and optical signal processing have to do with the next generation recording studio? Answer: they all comprise a new technology-audiooptics-that combines these optical capabilities with the needs of audio systems; developing applications which improve performance and minimize problems inherent with counterpart electrical methods.

For example, fiberoptic communications systems can replace almost all studio audio signal paths; with plastic/glass fiberoptic cables directly replacing common audio cables. There would be no more frayed cable shields that pull out of connectors; no more grounding problems or looking for that elusive loop that is humming the monitors off the wall; no more zaps and electrical shocks because there are no metal connections involved; no more worries about radio frequency interference, dimmers, static or any other external noise sources since light is not affected by electrical phenomena. Frequency response constraints imposed by the low-pass filtering effects of coaxial audio cables would be eliminated because an optical fiber has a linear bandwidth up to 20-400 megaHertz! In addition, very long audio transmission paths can be supported due to the low signal attenuation factors of optical fibers and their insusceptibility to induced noise.

Fiberoptic sensors can be used to sense vibration and acoustic pressure, which makes them attractive replacements for microphones, musical instrument pickups and sound monitors which presently employ elec-

tromagnetic, capacitive and piezoelectric principles. An optical fiber senses in a linear fashion; that is, it has no low and high end drop at the end of the audio frequency spectrum, and therefore eliminates any non-linear characteristic particularly experienced in capacitive and inductive pickup devices. A fiber is geometrically flexible and can be configured in a number of shapes from planar (flat) to spherical designs to fit various physical configurations.

Optical signal processing allows us to perform equivalent sound modification functions with light; heretofore only accomplished electrically. Primary console functions can be executed through optical switches, optical summing units (mixing), optical mask transforms (EQ), optical modulators (channel routing) and other applications of optical technology. Mask and modulation techniques can also be used to generate other special effects such as phasing, tremolo, vibrato, delay, pitch transposition and the like.

#### The Next Generation **Recording Studio**

Armed with a basic knowledge of audiooptics, let's walk through the hypothetical scenario shown in Figure 5, to illustrate some potential applications of optical devices in a recording studio environment.

Musicians are assembled in "Studio A" for an optical recording session. One guitarist is playing a fiber optic guitar, using strings made of optical fibers instead of steel strings. When its fibers (strings) vibrate, they modulate the light inside the core;



creating an optical musical signal without the need for magnetic pickups (See "The Fiber Optic Guitar" by George Bowley; Audio Engineering Society Preprint #1828 G-3). A second guitarist has fiberoptic vibration sensors attached to various parts of his acoustic guitar.

The acoustic guitar pickup outputs are optically mixed within the instrument to create a composite musical signal, representing the instrument's total harmonic content. The piano, drum set and other instruments also contain built-in or externally attached fiberoptic sensors, elminating some of the need for external miking. These sensors are extremely flexible and can be molded in different shapes to fit in various places inside each instrument to reproduce a wider range of harmonics.

The optical output of each instrument feeds into its own fiberoptic cable, eliminating the need for electrical audio cables and noisy connectors. All cables plug into a fiberoptic snake which either mates each signal path with a multi-fiber cable trunk routed to the control room, or optically multiplexes the signals onto a single fiber buss line.

Vocalists are singing into fiber optic microphones which are, again, sensors geometrically configured to enhance specific pickup frequency and directional requirements. Some microphones are built with fiberoptic intensity modulation sensors, which vary the amplitude of the light in the fiber core. Other microphones are designed with interferometric fiberoptic sensors which detect the very small changes in the phase of the light. These phase microphones are so sensitive that they could pick up a fly's footsteps. Both microphone types also use fiberoptic cables to transmit the "optical vocals" to the control room.

Special fiberoptic headphones worn by each performer are fed by optical cables from an optical monitor buss coming from the control room. These optical signals are demodulated within the headset by tiny batteryoperated photodetectors.

Ambience microphones are not readily seen when entering the studio. They are imbedded in the studio walls and ceiling in the form of hundreds of feet of optical fibers which pick all sounds impinging on these surfaces. The composite optical output of these imbedded fibers therefore represents the total "sense" of the room's characteristics, impossible from employing point sensors at various locations, or by using several overhead microphones to detect a portion of the room's airborne sound. This output can be used as an addi-

protection circuits.

An adjustable Short-Term Speaker Protection circuit adjusts dynamic headroom between 60 and 77 volts with a short term

burst capability of 70 volts rms at 8 ohms, or 60 volts rms at 4 ohms. The circuit

ARV



Front-panel-adjustable protection circuits.

locks-in to the control setting after 0.5 seconds. An adjustable Long-Term Speaker Protection circuit matches the time constant of the output shutdown cir-

cuit to your PA or monitor system. Finally, the Clipping Eliminator detects clipping lasting longer than 30 milliseconds and attenuates the input signal just enough to pull the PM-1.5 out of clipping. As for sound quality, consider

this quote from **The Audio Critic Magazine**, "... the equal of any power amplifier in transparency. focus and smoothness. We especially enjoy hearing spatial detail, instrumental definition and completely natural dynamics. At this level of sonic performance, the astoundingly small size and cool operation become icing on the cake ...

Roy Clair and Ron Borthwick of Clair Brothers said it this way, "We are amazed that Bob was able to put the same wattage into one-fourth the volume of conventional amplifiers without sacrificing audio performance. It's hard to believe that an amp so small and lightweight can put out so

much clean power. But it does!'

Whether you run a megawatt sound company, a struggling bar band, or a recording studio gearing up for digital, the PM-1.5 will pay you. In increased portability and reduced freight costs. In freedom from expensive blown drivers. In sheer sonic excellence.

Write for a detailed brochure today or give your local pro store no peace until they order you 21 pounds of pure power.

★ Power: 8 ohms. 450 watts/chan. 20 Hz-20 kHz both channels driven with less than 0.1% THD. 4 ohms. 600 watts/chan. rms 20 Hz-20 kHz both channels driven with less than 0.1% THD. 16 ohms. 300 watts/chan. 20 Hz-20 kHz both channels driven with less than 0.1% THD. 2 ohms. 525 watts/ chan. a clipping. 1kHz. with less than 0.2% THD. Note: 2 ohm specification for information purposes only. Operation at 2 ohms is permissible but not recommended. IM Distortion: Less than 0.1% SMPTE. Frequency Response: -3 dB as 18 Hz. -3 dB as 80 kHz. Damping: 200 at 1 kHz. Gain: 26 dB. Noise: Better than 115 dB below 450W A weighted. Input: Balanced to ground dt. XLR or phone. Impedance: 15k-ohm each leg. balanced to ground Bridging: 1200W into 8 ohms. 1000W into 16 ohms. accessed through rear-panel recessed switch. Dimensions: 19 in wide. 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in high. 10<sup>14</sup>/<sub>16</sub> in deep. Weight: 21 lbs.



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CWAER

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sional Low-Feedback High Headroom Magnetic Field Amplifier

The most power in the lightest weight package ever offered to the hard knocks. no-compromise world of pro sound.

An amplifier that can run heavy metal flat-out into any impedance down to 4 ohms all day long.

When Bob first began working on his PM-1.5, he knew a great deal about amplifiers but not enough, he believed, about the night-in night-out requirements (and wish dreams) of the pro sound world. And so he spent much time consulting with a large number of sound reinforcement professionals, including the "pros' pro," Clair Brothers.

Clair Brothers asked for lower input ac line current, greater transformer thermal capacity. dual modes of precision balanced inputs with 1% resistors, back-to-front cooling with a fully proportional fan system that can just tick over at idle or blast 1000 ft/min. to keep output transistor temperatures constant. They wanted greater noise immunity and unbelievable long-term, high-power operation, as well as a 3/16" front panel with deep-recessed controls.

Others wanted rear rack-mounts, adjustable protection circuit thresholds, front panel selectable clipping eliminator, and even a sequential. soft-start power-up mode.

Now that the PM-1.5 has undergone thousands of lab test hours and seven months of hard road testing, Clair Brothers, Bob, and you get all that and more.

The PM-1.5 is designed to run balls-to-thewall, even into 4 ohms day and night without compromising itself or your drivers. Because the PM-1.5 has three special adjustable speaker

#### -from page 86, HABITAT

vide equipment access and effective cable routing. The turntables rest upon a surface of Gibraltar-like solidity. All windows are double thermopane and overlook a guiet valley in Marin County, California. Ambient noise levels are auite low.

The reference speaker is the Wilson Audio Modular Monitor (WAMM), driven below 55 Hz by the Brown Electronics BEL-2002 100w/chan, class A amplifier, and above 55 Hz by two Krell KMA 200A (revised) 200 watt mono class A power amplifiers. Four separate 30 amp circuits were wired to the listening room to provide adequate current capacity for the power amplifiers and isolation for remaining components. Monster Powerline II speaker wire connects the Krells to the WAMM full-range arrays. Vampire wire connects the BEL to the sub-woofers. The 55 Hz electronic crossover is part of the WAMM system. The reference preamp is the Spectral DMC-10 Beta. Voltage step-up and impedence matching are accomplished using a John Curl custom FET headamp. All interconnects in the system are Monster "Reference" balanced-bandwidth.

Two phono pickup systems are used: the Goldmund Studio with Goldmund T-3B arm, and an Oracle Delphi with a modified EPA-100 arm. Several cartridges are used, including the Accuphase AC-2 (in the Goldmund), van den Hul Type I, Kiseki Blue, Kiseki Agaat, Dynavector 17-D and monster Alpha I. All are moving coil types. The reference headshell is the Orsonics.

We employ two tape recorders for recording and evaluation purposes. The Revox A-77 MK 4, 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> and 15ips half-track, 1/4 inch recorder (Wilsonmodified) has been with us for years, and has produced over a dozen records. Our "big" machine is the Ultramaster.™ The Ultramaster's transport is a Studer A-80 RC MK II, 15 and 30 IPS, half-track, 1/2 inch analog recorder. A custom-built low inductance record head is used. Record and playback electronics, using a custom R/P equalization, are totally custom-made by John Curl using all specially selected high speed devices.

With the advent of a fine FM program in the Bay Area hosted by John Sunier, I now have reason to own a high performance FM tuner. For this purpose a Tandberg TPT-3001 is used in conjunction with a Finco FM4g antenna with rotor system.



### Lake is giving you a line.

MCI/Sony is now at Lake. New England's largest audio/video dealer has just added the complete line of MCI/Sony tape recorders and consoles to their list of carefully selected products for the professional. Lake's service, engineering and design



capabilities are there to serve you whether you need a microphone or a full turn-key system. Call the pro audio people at Lake Systems Corporation, 55 Chapel Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02160 (617) 244-6881. Leasing plans are available.

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#### -from page 96, AUDIOOPTICS

tional signal source, or as a reference signal to "tune the mix" during mastering. The imbedded fibers can be installed in sections and shaded (areas of varying fiber density). Then, using optical beamforming techniques, directionality can be detected and controlled for stereo enhancement or other mixdown purposes.

So far, electricity has not been used at all in the recording process (except for the demodulation process in the performer's earphones). Instrumentalists may want to parallel their instruments with outboard amplifiers and other electrical devices, but since primary optical signal paths are unaffected by any electrical phenomena, peripheral electrical equipment will not induce noise into the program material.

Signals from the studio pass into the control room either via the fiberoptic cables, or via special fiberoptic connectors mounted on the studio walls. The optically multiplexed signal line is then decoded and routed to respective channel module inputs in the mixing console. Optical switches perform inter-console routing. Signals are split or combined by optical couplers and lenses. The faders are actually optical attenuators which vary light intensity through variable density filters, polarization techniques, interferometric balancing or other methods.

Equalization is accomplished by introducing variable or predetermined masks into the optical path (mentioned previously) or other Fourier Transform devices which alter the frequency spectrum as desired. In this hypothetical recording session, the recording engineer has placed slides #23, 46 and 92 into the optical EQ reader of each submaster module to set up the desired overall system frequency response. He has also inserted mask slide #14 into channel 3's module to provide 10 db of optical attenuation at 200 Hz to get rid of an instrument resonance. Three other EQ knobs on each module vary other optical mask parameters to provide variable spectrum transform functions on each channel.

Outboard optical devices are patched in when needed to provide special effects. Optical phase shifters are employed to create the usual flanging effects, vibrato, delays and pseudo-stereo signals. Variable density filters act as tremelo devices. Variable frequency masks can provide specific frequency spectrum effects. Optical saturation units can serve as limiters and compressors without problems of electrical transients and non-linear response.

The mixing console produces a

composite optical signal output which is sent directly to an optical recording head without the need for recorder electronics, equalization and other circuitry. If magnetic recording tape is the storing medium, the optical signal can be converted to a magnetic field and transferred to the tape. In another system, the optical signal can be directly used to expose the photoresist of a video disk which, when etched, will provide a master for quantity production of disks for optical laser playback systems. There are no noise reduction units in this system because noise is at a minimum already!

Unfortunately, nothing is perfect. Current technology does not yet provide for a reverse process whereby light in a fiber can be converted back into a high power audio signal. That is, there is no "fiberoptic amplifier" or "fiberoptic speaker" from which one can "hear" the light from the fiber. Therefore, there is a point in the studio monitoring process where the fluctuating optical signal must be detected by a photodetector; converted back to electricity and processed by a power amplifier and monitor speaker in the normal fashion.

However, fiberoptics can still play a significant new role in the studio monitoring process to optimize the quality of the mixdown. In our scenario, for instance, optical fibers can also be imbedded in the control room walls and ceiling to detect the intensity and phase of all of the sound emanating from the monitor speakers. This sensor output can then serve to establish (and help correct) the stereo balance and equalization of the mix from a total room aspect. Optical fibers sewn into the monitor speaker grilles can act as control sensors to monitor and adjust speaker amplitude and phase balances and directional charactertistics.

#### State of the Art

The fiberoptic communications aspects of the optical studio scenario are well within the existing state of the art, and quantum improvements can be effected today in audio communication. Fiberoptic sensors are also a reality (as is my Fiber Optic Guitar and follow-on instrument pickups). Much fiberoptic sensor research is still ongoing within the military and industry, but a sufficient number of prototype devices have been built and employed which prove the feasibility of their application within environments such as the recording studio. Postulated signal processing applications are a little more esoteric and, although backed-up with current scientific research, it may take awhile longer to implement some of

these concepts in the consumer marketplace—but it's on the lab bench and on the way!

Audiooptic Technologies, Inc., is in the process of developing a number of audiooptic devices which have been conceptually described in this article; not only for recording studio application, but also for music, broadcasting, sound reinforcement, consumer electronics and audio-visual markets as well. It is hoped that this article has stimulated the reader's interest and that, together, we can provide mutual audiooptic contributions to the next generation recording studio.

George Bowley is President of Audiooptic Technologies, Incorporated (ATI), and owner of SYNC Records and Three Ell Music Publishing Companies. George is an electronics engineer and professional guitarist who has been involved in various aspects of the music, broadcasting and recording media for over thirty years. He is currently directing research and development of optical designs for application in the audio media, and welcomes further inquiries into the field of Audiooptics. He can be reached via ATI, Post Office Box 2458, Springfield, Virginia 22152.



Nestled alongside Big Stony Creek, surrounded by the mountains of the George Washington National Forest in Southwestern Virginia, Sontec Electronics continues its major contribution to the quality of recorded sound.

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## Contractor Expo Set for '84

Contractors Expo '84 will be held at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas next April 24-26. Workshops and Expo will be aimed at Contractors only. Four educational programs will be held simultaneously. Fire/Life Safety will be the focus of topics for one track chaired by John Pieroth (Signal Communica-tions—Seattle, Washington). The twelve hour audio presentation will be the responsibility of Harold George (Indiana Electronics Co-Op, Granger, Indiana). Topics and speakers for the "Managing a Contractor Company" segment, will be the responsibility of Bob Ancha (Ancha Electronics-Elk Grove Village, Illinois). The Video and the Contractor series will be supervised by Chairman Vic Coskey, (Coskeys Electronics, New Brunswick, New Jersey).

Forty-eight hours of workshops covering four learning tracks and 12 hours of exhibits should attract contractors from all over the hemisphere, says Conference Chairman Harold Lander (Signal Communications—Seattle, Washington)." "Our surveys show that the most important reason contractors attended our 1983 meeting was education. Almost equally important were product displays. In 1984 we'll offer plenty of both," he continued. The exhibits have been expanded to one hundred four booths and forty-seven demo rooms.

A survey of the contractors attending last year's conference indicated 71.6% had the final say in purchasing goods and services, 16% specified and 11.1% recommended. These findings seem to indicate the owners of the contractor companies were a majority of those attending.

The NSCA Conference will be held in close proximity to the Electronic Distribution Show and overlapping on two of their show dates. Badges from either show will 'be accepted and honored on either expo floor. An admission fee will be charged for the contractor educational programs.

For more information about the 1984 Contractor Expo, contact National Sound & Communications Association, Headquarters, 5105 Tollview Drive, Suite 201, Rolling Meadows, Illinois 60008.



#### Island Sound System Upgrades

Mud Island, a Mississippi river theme park near downtown Memphis recently overhauled the sound system at the island's 5,000 seat amphitheater.

The new sound package was provided by Phase Audio, Inc., a Memphis-based sound contracting firm, with consultation from acoustician Stephen Durr of Nashville.

The new speaker system, featuring a central cluster arrangement, includes a combination of JBL and Gauss speakers with a specialized crossover design incorporated into the system to achieve a flatter response. Phase Audio also installed White equalization for the main speakers and on-stage monitors.

#### Nova Sound Reinforces Paul Anka and Donna Summer Tours

Nova Sound Research has teamed up with Innovative Audio/Schubert Systems Group to provide Paul Anka with sound reinforcement for his 1983 World Tour. The signal processing equipment of George Massenburg, Dirk Schubert and Jim Gamble heads up the Nova/Innovative house and monitor system. Mike Abbott is house engineer on the tour, with Ken Fowler as assistant engineer; Alan Bonomo is monitor engineer, with Chip Croop assisting.

Nova Sound has also provided sound reinforcement for the 1983 Donna Summer U.S. Tour. The firm assembled a large monitor system, consisting of 20 cabinets—eight cabinets (3,500 watts) are utilized by Donna, herself, while the remaining 12 are for the band, which includes three keyboard players, a drummer, percussionist, bass player, guitarist, saxophonist and two backing vocalists.

#### Multipair Audio Cables

Pro-Co Sound, Inc. has announced the availability of Helix™ Multipair Audio Cables for portable sound systems, recording studios and sound reinforcement.

Pro-Co Helix cable is custommade in 16- and 29-pair configurations. Each pair is twisted to reject commonmode noise and 100% foil shielded to eliminate interference and crosstalk.

The stage box is formed and



welded from 18-gauge cold-rolled steel and finished in black epoxy paint. A hefty industrial wire-mesh cable grip provides positive strain relief. Male and female XLR and special 3-conductor latching-type phone jacks are available; all channels are wired in balanced configurations. All connectors are located in the cover of the box, secured with vibration-proof rivets and clearly identified with bold silkscreened numbers.

Standard connectors are diecast Neutrik XLR-types with nylon cable clamps, rubber strain relief boots and shielded Switchcraft 3-conductor phone plugs. Pro-Co Sound, Inc., 135 East Kalamazoo Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007, 800-253-7360.

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which can be concealed under hair and is custom fitted to the performer. The new system is available in both wireless and hard-wired versions, in either black or tan colors to match skin or beard, and can be ordered with other microphone capsules (such as the Audio Technica ATM831) as well. Prices begin at \$200 for the basic microphone/headband combination.

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#### Cerwin-Vega V-19

The V19 is an ultra compact vocal sound reinforcement speaker or moderate power keyboard monitor employing a 12-inch woofer and a high efficiency compression driver with a



#### New Mid-Bass Horn from Design Direct

Design Direct Sound has introduced the DBM line of mid-bass horns, true expotential flared horns specifically designed for the entire fundamental frequency range of most musical instruments and the human voice. Its frequency response is designed for 250Hz to 1.5kHz with a sensitivity of 100 dB. The pattern is 80 ° vertical by 65 ° horizontal while incorporating a 10 inch cone tranducer. Dampening material is 3/8 inch end grain balsa core which is placed over the entire surface, to eliminate ring or hangover. Design Direct Sound, 6850 35th N.E., Suite #1, Seattle, WA, 98115, (206) 527-4371.

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#### Nady Headmic

Nady Systems, Inc., of Oakland, CA, have introduced the Head-Mic<sup>™</sup>, a lightweight miniature performer's headset microphone system. The HeadMic features a Countryman Associates Isomax<sup>™</sup> directional mike capsule mounted on a headband boom



#### Introducing the RCF L15/P200 Driver.

It takes a winner to make a winner. And when the EAW based Unicus system was recently selected the best performing high level sound system by 800 participating audio consultants, architects, mixing engineers and theater owners ... selected Number One, the best of 14 names from around the world, EAW didn't stop and rest on its laurels. No way.

We went on to design another sure-fire winner: the RCF Driver. And here's what's in it for you:

#### More power handling and

reliability: with 300 watts long term (100 hours), with sine weave signal and 600 watts long term (100 hours), with an EIA pink noise signal — more than any commercial driver available. More bass output: its long travel voice coil provides + - 9 mm peak to peak linear travel — more than any JBL, EV, TAD, or Gauss 15-inch drivers.

**Lower distortion:** the hand-crafted high tech European cone and suspension reduce resonances and breakup modes at all power levels.

The most massive magnet on any 15inch loudspeaker in the industry provides unsurpassed control of the 100 mm (4") voice coil, also the largest in the industry.

The RCF Driver: it's new, it's part of our finest Laboratory Series, it's in our acclaimed tradition of winners. And it's waiting for you.



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horn flare.

The ER122 woofer in the V-19 system is a high performance, low frequency loudspeaker with extended midrange bandwidth, low distortion and high power handling capacity.

The H-25 high frequency compression driver is coupled to an ABS horn flare specially designed for wide and uniform horizontal audience coverage angles. It exhibits linear, peak-free response over a three octave range from the crossover at 2.5kHz to beyond 16kHz.

The H-25 is protected by a self-resetting relay which senses long-term power and removes input to the driver before failure due to overpowering. Suggested list price of the V-19 is \$300. Circle #094 on Reader Service Card





#### JBL Debuts the 2370 Bi-Radial Horn

James B. Lansing Sound, Inc. has introduced the model 2370, designed for uniform on and off axis frequency response in the horizontal plane from 630 Hz to 16 kHz.

The 2370 features a compound flare configuration, minimizing the need for horn overlapping, virtually eliminating lobing and comb filter effects. Consistent horizontal dispersion eliminates midrange narrowing and high frequency beaming problems.

JBL's horn features an integral throat that will accept any one-inch diameter compression driver. Its flat front design allows for flush mounting on baffles; to facilitate installation, mounting tabs are provided for either enclosures or clusters. To ensure freedom from resonances, the lightweight horn bell is constructed of injection molded reinforced highdensity structural foam.

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#### New Electro-Voice Two-Way Sound Reinforcement Speaker

Electro-Voice has developed a two-way speaker system intended for sound reinforcement applications where a wide, controlled coverage angle and high efficiency are desired.

The components of the FR15-2 are housed in a handsome oak-grain vinyl enclosure with a detachable beige grillcloth. T-nuts are embedded in the sides of the cabinet to facilitate suspension. Low frequencies of the FR15-2 are handled by a rugged 15-inch EVM-15L Series II woofer mounted in a 4.3-cubic foot optimally vented enclosure. Frequencies above the 1500-Hz crossover point are handled by a compression driver on a 90° x 40°

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constant-directivity horn.

The frequency response of the FR15-2 is essentially flat from 50 to 15,000 Hz. The speaker's sensitivity is rated at 98 dB SPL with a 1 watt input, measured at 1 meter on axis. The long-term power-handling capacity is 200 watts, measured using shaped pink noise with a 6-dB crest factor.

The FR15-2 weighs 94 pounds and measures 28 3/8 x 31 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 16 5/8 inches (h/w/d).

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#### Heil Unveils Pro 400B

The Heil Pro 400B incorporates their exclusive MOD-U-PAC design which allows the entire left or right side of the amplifier to be unplugged and a new spare module plugged in for instant service.

The unit's "Auto-Match" circuit automatically selects either balanced or unbalanced inputs, eliminating additional transformers. L.E.D. "clip" lights monitor each channel.

R.M.S. continuous sine wave output switched in the mono mode is 515 watts @ 8 ohms. Used in two channel configuration, the Pro 400B produces 250 watts per channel into a 4 ohm load. The amp will produce well over 320 watts into a 2 ohm load. T.H.D. is .09% or lower, 10 Hz-30kHz  $\pm$  1 dB @ 4 ohms. The amplifier uses massive heat sinks and a huge power supply. Size 19" x 13" x 7". Weight: 36 lbs.

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DECEMBER 1983





#### by James Riordan

Dennis Lambert's introduction to the entertainment business came during childhood when his vocal talents led to regular appearances on a popular syndicated televison show based in New York. Signed to a record deal at age fourteen Dennis became fascinated with the production process. He also took great interest in the business side of the recording industry, being signed by one of the first independent production companies and his records leased to Capitol Records.

"I was intrigued with the whole process of making records. I thought that production might be an interesting way to continue in show business without being a performer. I had been performing for years by this time, even though I was only fourteen, and I was tired of singing Broadway type music to older audiences. I tried to learn as much as I could by going to a lot of sessions and volunteering to do anything that I could do. When I got out of school I got a staff songwriter position with a company called FGG which was owned by Ritchie Gottherer and Jerry Goldstein. They let me have an office and a piano and I was able to spend a year or so concentrating on converting all my musical knowledge to playing and writing."

By 1965 Lambert had written a huge hit for Freddie & The Dreamers entitled "Do The Freddie" and had acguired the reputation as a talented producer as well. At 17 he was offered a staff production job at Mercury by Quincy Jones and Shelby Singleton, and shortly afterwards produced The Nashville Teens as well as negotiated their American record deal.

Lambert then joined a publishing/production venture with Don Costa and Teddy Randazzo. "They offered me a situation where I could bring my little publishing company over there and produce for them. I introduced them to my brother, Eddie, who had taught me what I felt I knew about contemporary music, because while I was busy singing Broadway standards he was busy do-whopping on street corners. They gave him a job and he has been in the music business ever since. [Ed Note: Eddie Lambert is the Creative Director of the A&R Department at Motown Records.]

"I was only with Don and Teddy for a year when I got drafted. Not being in college I had no protection from the dratt. Two years later when I got out Don [Costa] had moved out to L.A. and invited me to join his company again. About a year later I became involved with Steve Binder, Daniel Melnick and David Susskind in a company called T.A. Records [Talent Associates]. During this time we signed Seals & Crofts and I wrote the hit song in the *Billy Jack* movie, "One Tin Soldier."

Lambert would later supply main title themes to several motion pictures including "Junior Bonner", "Shaft In Africa", "Skatetown USA", and "Tunnelvision". He also wrote the theme used for the "ABC Movie Of The Weekend". Since his first trip to England, Dennis had been friends with Brian Potter whose songwriting talents he respected. When Dennis secured a job for Potter with Don Costa, Potter relocated to America and the songwriting team of Lambert & Potter was born. The duo wrote many million sellers for artists such as the Four Tops, The Grass Roots, Hamilton, Joe Frank, & Reynolds and many others, adding up to thirty-two gold records. "It was a good time to be a producer/songwriter because there were still a lot of artists that needed to have material written for them. As time went on more and more acts wrote their own songs and fewer of them wanted the kind of producer who was known for being a songwriter. There was a period where that was the ultimate curse for a producer. During that period we had to stress the producing side of our talents and hope that writing less would not be terribly frustrating, which it was. We would seek out those few artists who still needed our specialties."

"When I started a producer was either a song man or a songwriter, or both. In the seventies there evolved a lot of technically oriented producers who were primarily engineers because of the development of bands who were very much self-contained, material wise. They didn't really want or need a producer who could write, find, or change songs. They wanted someone who could create their sound with them and help them technically. Today, there are a lot of producers who help create the whole music backdrop for their records; people such as Quincy Jones, who I admire very much, or Arif Mardin, Luther Vandross, Mike Chapman, and others. I feel I belong to this type which I call the musician/producer, or songwriter/producer. Their contribution can be very different from that of an engineer/producer. There are a lot of great new producers who are young and tuned into electronics and the new music. It's become very important for the veteran producers like myself to keep very tuned in to what is happening musically and technically. You have to be very aware of what is happening so that you can best help the artist get what he or she wants on their record."

Lambert believes that today is a great time to be in the record business, especially if one is interested in developing new talent. "This is the best time in years to develop new acts. It hasn't been this good for new artists since the late sixties. The criteria for a new artist has also changed over the years. New artists today must be able to come off very well in a live performance. They must have a personality that can come across on stage or be captured on video. The first criteria must still be the music, the voice, the songs, or something that will sustain them over the years. The music must be the first thing, but the visual appeal must be there as well."

Does the songwriting producer

view a new act differently? Is he less concerned about the material or is it important that he can write songs for them? "If I like an act and they don't write it's an immediate negative. Then I ask myself if the act has someone who can write for them like a lim Steinman for Meatloaf, for example, Do they have a knack for picking out and changing obscure songs into exciting ones? If they don't write it becomes a negative because even if I think I can write for them that's not the same animal as a writing artist. If I'm looking at an established artist who is not a writer, then that can be a positive for me. Someone like Chakka Khan, George Benson, Al Jarreau, or Dionne Warwick for example would be an incentive to write material for."

Lambert has produced artists such as Glen Campbell, Santana, The Righteous Brothers, The Four Tops, The Manhattans, Player, The Temptations and many more. He has also written a book, *Producing Hit Records*, published by MacMillan. "I felt that there was a real need for a book like this. I would have loved to have had something to refer to when I was starting out, but there really wasn't anything. I tried to make it technical enough to be fulfilling in that area and at the same time cover the broad realities of what this business is about, how to get an act off the ground and how to make the right deal for them."

Lambert advises people who are breaking into the record production business to "recognize that they are part of the new audio/video age with the incredibly versatile and relatively inexpensive equipment, mixing consoles, multi-track machines, etc., to make master quality recordings at home. It wasn't too long ago that this kind of thing was totally unaffordable for private use. But it's now possible to experiment and get a lot of hands on experience in your own home. It's not an easy business. It's rare that anyone finds their way into producing today without being an engineer or a musician. The pure song man who had that knack to put the right song with the right artist is a dving breed. There is a lot of garage recording going on today with young bands; all these young guys with guitars and rhythm machines and electronic gear. Someone can be the organizer of all of this. Nothing beats practical experience.

Dennis Lambert is currently producing the solo album for Dennis Edwards, the lead singer of The Temptations.



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# Confessions of a Spoken Word Record Producer

#### by Harvey Kubernik

I have always been fascinated by the human voice, especially the variances of meaning conveyed in its subtleties. During a seven-year weekly stint for Britain's Melody Maker, I did stories and interviews in the studio and on sound stages, and paid close attention to producers' vocal overdub techniques and artists' voice-tomicrophone relationships.

This experience was the foundation and blueprint for my Freeway Records production house and record label. Freeway's spoken word albums demonstrate a jigsaw puzzle recording strategy, averaging fifteen to twentyfive studios in the collaboration. The Freeway Records trilogy is a spoken word and musical journey through Southern California. Urban and suburbanite vocal chords were taken from Watts, the Barrio, the beaches, the Valley, Los Angeles and Hollywood to build this vinyl collection agency.

It was in 1970 that I was walking down Selma Ave. just after graduating from Fairfax High School, and noticed a sign above a bank building that read: Mystic Sound. So I went up to the studio owner, Doug Moody, and told him I wanted to be in the record business. We talked for a few hours and I remember saying, "But I don't want to be in a band, playing 4/4 time, wearing buckskin jackets, doing sweet harmonies and having my friends join me on stage for encores." Moody replied, "You don't have to."

Somehow we started discussing spoken word albums: Lenny Bruce, Lord Buckley, Richard Pryor. Moody then pulled out boxes of spoken word tapes on Robert F. Kennedy. Ten years later I found myself in the same building, walking past the dusty Cocacola machine, and into the studio with Moody at the dials as we began working on "Voices of the Angels".

Doug Moody and his Mystic Sound have been very supportive in their guidance and use of the studio. When you do business with Moody, or record with him, you are dealing with a man who has been in the sound business over 50 years. It's like Benny Goodman giving you a clarinet lesson. Moody was at Glen Miller's last session and even behind the glass for Fats Waller. Moody purchased the studio in 1968, and poured fifty-thousand dollars into restoration and construction. The 20' by 20' recording room has varying wall finishes, from hard plaster with a retractable curtain to cork, to fluted cedar and redwood. "The studio's floor is soft tile," says Moody. "It was originally a cement floor. Too harsh. Then hard tile. Too brittle. Now we've chosen soft vinyl."

"When I record spoken word sessions at Mystic, I often remove the curtain, carpets and all equipment in the area to obtain the harshest, crispest sound for the voices. Isolation booths are available for recording, but in the spoken word things we've done the last few years, most of the poets preferred to stand and operate in front of the microphone.

"I purposely recorded Wanda Coleman's 'Where I Live' and Walter Lacey's 'Meatrack Man,' both on VOA, with Mystic's terrific acoustic echo chambers. Walter Lacey is a poet who goes into a trance when recording. He just turns it on, often without notes or paper. I sent Lacey's voice directly to the two track, and then doubled it with a signal sent to the echo chamber for a fat delay."

Dennis Dragon is an unofficial A&R man for Freeway, securing unique and wonderful talent for the label, and has produced several tracks in the catalogue.

Dragon has also played drums and percussion with The Beach Boys, The Byrds and Johnny Rivers. He owns a Grammy Award for engineering the 1975 Record Of The Year, "Love Will Keep Us Together" by Captain & Tennille.

Parts of the Freeway Records spoken word albums were done at Dragon's former studio, Rear Entry, and most recently Dragon and partner Dave Gordon's studio, Surf Bowl, both in Malibu.

"I love working with spoken word projects," says Dragon. "It's spontaneous and you just go for it. I love the honesty. With Freeway's spoken word projects, the technical is secondary to the excitement."

Dragon loves to experiment with voices. "Echo can enhance the message, the information and extend the philosophy. Also, these days, people, especially those who don't regularly listen to information/educa-

**C I***n* spoken word situations, even more than in music recording, people put themselves on the line. You can't hide behind the instruments or other players. Spoken word sessions and albums are also a good outlet for my thoughts and lyrics away from the context of my band."

-Chuck Dukowski, co-

founder/bassist, Black Flag, and a contributor to Freeway Records' two double albums, "Voices of the Angels" (Spoken Words), and "English as a Second Language" (Talking Package). tion oriented records, come to spoken word albums with resistance. Sometimes they have to be hit over the head with something added to the dry voice," he charges.

"I've never had a big room to work with so I have to use artificial ambience," says Dragon.

"We record Tuff Muffin, a Freeway Records' regular at Dragon's studio. The lead singer has a lot of sibilance in her voice and we have to add some peak limiting. I don't use Dolby and I print at a low level, which reduces the chances of print through.

"Last year Dragon and I recorded the Allen Ginsberg and Harold Norse reading in the cavernous First Unitarian Church in Los Angeles." Dragon was the sound engineer and used a Revox tape recorder and confesses that peak limiting can be crucial. "We overloaded sometimes with Ginsberg. We didn't have the benefit of a soundcheck and I had never heard Ginsberg perform. He sure knew how to yell."

"These spoken word sessions offer some heavy naked emotion," adds Dragon. "I get some feedback that I haven't seen or heard before. I like to present some of the scene out here, contrasting the Valley, East L.A. What I like to do is take the beach community, and then get so intrinsically into that area that it becomes absurd, especially sequenced next to people who rarely come to the beach.

"Listeners are confronted by spoken word albums," he continues. They can't drown their problems in loud music or a guitar solo. Some of this is hard to digest. There's a reality presented that might threaten security. But this is also very entertaining. It's not pure escapism. I think it's a feedback thing. Listen, learn and better yourself. These spoken word recordings make me aware of areas and information going on over the other side of the hill. I enjoy anyone who can deliver."

While the principal recording of Freeway Records "Voices of the Angels" (VOA) was done at Mystic Sound and Kitchen Sync in Hollywood, I felt, "English as a Second Language" (ESL) should be constructed and honed at the beach. I went to Radio Tokyo Studio on the recommendation of Gary Stewart, who introduced me to this eight track facility, owned and operated by Ethan James.

Ethan James is also a musician with a rock and roll background. As a keyboardist, he's backed Chuck Berry, Donna Loren, The Olympics, and for four years was a member of Blue Cheer. James is also a fan of



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The author with poet Wanda Coleman

spoken word recordings, and is a fixture on the L.A. poetry reading circuit. In the '60s he lived in San Francisco and attended many poetry gatherings in Golden Gate Park and other word parties.

Radio Tokyo is a converted house. James, with partner Lisa Mitchell, owns Ear Movie Records and has just issued a compilation album, "The Radio Tokyo Tapes."

The recording room is 300 square feet, cramped and pretty much dead, with near-field monitors to listen back. There's a Tascam machine, Sound Workshop board, DeltaLab delay, Roland Analog delay, Audio pulse delay line, and speakers: JBL 4311, Yamaha NS-10M and Auratones. The mikes we used for our vocal recordings were Sennheiser 421, Shure SM-57, and AKG 414. "I think recording the spoken word and especially poetry is needed in our culture and society," says James. "I really like recording two track. You save a generation and can't go back and change anything. And on the Freeway tracking sessions there's almost no censorship. It reminds me of the street talk I heard years ago in San Francisco.

I wanted to try new things with "ESL". One idea was a "melting" concept that would weld backing tracks, not necessarily music or incidental music, but layered treatments and coatings that pushed the voice and words forward. I wanted to expand the poet's vision in this format, for the voices to be the bread and the new music ingredient to be the butter.

Ethan understood that the voices and information should not be

diluted by instrumental backing. "When I heard Wanda Coleman's piece," says James, "I was familiar with it because I had seen her read and perform. I listened to her poems, checked out the energy and thought of the 'melting' in terms of movie music. When I heard her 'Bad Night' I figured out a way to take her voice and words further. I love her work, she makes you feel the experience. The impact is conveyed. Her use of breath and space is exceptional. The message isn't washed out."

Dennis Cooper was another poet transferred to James for "aural embroidery." "I love Dennis Cooper's detached delivery," notes Ethan. "Cooper plays tricks with words and their designs. A pop posture is presented, but it's very mental.

The "melting" track illustrated his concept. "I used plucked piano, autoharp, and some backing vocal techniques." A new nutritious word meal was then prepared!

Then there's Ivan E. Roth's riveting poem, "Beach Party Post." James fused ratchets, hammers and synthesizers to Roth's classic. "Ivan has a vocal style that winds corners. I put him in a 'Fritz Lang' movie, a very industrial setting. I've seen him perform all over the city, and he's an articulate reader. Punk rock poetry," he suggests.

Ethan James has produced other voices for "VOA" and "ESL", and even rounded up contributors for the stable. "I love recording kids and older voices," he chirps. "Jack Hampton on "ESL" is over 70. He has to be heard! On this new album set things have become more developed. There are acoustic guitar elements, and some double-tracked vocals, extensive usage of synthesizer and some drum machines meshed with the voices.

"Henry Rollins from Black Flag recorded his 'Henry' piece here at Radio Tokyo. On the left speaker, Rollins is reading from a four year old journal while simultaneously improvising current Black Flag status and feelings on the right," James continues. "These albums are somewhere between rap music and poetry LP's. If anything blows my mind about these albums, it is that virtually anyone can record for the label. Years ago you had to be a singer, vocalist, performer, artist or in a band, especially one that toured and worked before you could go on vinyl. You almost had to be a rock star, and pretend you were saying something," he grins. "Here you don't have to be in a band, or even known. You are allowed to participate. This isn't an elitist trip. What is happening is that something is swelling and growing around this
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spoken word process," he explains. "New people and voices are going in front of microphones without any sort of track record or chart background. That's exciting. It confuses most of the local music critics and writers. New rules are being created in these sessions. There's a lot of passion displayed here."

Michael Hamilton, owner of Kitchen Sync Recorders on Sunset Blvd., is a fan of spoken word recordings. Like Ethan James, Hamilton lived in San Francisco for a long time, attending many poetry gigs. "These albums and recordings present spontaneous realism. Sometimes we did dual voice production. Basically a hard right/ hard left with 50 db of isolation between channels on tape. When we went to the mastering lab the 50 db of isolation at one kilohertz was cut in half. It's not quite as separated or isolated on vinyl as it was on the master tape.

Hamilton convinced me that an EQ'd tape transfer would be the best way of presenting this collaborative collection to a mastering lab who would pin close to 30 minutes per side without problem. "There are over 20 studios involved in these albums. We have to equalize," he charges," and we have to make a copy that sounds like it was done on the same planet.

"What I like most about working with Freeway," adds Hamilton, "is that people are invited to sessions and to go on tape. It's spontaneous and you don't even know if any of the things on tape are going to be usable. I've met a lot of people through their voices. Some of these artists, unlike singers, instinctively know how to work a mike. Sometimes a few extra takes may be done, but a person can become a professional in five minutes.

"It seems the people we record from the west side of town," he observes, "are upper class kids who come prepared to have fun and a wacky time. The spoken word sessions are fun oriented, free form. They want effects on their voices, and some even improv off the top of their heads. Others from East Hollywood, downtown, East L.A. and the grittier parts of Hollywood, take this tape and recording process very seriously. I've noticed that the artists from lower class families, and the parts of L.A. away from the beach rarely want anything added to their dry voice. These sessions are an escape from their tough lives. They don't want gimmicks and effects cluttering the message; they want a direct communication with the person who is listening. Most feel there's a chance someone will hear what's going on and want to hear even more."



#### dbx TO OFFER CPDM CIRCUIT CARDS

dbx Inc. has announced plans to offer its CPDM (Companded Predictive Delta Modulation) digital recording technology to manufacturers on an OEM basis, to allow for the production of professional, open reel, fixed head CPDM digital recorders. This digital format was originally developed for the dbx Model 700 Digital Audio Processor. Additionally, a design for a transcoder is under development to convert, in the digital domain, the CPDM format to the PCM (Pulse Code Modulation) format necessary for the mastering of Compact Discs, according to Lance Korthals, Director of Marketing and Sales for dbx Professional Products Division.

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#### YAMAHA REV1 DIGITAL REVERBERATOR

At the recent New York AES show, Yamaha introduced a sophisticated digital signal processor designed to accurately simulate the natural acoustic properties of virtually any environment, from concert hall to recording studio.

The REV1 allows control over such variables as: sound directly from the source, "early reflections" bouncing off boundary surfaces, and "subsequent reverberation" in which the reflections are multiplied. Sophisticated electronic control can be maintained to compensate for, or simulate,



the acoustic properties of any environment, accounting for such variables as room size, room shape, contents, acoustic absorption coefficient, and listening positions.

With its unique combination of hardware and software, the REV1 can create and control up to 40 early reflections and provide up to 99 seconds of subsequent reverberation.

The front panel of the 19-inch rack-mountable main unit includes basic controls for recalling any of 30 preset and 60 user-programmable effects and modifying them to some degree. The remote control unit includes 64 pushbuttons (most of which are illuminated), 10 control knobs, LED numeric display windows, twin 16-LED level displays, and a very high resolution (5  $1/8'' \times 1^{1/2''}$ ) LCD window that graphically depicts adjustments as they are being made.

The REV1 will be available in April, 1984. Price has yet to be announced.

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#### AUDIO MIXERS FROM RAMKO

Ramko's P-4M and P-5MX mic/line mixers are the latest addition to their PRIMUS audio group. Both are offered in



mono and stereo versions and are available in  $1\frac{34}{1}$  table top or rack mount configurations. The P-4M provides 4 mixing channels and 6 balanced inputs with selectable Hi/Lo shelving EQ for channels #1, #2 or all. Other features are selectable peak/VU solid state meter ballistics, phone driver, phones, master and monitor controls and cue on all inputs.

The P-5M is designed to function as both an expander for the P-4M (combined will provide 11 inputs and 9 channels) and as a stand alone 5 channel mixer with send/receive on each channel. Both units feature XLR type connectors, balanced inputs and outputs, gain select on all inputs, (mike thru  $\pm 26$ dBm, s/n of 83dB, .008% distortion and a response of  $\pm 0$ ,  $\pm 1.5$  dB, 10 Hz-20 kHz. All units utilize conductive plastic controls, long life switches and are covered by a three year warranty. Prices begin at \$331.00.

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#### DP80 HIGH SPEED DUPLICATION SYSTEM

OTARI's Industrial Products Division has announced the introduction of the new Model DP80 high-speed audio duplication system.

The new duplicator will accept  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ips masters and will reproduce them at a 64:1 duplication ratio (480 ips).

The DP80 system, consisting of a Master Reproducer and up to 20 slave recorders also features normal and chrome tape capability; advanced, dual capstan, D.C. servo drive for reduced tape skew and wear; long life sendust ferrite heads and status monitoring.

Typical system price for one master reproducer and 5 slave recorders is approximately \$110,000. The system will be available in January, 1984.

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#### R-908 DIGITAL DELAY

The DOD Electronics R-908 Digital Delay is a full function, PCM digital signal processor with up to 900 milliseconds of



delay. The R-908 features a selector switch panel for fast and easy settings for flanging, chorusing, doubling and echo, and a sweep width of 10 to 1. The sweep and filter circuits are engineered so there is no "dropping out." Suggested retail price is \$399.95.

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#### DELTA OMEGA™ 2000 POWER AMP

The Crown Delta Omega 2000 Power Amplifier actively controls the voice coil of the loudspeaker using electronic circuitry to significantly reduce effective radiated distortion by the adjustment of a single control.

The Delta Omega circuit allows the amplifier itself to evaluate the effects that the amp to speaker cables, the crossover network, and the speaker coils have on the sound. Delta Omega incorporates a velocity-control system at the amp/speaker interface in which the speaker velocity informs the amp, while the amp controls the velocity.

The essence of the Delta Omega operation is to compare the wave-form current of the voice-coil output with the amp input, and add the necessary compensation to correct any non-linearities introduced by the load. It is not just a variable damping system, since the Delta Omega circuit actively controls signal velocity as needed to correct voice-coil behavior.

The amp can produce 600 W continuous average output power into 8 ohms, from DC to 45kHz, no more than .05% THD.

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#### ADB-1 ACTIVE DIRECT BOX

Stewart Electronics has introduced the Model ADB-1 Active Direct Box.

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# The control electronics behind the 833 Studio Reference Monitor System

Meyer Sound's 833 Studio Reference Monitor System is standardised for consistent response — giving a growing number of professional engineers and producers more creative control. The C833 controller shown regulates frequency and phase response, and has Meyer's exclusive Speaker Sense<sup>TM</sup> circuitry to prevent driver overload. The 833 handles up to 400W, with power and headroom that lets you feel the full effect of the music — and performs consistently for longer than previous speaker designs. Effectively linear time response and improved 'coherence'\* ensure clear and controllable stereo imaging.

\*See our new brochure on the 833.

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Meyer Sound Laboratories Inc. 2194 Edison Avenue, Son Leondro, California 94577, USA. Telephone: (415) 569-2866 tion and low noise characteristics, wide dynamic range versatility is allowed for by an input that can handle 6V P-P in the instrument position. In the speaker position the unit can handle up to 400W RMS. Either a self-contained 9V battery (on-off switch is provided for long battery life) or any phantom supply from 9-60V will power the box.

Phase distortion and hum pickup are eliminated by a transformerless design and RF protection is on both input and outputs.

The ADB-1 has a full two year warranty and sells for \$119.50.

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#### BENCHMARK DIA-1 AND 2

Benchmark Sound Company has released their new Differential Input Amplifiers designed to retrofit into existing equipment, such as monitor amps, recording consoles, limiters, and other "semi-pro" devices. The DIA-1 is a DC coupled device intended for use with split supplies from  $\pm 9$  to  $\pm 42$  VDC. The DIA-2 is an AC coupled version intended for use with a single positive supply from  $\pm 18$  to  $\pm 58$  VDC. Cost is about \$24 each in quantity.

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#### AUDITRONICS 300 SERIES

The Auditronics 300 Series Audio Production Console is designed for 4 or 8 track production with sub-mastering to stereo and/or mono, and features up to 32 mono or stereo inputs with or without equalization, auxilliary sends and returns, monitoring facilities including cue and stereo solo, a complete user-programmable internal and external logic system, remote control and interface capability to external switchers or editors for audio-follow-video, and a wide variety of options and accessories for signal processing, routing, or user customization.

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#### AGFA-GEVAERT PEM 526 BIN MASTERING TAPE

The Magnetic Tape Division of Agfa-Gevaert, Inc., has announced that their PEM 526 Bin Mastering Tape is now

available in 2400 foot lengths, replacing the previous 3280 foot lengths.

The length has been changed to meet user needs for easier handling and to allow its use on a greater variety of equipment. Widths remain  $\frac{1}{4}$ ",  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and 1" and are available on hubs.

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#### CASSETTE TAPE TRANSPORTS

The Reproduction Technologies Inc. 8000 series of OEM cassette tape transports include door, slot, drawer and front panel load.

The 8010 door load is mechanically controlled, has one motor single direction drive, erase, record play/heads. The 8240 slot load has electronic soft touch controls, one motor bi-direction drive, a 4-channel playback head with dual switching preamplifier. The 8025 drawer load has local soft touch mechanical control or remote control (model 8030), two motor single direction drive, pull-out drawer mounting, and erase, record/play heads.

The 8320 flat load (shown) is CMOS local and remote controlled, four motor bi-direction, 4-channel playback head or optional erase, record/play heads. Prices range from \$78.00 to \$650.

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#### SOUNDCRAFT TS-24 IN-LINE CONSOLE

The TS-24 marks the beginning of a new range of consoles using in-line technology to supplement and complement Soundcraft's existing range of split format consoles.

In mixdown mode, the TS-24's I/O modules can be used as two completely separate inputs. Each module has 6

auxiliary sends; however, more sends may be generated through the use of extra grouping facilities.

Standard on the TS-24 is fully parametric EQ, balanced inputs and outputs, VU and peak metering, and a comprehensive patch bay including 96 tie lines for external equipment.

Expected delivery of the TS-24 is spring of 1984. Circle #141 on Reader Service Card



#### SONOSAX SX-S MIXER

Sonosax has introduced their new portable mixing console, the model SX-S, that is completely autonomous and useable with batteries, accumulators, or an external power supply. The 8-input version weighs 7.4 kg., and the one with 6 inputs, 6.2 kg.

The SX-S is also available with the Dolby System A incorporated into it.

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#### PUBLISON INFERNAL MACHINE 90

Publison's infernal machine 90 is a stereo digital audio computer, designed for a wide variety of effects, including: Delay from 0.02 sec to 5 minutes; high quality echo with digital feedback, deglitched pitch-shifting, with various algorithms according to input sound; associaton of echo and pitch-shifting; an effect similar to a magnetic tape running reversed; and a great variety of effects using memorized sounds. The memory capacity depends upon selected option, and can attain 5 minutes.

Principal features include: 18 bits A/D conversion, 20 kHz frequency response, 32 bits internal signal bus and floating inputs and outputs.

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# RAMONE ON MICROPHONES

"A critical link in the recording chain is the choice of microphones. If that first stage is wrong or distorted, no amount of equalization or processing will give you back the sound that you originally intended to record.

"There are no hard rules or scientific formulas. No single mic is best for every sound. So I try to make a point to stay in touch with current microphone technology, and I'm impressed by the Fostex Printed Ribbon mics — for a number of reasons.

"First, they have a very open, clean sound, plus they can absorb the hard drive that rock 'n' roll demands. I know this is a subjective opinion, but I've used the M88RP, for example, on strings, guitars and vocals with fine results.

"Secondly, the workmanship and quality show the care taken by Fostex in making these finely-crafted tools. "Finally, I think the Printed Ribbon technology is just as impressive in Fostex headphones. Musicians simply like to work with them. One of the best moments in the studio was when we tried the T-Series headphones and the musicians said how great it was to be able to play and really hear themselves.

"In fact, it was the Fostex T-Series headphones that prompted me to try their RP microphones.

"Now we're both glad, because I bought them, not vice-versa."



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PHIL



M88RP Printed R bbon Microphone



#### by Carol Kaye

We definitely had a clique going for session work in L.A. back in the sixties. Our core group of players would back just about every pop, R&B, movie and TV theme hit that came out of Hollywood. We became so efficient and professional that we really kept the nonprofessionals out of the studio. We would recognize and help out the young players that showed promise, but we kept a tight ship and anyone who wasn't there to play their very best and treat it like a business didn't get invited back to the next date.

I've mentioned a few of the people already who were getting a lot of the work back then. Let me go into just a little more detail, though, so you might be able to better appreciate some of the unsung heroes of that time. The heavy guitarists (sometimes as many as six on one date!) were Barney Kessel, Howard Roberts, Glen Campbell, Rene Hall, Mike Post, Arthur Wright, Tommy Tedesco, Tony Rissi, Allan Reuss, Don Peak and a few others. Besides working most of the movie soundtracks and jingle dates, these guys backed such artists as Johnny Mathis, Elvis, Ray Charles, Sam and Dave, Sonny and Cher, Jan and Dean, the Righteous Brothers, the Beach Boys and most of the Motown hits

Drummers such as Paul Humphrey, Earl Palmer, Jesse Sailes and, of course, Hal Blaine, turned out hit after hit on dates for the Four Tops, Supremes, Mamas and Papas, Johnny Rivers, Herb Alpert, Phil Spector, and many of those previously mentioned. As far as keyboards, the above dates employed the likes of Larry Knechtel (later with Bread), Leon Russell, Mac Rabinac (Dr. John), Mike Rubin, Don Randi, Clare Fischer, Mike Melvoin, Al DeLory, Gene Page, Art Hillary and Joe Sample. Ray Brown (on acoustic string bass), Joe Osborne and I handled most of the bottom end back then. Other specialists, such as Steve Douglas and Plas Johnson on sax helped to keep these sessions cooking.

No matter who played these sessions, timing was of utmost importance. Keeping the rhythm and the beat locked in laid the foundation so that the hooks and creative rhythmical lines could bounce off of the singer or lead player.

We usually worked from a skeleton chord chart. Often one of us would jot down the chords while the singer ran it down or played us the demo tape. The arrangers would usually let us know how much latitude we had for adding lines or fills. We developed quite a catalog of licks that the arrangers remembered and drew from on future dates.

Fortunately there was room for variety and experimentation, despite the structure that we worked hard to maintain. Sometimes it was this experimentation that really made the difference, like a fatiguing Mel Torme session I remember for the song "Games People Play", where we had been overworked and everyone was dragging and the song was going nowhere. The horn section looked at me like they needed help, so I changed my bass pattern to a wall-to-wall funk symphony in order to keep the beat alive. I wasn't sure if that would help, but after the session everyone thought it was a great part and the record went on to be a number one.

Finally, by about 1970, the young musicians started to get good enough in their studio techniques, with the right equipment and attitudes, to really "cut it" on the dates. Many of the sons and daughters of our group began moving into the studio, cranking out hit records with their special synthesizers, vocal arrangements and high level musicianship; taking over where we left off.

The musicianship has gotten much more advanced today, the vocals have developed tremendously and the technology has created a whole new perspective on the way the tunes come together. The basics haven't changed, but the times have and it's beautiful to see so many welltrained younger musicians going on to create better records than ever.

So do I miss it? You bet. I miss the players, the clowning around, and I miss that thrill that use to raise the hair on my arms when we came into the homestretch of the "hit" take. You could always tell which one that was. It was a job well done and it was a very special kind of high.

Thanks for your letters. We'll be getting to some of your questions shortly, but next time we'll be talking to a couple of other session players to pass along some other observations.

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### MUSICNOTES

#### Motown Museum: Open House at Hitsville

Berry Gordy started Motown Records in 1959 with an \$800 loan and operated it out of his house on West Grand Boulevard in Detroit. Within a few years he was able to move to more handsome guarters, and Motown had expanded into seven more houses on the block by the time Gordy took the bulk of the operation to Los Angeles in 1972.

"We were like a horizontal eight-story building," laughs Esther Edwards, Gordy's sister and Motown's corporate Secretary and Senior Vice President, who oversees the Detroit operation. One of the houses was used for artist development, tutoring the talent in makeup, dress, and even etiquette. In another house, replicas of stages where Motown acts were due to play were constructed to aid in the planning and rehearsal of their intricately choreographed routines. Mixing and mastering facilities filled one house, financial and foreign sales operations another, and yet another house was occupied by the personal managers.

The hub of this wheel of creative energy was the white house with blue trim at 2648 West Grand. In addition to the main switchboard and several key administrative offices, this building contained the homemade living-room studio in which the hits that defined and refined the Motown Sound



The Motown Museum.

were cut. For a time after Motown left Detroit, there were no touchstones for the public to connect with the source of the much-loved Motown Sound. "We'd have people wearing backpacks knocking at the front door asking to see where it all began to Tamla Records, as we are known outside the United

Seven channels of handmade sound, marked with Dymo tape.



States," says Mrs. Edwards. "We were embarrassed that we had nothing to show people who came here from so far away, so we opened up the Motown Museum."

The tiny rooms where Berry Gordy lived when he worked on the Lincoln-Mercury assembly line are now covered with album covers and a collection of memorabilia detailing the early days of the company. Closets are filled with sequined jackets and patentleather boots collected from various groups, and photographs of the stars and Motown personnel through the years serve as a family album. Among the great pictured here are the Temptations and the Supremes, who at one time traded harmonies on Detroit streetcorners as the Primes and the Primettes. Mrs. Edwards managed some of these artists herself for some time. "I've really enjoyed watching their progress," she says.

In much the same shape as when Smokey Robinson, the Jackson Five, Stevie Wonder, the Supremes and the other stars of the Motown galaxy recorded there, the studio is primitive by today's standards. Patch cords protrude from the walls and ceiling, allowing microphones to be placed wherever necessary to accommodate the instruments and players at each session. There were no isolation booths,

World Radio History

PHOTO: SUSAN BOREY

MUSIC NOTE:

just a few burlap-covered partitions which provided only modest separation of the musical elements. A vintage Ludwig drum set still rests in one corner, surrounded by a few of these baffles, and a grand piano stands against another wall with its keys exposed. The vibraphone that rang out on songs like "Stop! In the Name of Love" occupies another corner, resonating in sympathy with the endless tape of great music recorded here that plays throughout the house.

Visitors who linger in the studio during the informal tour discover historic details such as the penciled horn and string charts strewn around the studio on dubiously balanced music stands. As you look and listen it's easy to imagine the look and feel of the session that produced this or that favorite song.

The control room's centerpiece is a mixing console with seven channels, each with a slider, tone control and "echo" knob marked with Dymo labels. "At first we had just two tracks to work with," Mrs. Edwards explains. "Then we went to four and then to



This is the ¼" deck on which Motown hits were mastered.

seven." Most of the gear was custombuilt in the basement by Gordy's enthusiastic and adventurous young staff. In the label's Detroit heyday there were about 400 employees, averaging about 25 years old, according to Mrs. Edwards. "The chief engineer was 18 when he was hired in. He had so many ideas for things he wanted to create, and sometimes he'd stay here all night working things out. Berry was the kind of person you could do that with-he was open to other people's ideas about how to do things better." Gordy always had his solid vision of the desired result. Mrs. Edwards notes, "and he looked for people to work with who had the soul

for what he was doing. He knew exactly what he wanted."

For a time the studio was open 24 hours a day. "The artists worked when the spirit hit them," Mrs. Edwards recalls. "Sometimes they'd come in at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning to try one thing or another in the studio." These days the hours are more moderate—the

#### Kevin Rowland Opens His Mouth For Dexys

The organizers of the New Music Seminar have made a terrible mistake, and now they're finding out about it the hard way. After chasing down Kevin Rowland of Dexys Midnight Runners and persuading him to be a guest speaker, they are now squirming in horror while Rowland rips their convention and everything it stands for.

"The term 'New Music' is ridiculous," Rowland says, pulling at one of the two gold earrings he wears. "Most of it isn't actually new; most of the hits sound like the same old thing regurgitated. I don't want to be associated with a term like 'New Music." I don't want to do the same thing as Motown Museum is open to the public on Fridays, usually from noon to five—but during those times people can be found perusing every nook and cranny of Hitsville, U.S.A., looking for a glimpse—or perhaps standing quietly, listening for a lingering echo—of the foundations of a great American musical phenomenon. —Susan Borey

everyone else."

Later in the evening, at a Phonogram Records reception, Rowland is more relaxed and not nearly as belligerent. Call it the fighting Irish spirit, or being able to say what's on his mind, or just plain pigheadedness—the fact remains, Kevin Rowland's tongue has gotten him a lot of what he calls attention and what we call trouble.

Just prior to his public lambasting of the New Music Seminar, Rowland was thrown off Bowie's European tour for insulting the audience and calling the Thin White Duke "a wanker." Furthermore, since the inception of Dexys in 1978 Rowland has waged an ongoing battle with the British music press which has gotten so bad that the two rarely even speak to each other nowadays.

None of this seems to faze Rowland, who's just an angry young man who sings rock and roll. Expressing himself openly is the only way he can keep his frustration with the music industry at a minimum. Despite the fact —page 124

#### Farther

A steer awakens from a nightmare and exclaims to his sleeping. wife, "The golden arches! The golden arches got me!" Cows and chickens cease a discussion of physics and resume their traditional barnyard vocalizations when the farmer comes into the barn. And as two dinosaurs giggle at a furry little creature walking by, a third looks skyward at the snowflakes which are starting to fall.

That last image is about a philosophical as Gary Larson gets in his second collection of cartoons, **Beyond the Far Side** (Andrews and McMeel, \$3.95). Well, there is a panel that shows people emerging from a large broken jar labeled "humans" while a voice in the clouds says, "Uh-oh." But for the most part, Larson plays it for laughs with anthropomorphic animals, cowboys and the occasional scientist at the blackboard. If you've enjoyed the Far Side cartoons that grace Music Notes every month, you'll love *Beyond* the Far Side. —D.G.

THE FAR SIDE BY GARY LARSON



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\*From Melody Maker interview June 18, 1983



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### **MUSIC NOTES**



A brace of less-than-bracing concerts at my hometown baseball stadium provides some food for thought on the subject of unfortunate trends in live music. While Hollywood doesn't charge admission to the tapings of its programs, it appears that rock and roll does—and a handsome ticket it is, too. For the "Day on the Green" concerts featuring Simon and Garfunkel (with no supporting act), The Police (with four bands opening) and David Bowie, patrons paid \$17.50 to get in—and at that, we had to watch on the monitors.

I saw Bowie in 1978 at Houston's Summit Arena, and there were video screens-the Summit's permanent system, which is used for basketball, hockey and indoor soccer as well as the musical events. The giant image of Bowie (and occasionally other members of the performing ensemble) enhanced the experience in the 17,000-seat arena, giving the audience the option of looking at the people on stage or at whatever shot the video director had chosen for the moment. The cameras didn't get in the audience's way, and the arena was surprisingly intimate even without visual augmentation.

Now video is commonplace at concerts, and the acts design their presentations around it. The first time I noticed the tail wagging the dog with a vengeance was at the Us Festival, in September of 1982. Two huge Eidophor projection screens (which only operated after dark) and the grainy but chromatically intense DiamondVision screen (daylight and evening) dominated the visuals and dwarfed the performers. Many who were close enough to see the flesh-and-blood performers ended up watching the video, though, because a gigantic camera crane hulked around in front of the stage like a tall and unruly fan in a tengallon hat, only bigger, seeing to it that nobody's sight lines remained unobstructed for long.

At the Jamaica World Music Festival at Montego Bay last November, spectators had to deal with the cameras—and they didn't even get to see the video, since the proceedings were being taped for later packaging but no arrangements were made to



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### **MUSIC NOTES**

compensate the ticket buyer for his inconvenience.

The Police concert at Oakland demonstrated that 65,000 ecstatic fans can't be wrong. There was much pleasure in the upcast arms and singing throats when the trio hit the stage—and the high ticket prices and miserable viewing conditions were forgotten for the moment. But the fact that old curmudgeons such as yours truly managed to get excited *despite* the tragically wrong conditions of our spectatorship speaks volumes for the amazing charisma of The Police—and offers absolutely no justification for the setting. It's barely excusable at \$10 a ticket, but at nearly twice that (after you pay the mandatory computer ticket agency service charge) it's a crime.

If I'm going to have to watch a concert on television, I'd rather do it at home where I can control the sound, the picture is clear, and I can enjoy the performance without stepping in the noisome byproducts of other people's overindulgences. The popcorn is fresher at home, too, and the beer is cheaper.

It can be successfully argued that rock benefits from the electricity a huge crowd can generate, but I submit that there's a law of diminishing returns in effect. When half the audience finds itself a Reggie Jackson home run away from the stage watching video while unidentifiable blobs of light bob on an overlit set—and when the sound arrives nearly half a second behind the visual image—it isn't even a truly shared experience any more. It's physically impossible for 50,000 people to clap their hands and sing along, no matter how potent the glow on the stage (or image on the screen) might be, because when the venue is that big the people don't all hear the music at once.

Sure, The Police were awesome (one of the very, very few instances where that overworked '80s buzzword is justified), but I'd sure like to be able to see them and hear them live some time. I'd gladly have paid \$17.50 to see The Police, or Simon and Garfunkel—*especially* the latter—in a 3500-seat auditorium, a 10,000-seat arena, but *only* if I could see and hear. I can see the economic logic behind the move to larger venues, but the *only* advantage is financial; the esthetic end is suffering in a very big way.

Simon and Garfunkel proved the old adage that a great song can transcend a bad performance. It was heartbreaking to see these two gifted craftsmen and their skilled band, performing some of the greatest songs ever written, in a situation so utterly lacking in intimacy. This is fireplace music, coffee house music, concert-hall fare at best; it is not suitable for baseball stadiums. I don't regret having attended—a moment or two of magic managed to survive the trip across the stadium to my eyes and ears with some energy intact—but I didn't have to pay for my ticket. Had I invested nearly twenty bucks for my reserved seat at this outdoor television show, I'd have wanted to storm the box office before the gig ended.

Music video is as exciting in its infancy as film, broadcast television and

#### Original Jazz Classics: Fantasy's Treasure Trove Runneth Over

Fantasy Records threw open a Fort Knox when it initiated the Original Jazz Classics, a series of \$5.98-list reissues of great titles from the catalogs of Prestige, Riverside, Milestone and other defunct labels whose wealth now resides in Fantasy's Berkeley, California vault. These records, mostly out-of-print jazz classics from the '50s and early '60s, have in recent years been available only to ardent, price-noobject collectors—and rereleasing them has turned into perhaps *the* major wrinkle in jazz marketing in 1983.

In the spirit of faithful revivalism, the albums have been packaged in their original covers, many of which have a campy graphic charm (e.g. the marching E.T.-like creatures on *Miles Davis With Horns*). Hard-tofind jewels by Miles Davis (pre-cool), John Coltrane, Charles Mingus, Thelonious Monk, Eric Dolphy and a host of other heroes hit the stores last February in the first wave of releases, 40 titles strong. Thirty more were added to the list last summer, and as you read this 20 more are headed for the record racks.

Avid public response to the series has stoked enthusiasm for the project at Fantasy. "We've made believers out of a lot of people," says National Sales Director Kirk Roberts. If distributors were at all reticent at first, the sales momentum generated by the intial release eased their minds, and "orders for the next 30 came in at double the rate of the first ones. This time multitrack were in theirs. It took a while for those technologies to find their proper modes of expression and to develop their own traditions—and for the creative community to find their voices and wrest control from the engineers. For the time being, the dollar signs are obscuring the view; *these* visionaries are giving vision a bad name.

As long as people pay for these non-concerts, the acts and promoters will continue to stage them. Let's hope they don't kill off live music in the process.

-D.G.

we'll be out in time for Christmas—and with the discounts the stores are giving them, people can afford to buy four or five at a time with no strain."

Proferring historic vinyl is nothing new at Fantasy. In the mid-'70s the label came up with the "Twofer," a specially priced double record of classic material—a format which has since been imitated by other labels. Like Twofers, the OJC series is the brainchild of Fantasy President Ralph Kaffel, who was a wholesale record distributor in Los Angeles before taking the wheel at Fantasy in 1971. Having handled these older jazz works in their first go-rounds, Kaffel can claim a particular savvy for selecting OJCs that will be both noteworthy and popular.

"It's hard to say what prompted the Original Jazz Classics," says Kaffel. "Twofer sales were substantial but diminishing. You can't expect catalog titles to sell at the same rate forever; the novelty has worn off. Still, I knew there was a large collector's market, and people are always bemoaning having to deal with paying \$50 or \$60 for the originals—if they could find them.

"But the real impetus for the new series was the example set by the Japanese," Kaffel continues. "They're sticklers for originality, and they've been packaging jazz classics in facsimile form. The belly bands we've been using [paper strips around the album with modern commentary on its historical significance] came from the Japanese reissues—they use them to translate the English into Japanese."

Japan's love affair with jazz is notorious. The Japanese go to impressive effort and expense in its pursuit, importing American jazz players for concerts and supporting a network of journals and record labels. For Fantasy, the facsimile effort might seem to involve nothing more strenuous than tripping down into the basement. In —page 124

# Garfield Electronics-ICTUB CUCH

The Doctor Click Rhythm Controller makes it possible for the first time to synchronize the world of sequencer, drum machine, synthesizer composition with any one of the systems on the market or combinations of the systems on the market. Furthermore, the Doctor Click will cause sequencers, drum machines and synthesizers to play in time with a human drummer. It will also read click tracks and sync codes. The internal metronome provides both beats per minute and frames per beat calibrations.

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Measures 17<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 11" x 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" x 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>". Weight is 8 pounds.



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The brand to brand problems of timebase, voltage level and polarity are solved by the Doctor Click's diverse output capability.

The ability of the Doctor Click to connect to many units at once coupled with its footswitch control capability makes it ideal for multiple sequencer. drum machine, synthesizer live applications.

Since the Doctor Click metronome produces beats per minute and frames per beat calibrations it is always convenient to get just the tempo you need. It is even possible to get fractional tempos such as 1181/2 beats per minute.

The Doctor Click's two independent rhythm actuated envelopes allow VCF, VCA and VCO parameters of synthesizers to be modulated in 32 rhythm values ranging from four measure cycle to 64th note triplet with variable attack, decay, sustain and amount. This eliminates the problem of rhythmic drift when using a conventional LFO.

The ability of the Doctor Click to transform metronome click tracks into timebase clocks allows frames per beat music film work to be Headphone/Speaker Output Roland 5 Pin DIN Sync Output External Clock Input Footswitch Controls

done with virtually any sequencer, drum machine or synthesizer. The ability of the Doctor Click to read live tracks allows sequencers. drum machines and synthesizers to play in sync with the varying tempos of a human drummer or a built click track.

The ability of the Doctor Click to accept external clocking or either of the types of FSK sync to tape codes allows sequencers, drum machines and synthesizers to be synced to any existing track.

The pulse shaper circuit turns a pulse from an instrument into a trigger waveform allowing synthesizers to sync to a drum fill.

The headphone output allows click tracks in multiples of the tempo to be generated and is capable of driving a speaker.

The pulse counter can be used to program sequencers in higher timebases, quickly combining greater rhythmic resolution with step programming accuracy.

The step programming switch can be used to step program sequencers that normally do not have this capability.

Used on tracks by Brian Banks, Tony Basil, John Berkman, Michael Boddicker, Kim Carnes, Suzanne Ciani, Joe Conlan, Chris Cross, Bill Cuomo, Jim Cypherd, Paul Delph, Barry DeVorzon, Don Felder, Paul Fox, Dominic Frontier, Terry Fryer, Albhy Galuten, Lou Garisto, Herbie Hancock, Johnny Harris, Hawk, James Horner, Thelma Houston, Michael Jackson, Quincy Jones, Jeffrey Kawalek, Gordon Lightfoot, Jerry Liliedahl, Johnny Mandel, Manhattan Transfer, Paul Marcus, Jason Miles, NBC Movie of the Week, Randy Newman, Keith Olsen, Paramount, Joel Peskin, Oscar Peterson, Greg Phillingaines, Jean-Luc Ponte, Steve Porcaro, Phil Ramone, Lee Ritenour, Steve Schaeffer, Mike Sembello, Mark Shifman, John Steinhoff, Sound Arts, Ian Underwood, Universal, Donna Washington, Stevie Winwood, Pia Zadora.



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#### -from 122, Jazz Classics

truth, the process was more involved, coping with tapes in various states of disrepair and hounding the files of critics and collectors for mint-quality covers they could reproduce. The working principle was to stay historically pure while bringing the audio up to contemporary standards.

The sonic restoration was in the hands of Fantasy's master masterer, George Horn, and engineer Gary Hobish. Except for two or three albums for which no master tape could be found, Hobish notes, the process was one of doctoring, Dolbyizing and remastering from the original tapes. "In spite of ancient tape-with problems like old splices and print-through-we didn't have to give them a whole lot of special treatment," he says. "I tried to remain true to the producer's intent. As a matter of fact, whenever we ran across electronically-simulated stereo we took it back a step."

Hobish had to take great care when dealing with tapes dating back to the '40s. Acetate, the backing medium of that era, inevitably becomes weak and brittle, and thus can disintegrate when wound at high speeds. The processing of these recordings couldn't have been done without high-grade machinery. Played back on a Studer A80 VU through a Neumann console, the masters were cut on a Neumann 66 EMS lathe with an SX74 cutter head and a Zuma Audio Computer. Sontec equalizers were also employed, but Hobish suggests that a cleaner renovation was the natural byproduct of improved technology more than anything specific. "We have better equalizers today, and the quality of the lacquer discs and other equipment is so much more advanced that it's possible to cut a hotter disc." While they were cutting, a new Dolby master tape was dubbed, making this a restoration/archive project, too.

Preserving the jazz legacy of the '50s and early '60s—a rich transitional period between bebop and the assorted modern and free jazz threads of the '60s—is certainly a noble endeavor, profit motive allwithstanding. "We're trying not to prostitute the concept," Kaffel asserts. "I try to put out what will sell but what is also deserving of the term 'jazz classic.' We want to be discriminating." And where do Kaffel's own tastes fall? "They're pretty well reflected in the OJC choices," he laughs. "One of my own favorites was one by the Billy Taylor Trio—which was probably the weakest seller in the line."

The jazz world stands to benefit greatly from series such as the OICs. providing invaluable historical links to the dominant strains in present-day jazz-which is itself in a fairly nostalgic frame of mind at present. Listening to George Russel's Ezz-Thetic, propelled by the protean sax blowing of Eric Dolphy, the musical distance between that session and what's currently coming out of New York seems a great deal shorter than 22 years. Kaffel feels that the jazz world maintains a consistently high awareness of history. "Merchandising takes different forms," he says. "Twofers and OJCs were unnecessary and superfluous several years ago, when a lot of these records were still available.

"Eventually we'll run out of classics, but by that time another form of merchandising will have been developed," says Kaffel.

—Josef Woodard

#### -from 119, Rowland

that his last album, *Too-Rye-Ay*, scored a top ten hit ("Come On Eileen") and went platinum in Europe and gold here, Rowland remains annoyed.

"I honestly don't think we're over the barrier. We've only had one hit single here (in the States) and at the moment we're in danger of being seen in some quarters as a singles group only. The fact is we made an album with 10 songs on it and 'Come On Eileen' is just one of them. Radio should play the whole album! We're having trouble getting our LPs played on the radio here, so there's not an overall picture coming over of what we're about."

According to Rowland, what Dexys Midnight Runners is all about is **not** really a blending of traditional Celtic music and modern-day pop, as most critics have labeled them, nor is it an update of what Van Morrison was doing in the early 1970s. "Van Morrison," says Rowland with a tone of urgency in his voice, was "quite a bit different than us. My interpretation is a lot different; I come from a different generation and another part of Ireland. I'm just looking back on my roots to make Dexys something else. I don't see it as any merger."

Rowland says the next Dexys album will be a vast departure from his current sound. Also gone will be the Irish ghetto look that so perfectly tied into the last record. "I wouldn't say we're going to have a look (with the next album). It's not that political, really. I mean, you wear different clothes than you did last year, don't you?"

-Bruce C. Pilato

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# Born to Laugh at Convention



#### **WAS (NOT WAS) Born to Laugh at Tornadoes** Geffen GHS 4016

Produced in Detroit by Don St. Was, David St. Was and Jack Tann for John Lewis Productions; Don Was—Recording Zengineer, assisted by Michael Brown and Warren D. Woods, Jr.; all songs mixed with nerves of steel by David Thoener at Record Plant, NYC, except "Shake Your Head," "Man Vs. the Empire Brain Building" and "The Party Broke Up," mixed by the Detroit Wasmopolitan Mixing Squad: Duane Bradley, Ken Collier and Don Was at Sound Suite, Detroit. Recorded at Sound Suite, Detroit, and other locations; Originally mastered by Greg Fulginiti at Artisan Sound Recorders, L.A.

#### Careful Casting

Born to Laugh at Tornadoes, the second album from Detroit's Was (Not Was), boasts an impressively diverse lineup of big-name rinders in addition to the Was brothers' usual repertory company of skilled players. But it's not like some arranded studio marriage intended to inflate sales potential at the expense of artistic ment, nor are the guests overpaid puppets bending to the will of some Man with a Plan. Was (Not Was) *auteurs* Don Fagenson and David Weiss simply and without fanfare chose the right people for the parts they had in mind. How fortunate that their talent can attract such talent.

Getting Mel Torme to sing "Zaz Turned Blue" was the highlight of making *Tornadoes*, says Fagenson. "Once the song was written we could never think of anyone else to do it." Weiss had met Torme in the course of his day gig as jazz critic for the Los Angeles *Herald Examiner* and was on good terms with the singer, so he approached him with the idea.

"It is great testimony to him that he was willing to try this," says Fagenson. "It's clearly not his usual song." The form is not alien to Torme—it's a delicate cocktail ballad—but the content is another story altogether. I don't think he ever sang a line like 'Steve squeezed his neck."" Torme..."found nuance—both musically and lyrically—that David and I didn't even know we'd written into the song."

"Shake Your Head," a rap track jammed to the rafters with Weiss' uniquely twisted but marginally useful insights ("You can't drink lava from plastic glasses You can't influence the masses") ended up being sung by Ozzy Osbourne but several other renditions were recorded first—none of which caught the spirit of the song "I mentioned to our attorney, Fred Ansis, that we were having trouble finding the right singer," says Fagenson "Fred suggested we try Ozzy, who he also represents and who happened to be in New York. It was so absurd that we had to try—and he was perfect!"

#### The Triumph of Zengineering

"Does the lack of funk bother you?" Fagenson asked me "People expected a certain kind of thing after our first album, I guess, but [Born to Laugh at Tornadoes] is a very natural thing to me, there's a real cohesiveness to it. It fits in fine to me, but there have been people who said, I thought you sounded like Rick James '''

PLAYBAG

It's not so much the lack of funk as the presence of more styles. Fagenson is a real dyedin-the-wool studio junkie, and perhaps he just happened to be studying funk during the making of the first album, *Was (Not Was)*. "I really liked the Beatles' *White Album* when I was growing up" he notes. "Never was there more of an anthology than that. From 'Martha My Dear' to 'Revolution #9,' there was one of everything—and yet it made perfect sense." With the encouragement of Ze Records' Michael Zilkha and Geffen's A&R people, Fagenson and Weiss have been allowed to roam freely across the musical landscape.

That's the way it's always been for the Was brothers, really, since they first teamed up in front of a stereo tape deck during their junior high school years. Bott: Fagenson and Weiss were musicians, but their intellectual affinity encompassed other disciplines including the psychedelic radio plays of the Firesign Theatre

Fagenson dropped out of college pretty early and went to work in an eight-track studio, playing bass in a bar band at night. He eventually arrived at what he called "The School of Reckless

#### Don Fagenson (Was)



Engineering" (later renamed "Zengineering" out of respect for Geffen's uptown image), a pragmatic, life-affirming approach based on the belief that "the best way to engineer is not to engineer at all." The function of an engineer, Fagenson explains, is to protect the delicate path between the artist's inspiration and the listener's ear. "Anything that gets in the way can ruin the art," he says.

Most of the tracking of *Tornadoes* was done at Detroit's Sound Suite, where Fagenson has a very creative arrangement. "We do overall, flat-rate things with studios. In this case, we had the Sound Suite from midnight on, every night—all the time, until the next session came in. If there wasn't anything booked the next day I stayed for 48 hours. I can't work the other way."

Fagenson believes—and Was (Not Was) illustrates—there's a better way to work than the union-wage, three-hour session arrangement. "There's a way to be fair with the studio and the musicians without sticking to this time-clock thing that's counter-musical." The Detroit musicians who work with Was (Not Was) are friends as well as professionals, says Fagenson, "and when their sessions are done they hang out. It's very loose, and there's a lot of people in the studio most of the time—and it's fun."

Fagenson engineers his own sessions, and says "even if I'm just listening to another guy playing, I'm into the music and not the levels. On this album there are some tracks—some background vocals, the Simmons toms on 'Bow Wow Wow 'Wow'—which are distorted because I wasn't paying attention when I cut them. But I kept them because they felt right."

The only guiding principles of Zengineering, it seems, are survival and fun. If it's enjoyable, and commercial enough to earn another shot, then it's a success. "I like working with a lot of different people," Fagenson observes. "In the end, that's why I worked in all the different studios [Media Sound, Sigma, the Record Plant and 39th Street in New York, Criteria in Miami, and Gnome in Detroit]—because it's fun. I love being in new studios."

#### Tech Talk

Equipment is "secondary" to the Zengineering concept, says Fagenson. About the only item he uses consistently is a dbx 160 compressor/limiter. "I was raised listening to radio stations that compress the shit out of everything, so that's the sound I think a record is supposed to have," he says.

Compression is the only effect Fagenson uses when tracking. "Sometimes by accident I'll get a good sound with the EMT 250, and I'll print it on a separate track." For the most part, though, Fagenson prefers to record dry and handle the effects when mixing—but "from the first sessions, I'm always thinking mix."

-David Gans



#### **STEVE SMITH Vital Information** *Columbia FC 38955*

Produced by Steve Smith; engineered by Phil Green, assisted by Tom Soares; recorded at Normandy Sound, Warren, Rhode Island

Journey fans might be a bit surprised by this first album from the group's drummer. Steve Smith but *Vital Information* is a tually a somewhat predictable move for Smith. He attended the Betklee School of Music whence also came the other members of the *Vital Information* band) then went on to four with lean-Luc Ponty, Romine Montrose and Tom Coster. He still plays with Coster when not pounding out million-sellers with Journey so not only are his jazz influences well-rooted, they're very much still with him.

Vital Information is a nerv blend of jazz and rock, with an emphasis on the latter. The band comes on loose but strong on bassist Tim Lunders' brash "Looks Bad Feels Good " "Ouestionable Arrivals' showcases quitarist Dean Brown and Jaxman Dave Wilczewski in a highenergy setting intensified by Smith's double bass drum work Wilczewski's "Stoughton to Stockholm Samba' is, as the title implies, a Euro-Americanized Latin tune that sets up some great soloing from guitarist Mike Stern, lately an associate of Miles Davis. The group wails on a sort of traditional jazz "head" on "V-G," then takes it outside on the title track with some frantic sparring. "All That Is' brings to mind the short-lived band Group 37 with slow and haunting melodies and mechanized-sounding rhythmic passages. Smith's drumming on the tune recalls former Group 87 drummer Terry Bozzio.

Smith has succeeeded where many others have railed in putting together a diverse but cohesive-sounding record. He shows talent for arranging and writing as well as a solid feel on drums through every tune. He catches every arcile and makes things happen. Journey fans already know how skillful a drummer Smith is, but *Vital Information* should help get that point actors in other worlds.

-Robin Tolleson



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#### -from page 5, FEEDBACK

Dear Mix.

Your usually excellent publication was unfortunately marred by in-complete coverage of the US Festival (and erroneous, I might add).

I am referring to the brief article in September's issue written by Josef Woodard. As the most significant event in sound reinforcement anywhere in the world this year, the US Festival deserved more than you gave it.

The errors, specifically: 1. It was not "3 days and 25 acts", as you reported . . . . but 4 days and 32 acts. Mr. Woodard must have left early.

2. The Glen Helen Region Park bowl comprised a 54-acre area, not the 500 acres you noted. Even if Clair and Showco had brought every piece of gear in the shop, 500 acres would have been a LOT of audience area to cover.

3. The "two main towers 300 feet out" were NOT sound towers. They were put up exclusively for the television cameras and the auxiliary lighting instruments for video production. What was there: 4 towers 600 feet out, containing the Showco Arena System on delayed lines.

"While Clair Bros. did much of the stage monitoring, some acts chose



to use their own". Untrue. Clair serviced 30 of the 32 acts . . . nearly all of the show . . . while Showco provided a separate system for two of that company's major accounts, David Bowie and Van Halen. No group which performed at the festival brought "its own system". Groups which OWN their "own system" on Planet Earth can probably be counted on one hand . . . unless you are speaking of semi-pro, nightclub-type acts who are not national touring groups.

> David Scheirman Concert Sound Consultant San Diego, CA

#### Woodard replies:

Mr. Scheirman had indeed picked up some bugs with his finetoothed comb, and I stand humbly corrected on the abovementioned counts. But, to reply: the 4th day was an experimental afterthought, an ill-attended country day that took place a full week after the main Memorial Day event and didn't propose nearly the demands in terms of sound reinforcement. The 500-acre figure refers to the Park and not the bowl. The designation of the two main towers is my oversight, but the two acts, Bowie and Van Halen, did, in fact use their "own" monitoring systems, that is, systems hired by them for more than just single shows. So they don't hold the pink slip, need we quibble? I do appreciate the corrections-facts are the objective. But let's not get captious.

Since when are "night-club type acts" automatically "semi-pro" and automatically discountable because of their limited possession or dispossession of equipment? World class touring bands are not born spontaneously out from under cauliflower leaves . . . some of them even start in night clubs.

-Pat Pall, Mix Typesetter

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#### by Iain Blair

he images are sexy, provocative, off-the-wall, and always unique. In one scene, nearly naked girls fight each other with pillows astride a symbolic pole. In another, demented priscners hurl hammers at the camera. In another, a group of robot legs complete with suspenders and stockings performs a crazy dance. All these images are a product of the fertile imaginations of Kevin Godley and Lol Creme, and for true aficionados of video promos their names are already virtually synonymous with a stylish inventiveness usually sadly missing from other, more pedestrian efforts in the field. For this is the British duo that brought to your screens such delights as Duran Duran's "Girls On Film," "Every Breath You Take" by The Police, and their latest, inspired masterpiece, Herbie Hancock's "Rockit," featuring the mad robot dancers.

But directing music videos is only the most recent in a long string of accomplishments for this multi-talented and multi-faceted pair. Their fruitful and longstanding partnership has produced everything from a succession of hit records (they were half of the seminal British band 10cc) and book projects to movie scripts and even inventions (they pioneered The Gizmo.) Constantly on the go, and constantly juggling their various interests and priorities, Godley and Creme were recently in Los Angeles for a few days to discuss their latest film ideas with the studios, in between working on their Police Special in Toronto and shooting a follow-up to "Rockit" in London. Mix caught up with them at their West Hollywood hotel and finally forced them to sit down for a few minutes.

In person, they are friendly and articulate, and seem totally unaffected by all the success and the current

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Godley and Creme with design plan for set of Police video "Wrapped Around Your Finger", from "Synchronicity."

hoopla surrounding their latest project with The Police. "It does keep us off the streets," admits Creme, the short one. "But not out of trouble!" adds Godley, the taller one. Listening to them talk is a bit like watching a very fast ping-pong game—the ball of the conversation gets tossed back and forth with snappy oneliners and pithy jokes, and they tend to finish each other's conversations. At times sounding rather like a music-hall comedy routine or a crazy double-act, Godley and Creme are however very serious about their work, and have justifiably forged a reputation as one of the most creative and exciting collaborations at large in the fields of music, film and video. And unlike most partnerships which blossom only to end in a horror story of acrimony and mutual accusation, these two guys seem to have found the perfect balance.

"We grew up together in Manchester, England, and started working together on ideas and projects from the word 'go'," recalls Godley. "We wrote music, shows, got into painting, and even invented a huge book complete with 3-D models of 'The Charge of the Light Brigade.' We were also always interested in film, and in fact, we both originally met on a film-set, at my house! I think I was 13 at the time, and I was shooting an 8mm version of Dracula," Godley explains. "Well, I desperately needed a hunchback, so I auditioned Lol in the living-room, and he was perfect." "It was my first brush with showbiz," adds Creme, "and later we both began playing around in various groups, doing session work and demos, and writing songs. Later, we met Graham Gouldman and Eric Stewart, the other half of 10cc. Eric had set up his own studio, called Strawberry Studios, and that's where we recorded our first hit, 'Neanderthal Man.' We wrote it in the back of a taxi on the way to a session, and it went to No. 1! No one was more surprised than we were," adds Creme.

To promote the single, Godley and Creme quickly formed a band called Hotlegs, made an album, and foured with bands like The Moody Blues. "But we failed to come up with another hit," says Godley, "so we started getting more into production." The two got their hands on the first Moog in Britain, and in between doing sessions for the likes of Paul McCartney, Wayne Fontana and the Mindbenders, and Freddie and the Dreamers, worked on their own projects. In 1972, Godley and Creme reemerged along with Stewart and Gouldman as 10cc, one of the most successful British bands of the '70s. Many stories have subsequently circulated about the true origins of the band's name, but both insist that Jonathon King christened the project 10cc, "because it's the average amount of senien ejaculated by a healthy male!" "Besides, who were we to argue," adds Creme.

The success story of 10cc is well documented. Their first single, "Donna," went straight to No. 2, and the follow-up, "Rubber Bullets" shot up the charts to No. 1 in July '73. Over the next few years, the band went from strength to strength, producing a succession of hit singles and albums, including global smashes like "I'm Not In Love," and "Art for Art's Sake." So it came as quite a shock, to both fans and other members of the band, when Godley and Creme suddenly announc-



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ed they were leaving in '76. "It may have seemed sudden to everyone else, explains Creme, "but in fact we'd been planning it for some time. When the band first took off, we decided to give it four or five years, because we were already interested in so many other areas, and we always wanted to move on at some point.

However, the split was far from amicable. "It was like a divorce I guess," comments Creme. "It was extremely difficult, and in a way it was made far worse by the fact that we decided to leave when the band was so huge. People understand more if things are going badly, but we had to follow our instincts to leave. We needed the creative freedom and space to develop other projects, and the pressure in 10cc to keep coming up with hits, coupled with touring and recording etc. just made it impossible for us," adds Godley. "In order to grow, we had to leave, painful as it was."

At first, it seemed as if they'd made a major mistake in guitting the success and security of the band. Having concentrated all their efforts on an invention called The Gizmo, a device which fitted onto a guitar giving it an orchestral-type sustain, Godley and Creme then spent a year and a half ("and a fortune") on "Consequences,"

the album especially conceived and written to demonstrate The Gizmo. Both were commercial flops. Undeterred, the couple decided to turn their energies to their first love-film, and after a few years "in the wilderness," working on more albums and book projects, they finally shot their first video in '79. ``It was called `An Englishman in New York," and we just did this storyboard, hired a technical director to help out, and went for it," explains Creme. "It taught us a hell of a lot about shooting, and by some miracle it worked!"

The move paid off, for Godley and Creme suddenly found themselves beseiged with offers to shoot videos for other artists as well. Since then, they have directed many famous and awardwinning videos, including the celebrated "Girls On Film" clip, "Mind of a Toy" for Steve Strange (best video of '81), three tracks for Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr (BAFTA award) and cuts for Status Quo, Graham Parker, Joan Armatrading and The Police amongst others. And in between, they have kept recording several successful albums, including "L," "Freeze Frame" and "Ismism," as well as directing themselves in their own videos.

Most recently, they were asked to shoot an hour special of The Police called 'The Synchronicity Concert' for Showtime after the success of their earlier work with the band. "The first thing we did with them was the video for 'Every Breath You Take,' which turned out great, as we were all thinking along the same lines of a 40's jazz jam session look" explains Godley. "We shot it at the Charlie Chaplin Soundstage at A&M in Hollywood in black and white, keeping it very 'hard'-so there were no grays. We enhanced that contrast look in the edit as well, and it was eventually released in four versions—B&W, red, blue and yellow."

The Police were so pleased with the results-"I'd never really been happy with our videos before, but their imagistic approach is totally right for us," commented Sting at the time-that Godley and Creme were then hired to shoot the follow-up singles. "For 'Wrap-ped Around Your Finger," we used a very stark set and just filled it with thousands of candles laid out in spirals and rows;" explains Creme. "That gave it a very mysterious, 'Sorcoerer's Apprentice' type of feeling. We also filmed it at double-speed, so that when we edited it at normal speed, the band were all moving in slow motion, but their mouths were in sync to the track. It worked really well, but of course during the actual shoot itself, all you could



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hear was this Mickey Mouse-type vocal."

The next video, "Synchronicity II," was shot in London and on location at Loch Ness in Scotland. "It was very eerie up there, but we didn't see the monster," laughs Creme. "Back at the studio, we used a sort of postnuclear set featuring three mountains of the band's equipment, each about 25' high, so that they looked like piles of garbage made out of guitars, drums and mikes, etc. But no sooner had we started shooting than one pile caught fire, which was very exciting, and then Miles Copeland, the band's manager, turns up and announces that there's been a change of plan and that "King of Pain" is now the next single!"

'Synchronicity II'' was also the scene for the debut of the 'Hot Head' camera mount, according to Godley and Creme, "It's an amazing device featuring a remote, go-anywhere mount that's operated by a video monitor, so it gives you the kind of shots you can't normally get," explains Godley. "So, when we were asked to film The Police special in Montreal, we took it with us and suspended it over the band. That way, we could get tight or wide shots from above, and we could also swing around and pan to any member of the band, or to the audience, on a 360 degree basis." The special was also another first for Godley and Creme. "We'd never done a live shoot before, so we approached it like a video shoot, but trying to bring a whole new dimension to it by using the Hot Head and taking a bit more care," adds Godley.

The special concert was shot live at Le Spectrum club in Montreal during the band's Canadian tour. "It only held 800 people, and The Police wanted to capture that intimacy" comments Creme. "We shot on 1" tape, and used a total of 10 cameras to get all the shots we wanted, as we were directing from the truck outside the club. Apart from the Hot Head, we used a Betacam in the audience, solely for audience shots, so that we could build the relationship between the band on stage and their fans. We also used it on the band's private plane flying into the gig, as well as on the streets before the gig, so that we got a little bit of documentary footage to parallel the gig itself."

The audio end of the shoot also presented some interesting angles, according to Godley. ``After we'd assembled all our footage, we finished the edit to a rough monitor mix of the live show. At a later date, we will remix the soundtrack with the band present as well to the cut picture. The original sound was recorded by Le Studio mobile, and we did a little bit of postsweetening to the rough cut. We dubbed on some audience noise at The

Master's Workshop Studios in Toronto, because unfortunately there was no real audience reaction that was usable recorded on the original." Both Godley and Creme had nothing but praise for the Toronto facility. "It's a great place—they have customized set-up so that any domestic IBM computer can be interfaced with the system for editing sound and sound effects in the same way that we edit video," explains Creme. "It's a wonderful system, and it makes the whole process so much easier. In fact, we're so impressed that we're now going to install a similar setup at our own Limehouse Studios in London. We reckon that it can be used very creatively to examine and test components, such as the structure of a sona.'

All the post-production work for the special was completed in Toronto in a marathon ten day session, and Godley and Creme plan to return to The Master's Workshop Studios there to do the final soundmix. They also used a Dubner computer video animation system for the first time, "for the top and bottom credits, and some small sequences in the special," adds Creme. "We were very impressed with it." The Synchronicity Concert special was executive produced by The Police and is due to air this month (December) on The Showtime Channel.

Meanwhile, Godley and Creme are due back in London to shoot a follow-up to Herbie Hancock's "Rockit" video, again using the specially customized robots built by British artist and sculptor Jim Whiting. "Herbie was so knocked out by them that he wants a whole stage show to be built around them!" adds Creme. It is a measure of the video's success that the instrumental, by a black artist, is now on heavy rotation on MTV and zooming up the charts. And as if all this weren't enough, the pair also recently completed shooting an 80 minute TV pilot called "Rebellious Jukebox" which is centered around a video-jukebox and includes The Police and various other bands in a live club setting. They also won the Silver Lion at Cannes for Best Advertisement of the Year for their Wrangler commercial.

But it is the silver screen that their sights seem to be most set on these days, as they themselves admit. "Films are what we've always wanted to do, and we've got a couple of projects we're working on right now," says Creme. "Our main interest now is in directing," agrees Godley, "and that's what we've always done in our music, by producing and dealing with concepts. The great thing now is that we'll be able to combine music and film, and do the soundtracks as well as direct—it's the perfect marriage for us."

# CONCERT

# by Nocturne

by Lou CasaBianca were among the first U.S. companies to use the services of British director and Joe Van Witsen Bruce Gowers to direct a series of ew bands and entertainment music videos, in this case for Journey. Produced in 1978, long before the ar-rival of MTV, these videos along with the band's marathon jouring schedule were directly responsible for Journey's

multiplatinum album success. Working with the late Bob Becher, Journey video taped or arranged videotaping for almost all of their major concerts. The step from video archiving and MTV, to live large screen projection video seems almost inevitable in Journey's attempt to create greater audience satisfaction and enjoyment in large outdoor and indoor venues

fans greater value for their entertainment dollar, Nightmare brought in a super Eidophor projector and large screen (22.5 x 30) video system and 7 cameras, which were switched live, —page 137

In a move designed to give





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#### -from page 135, Concert Video

creating another more personal dimension to Journey's live concert performances.

As fate would have it, members of the Who's management saw the video projector system coverage of Journey in concert and decided that large screen video would be a must for the Who's last tour. They contacted Nightmare (which, in addition to managing Journey, also provides road management and tour production services for hire) to see if they would be interested in providing video services for the Who.

Nocturne, a division of Nightmare, is managed by Pat Morrow, and can provide lights, sound reinforcement systems, rigging, staging and personnel as well as large screen video projection and videotaping. Working with Showco's Robin MacGruder, Nocturne put together a video projection package for the Who's last tour. It was the extensive use of video by the Who which generated interest by many artists in the possibility of large screen video for their own concerts.

rior to the Who, Nocturne had provided live video production for the Marlboro Music Festivals in Tulsa and Dallas with country headliners Barbara Mandrell, Merle Haggard, Hank Wiliams Jr., and Ricky Skaggs. The first regular use of live video in a rock concert context was by the Bill Graham organization at Winterland, and one of the first groups to use it was Led Zeppelin at Nebworth in England in the mid <sup>7</sup>70s. Only recently have the technological barriers to the efficient use of this medium been surmounted. The system now used by Nocturne can be assembled in 90 minutes and can be struck in a half hour.

The basic elements of the system are essentially all the gear that would typically be involved in a live television shoot plus the video projection system. The crew line up would be as follows: Director, who does live switching; Assistant Director, who works with lighting; Engineer; Assistant Engineer; Four Camera people; and a Projectionist.

The company has two directors on staff, Paul Becher and Mick Anger, who have handled virtually all the directorial duties from its start. Mick Anger has also directed videotape productions for MTV, the most recent for Sammy Hagar. Paul Becher just completed 3 songs for AC/DC, and will be directing the next music video clips for Journey. Each director does his own —page 138



# Presenting the Otari 5050 Mark III/8 ...with Service



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#### -from page 137, Concert Video

live switching, which creates a more direct flow of camera moves and dissolves than might otherwise be the case. In the typical live situation the director calls his shots through a technical director. This also requires a thorough knowledge of the music being played so that both director and crew have a tightly coordinated shooting plan. Recently Mick Anger, who directed both the Police and Bowie tours for Nocturne, contrasted the production styles of the two groups. "Bowie's stage show was very tightly structured and very theatrical, with the band in costume and the precise use of props and set designs. Some of the songs were fully choreographed, with Bowie never 'breaking character.' The Police did virtually a different show each night, changing the order of the songs, moving around the stage and in general responding more directly or playing off the audience's feedback.

N octurne has acquired several complete video packages in a bid to increase its ability to service multiple projects. This past summer the company handled large screen live video projection for Journey, Simon & Garfunkel, David Bowie and the Police.

The truly state-of-the-art video equipment which Nocturne supplied for the 1983 Police North American Tour had to be compact and extremely rugged. Only the most roadworthy gear would withstand the constant loading, unloading, forklifting, and trucking as well as extremes in temperature and humidity for seven weeks. All the hardware was shipped in 25 road cases custom made by Starcase. The foam lining was precisely cut out for each piece to minimize the vibration and shock from loading and hauling.

The head end of the system comprised four Hitachi SK-91 broadcast cameras equipped with Diode-Gun Saticon tubes. These tubes are the top performers in the  $\frac{2}{3}$ " class providing extremely high resolution and signal to noise (700 lines at 60 dB) along with great depth of modulation and colorimetry. The tubes were crucial in producing film-like images on the giant screens. Even with all the backlighting and point source lighting these tubes displayed virtually no lag or comet tailing.

The cameras were equipped with Triax backs which convert the analog video signal to a digital signal so no line loss would occur on the 500 foot or more runs to the control room. The triax system, so called because of its triaxial cable, sent video, intercom, genlock sync, program return video, and camera power over a single halfinch wide cable. Before the advent of triax, multiple signals would only be handled by a multicore cable, an inch and a half thick with line amps every 250 feet. The triax cable also sent camera control signals from the digital command unit in the control room. This allowed the engineer to ride iris, gain, black level and set white and black balance from the control room as well. The digital command unit also converted the digital signal back to a standard analog video signal for switching, and projection.

A variety of lenses were used for the different camera positions. Two cameras on tripods were on platforms in front of the stage left and right. They were equipped with Fujinon 14:1 zooms, a roving hand-held camera on stage had a 14:1 and could switch to an extremely wide angle 7:1 zoom. The fourth camera was on a tripod on the control tower in the rear center of the stadium equipped with a Fujinon 30:1 zoom with a 2X extender, allowing 60:1 closeups. This lens was considerably larger than the camera itself and required a special heavy duty Vinton tripod and lens mount to support it. The control package consisted of six road cases which stacked to create three 19 inch rack units.

The director's rack contained two Videotek 9" Trinitron monitors for program and preview, a Sony PVM-410 monitor bank containing four 4 inch monochrome camera monitors, a Grass Valley 1600-1A switcher and associated control equipment. The engineer's rack contained an Ikegami high resolution monitor, two monochrome preview monitors, Tektronix waveform monitor and vectorscope, I.S.I. sync generator, and five Hitachi digital command units for the four cameras and one spare. The third rack contained 2 Sony 5850 34" VCR's, Shure audio mixer, audio amplifier and two monitor speakers. The three racks were interconnected with color coded cables which allowed the system to be set up in a matter of minutes, once installed.

Two types of video projection systems were used on the tour. For indoor shows (usually a hockey rink or sports arena) a G.E. model 5055 projector was employed. This single lens unit uses three light valve imaging units converged around an optical beam splitter and a high intensity xenon lamp. The beauty of the G.E. is that it is small, portable (can be lifted by two people) and is always in perfect convergence allowing relatively quick setup by an experienced operator.

For the outdoor shows (which were usually held in baseball stadiums) two of these systems were mounted on airlifts. Their screens were on either side of the stage. They were supplemented by a Super Eidophor projecting onto a screen directly above the stage. The difference in brightness between the G.E. and the Eidophor is analogous to 16 mm and 35 mm film projectors. The image from a Super Eidophor is truly impressive with brightness and resolution equaling that of a feature film.

he Eidophor projector itself is about the size of a large refrigerator with two accompanying 19 inch racks of equipment, one containing a power supply and rectifier, the other containing all the control electronics. The Eidophor must be run by a highly trained operator and is generally set up and tested the day before the show. It also uses a light valve system, but has a separate light source and optical path for each of the three primary colors. The light valve differs greatly from a home video projection system, which employs three CRT's, each with phosphor of a primary color, mounted in a lens assembly with the CRT producing both the light and the image. This system works well for the home where 6 feet is pretty much the size limitation as defined by room height. But a CRT system is not bright or sharp enough for theatrical video projection. A light valve system uses a high intensity white light source (Xenon or arc bulb). The light valve is a glass plate coated with a special type of opaque oil which becomes transparent where it is excited by an electron team, allowing the light source to shine through. This yields razor sharp images without any of the spill, lag, or retention associated with glowing phosphors.

For daytime shows, a Mitsubishi DiamondVison system was used where it was available. This is the only system that produces a viewable picture in broad daylight. The DiamondVision system is not a projection device at all, but rather an array of some 40,000 high intensity red, blue, and green CRT's each about a half inch wide. These tubes are controlled by a computer which reads the standard incoming video signal and in turn, switches each of the appropriate lights on and off to form a moving image, like a sophisticated electric scoreboard but capable of full color and shading.

Through the use of extremely rugged state-of-the-art video equipment, Nocturne was able to provide reliable, high quality live video programming for this tour, enhancing the rock concert experience and setting a precedent for the future of large entertainment events.



#### by Mia Amato

#### FOUND: LANDMARK SOUND-SYNC FILMS

"Most people, if asked what was the first talking picture, would probably say "The Jazz Singer". That was certainly the first modern, electronically recorded sound film, but it was not the first theatrical talking picture."

According to Art Shifrin, Thomas Edison's film production company pioneered synchronized sound on films released as early as 1912 using the crude techniques available to cylinder recording. Shifrin has successfully restored two reels of that landmark film with their original soundtracks and transferred them to videotape, with the aid of a grant from *Ampex Corporation* and technical expertise of New York's Sound Shop.

How did Edison's sync system work? "It was sheerly machanical," says Shifrin. "Edison was a man who thought in mechanical metaphors." Early sound recording required that the artist or speaker shout or play directly into a large, ball-shaped horn. Edison's players were able to move about or dance a critical few feet away from the horn thanks to a mechanical sound amplifier.

"A photo taken in the studio shows that the recording phonograph was placed on a platform on the stage," explains Shifrin. "It was linked by wires and pulleys to a film camera in the extreme rear of the room." In theatres, the recorded cylinder was played on a phonograph at the front of the audience, and it, too, was linked by wires and overhead pulleys to the gears of a film projector at the rear. Slippage was a problem; a memo from one of Edison's engineers recommends changing some wires because they had been "chewed by rats."

The first talkies premiered at three Manhattan studios in 1912. Front page news in its day, the "kinetophone" sound-film dropped out of history, and probably would have remained in news-morgue limbo except for the efforts of Shifrin, a recording history buff and manager at *Abekas Video System*, which designs video stillstores. He is the inventor of an electronic playback device for cylinder recordings. The first model was sold to Sweden's national broadcasting company, which has hundreds of cylinder recordings from the turn of the century in its vaults. In the Swedish radio archives, Shifrin found the kinetophone recordings.

"They asked me if I knew what they were," he recalls. "They are readily distinguished from typical cylinders because they're so much bigger—about the size of a tomato juice can. I took some back with me, and rigged my prototype to play them. "The quality of the sound is

"The quality of the sound is wonderful when you consider they were recorded through a horn," he adds. The cylinders were stamped with Edison's company name and dated. The material: "conversations, gunshots, sound effects." Shifrin realized he'd stumbled across movie soundtracks recorded some thirteen years before "The Jazz Singer."

At the Edison museum in New Jersey, Shifrin gained access to the inventor's chronological files, much of



The Edison Kinetophone Studio in the Bronx, operating between 1912 and 1914. Note the synchronizer cord (black arrow) running between the camera booth and recorder. The high ceiling and hard walls caused severe echo problems.



Cylinder playback system playing Kinetophone record. (inset) Kinetophone cylinder compared with standard cylinder.

them uncataloged. "Not only did we find some 500 documents relating to kinetophone," says Shifrin, "but we found seven reels of identified film. Six of the seven films have surviving soundtracks on cylinders."

The material includes opera, vaudeville acts, and a lecture by Andrew Carnegie. "We've also found what I think may be the first attempt at location sync sound, the first reel of a Civil War drama, shot, we believe, in Van Cortland Park."

According to newspaper accounts, Edison's talkies enjoyed a fourmonth run at the Keith-Orpheum theatre chain, playing major cities in the U.S. and even Tokyo and Hong Kong. But why were the inventor's efforts doomed to obscurity?

"In the first place, the films were not as well done as some of the silent pictures of the time," surmises Shifrin. "Edison had no budget to attract big stars. If he'd gotten a Broadway Star, as Warner Bros. did when it picked Jolson for "The Jazz Singer," it might have been better accepted." Secondly, World War I broke out in 1913, just as Edison was launching European distribution. (Which probably accounts for how the cylinders wound up in Sweden.)

After the war, Western Electric introduced the condenser microphone and electronic recording found its way to the film industry. The Vitaphone system stored soundtracks on 16" disks played at 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> RPM. All the projectionist had to do was drop a needle at the start of the film and all was in sync.

Says Shifrin, "The Vitaphone was a logical extension of the kinetophone, but modern, for it used electronics instead of mechanical technology. Both can be considered the forerunners of time coding and the current methods of computerized synchronization of sound to film."

Shifrin stresses that work on restoring these early "talkies" cannot continue without a source of funding and he is in discussions with some large "consumer-oriented high-tech" companies to promote this research.

#### LA DOLCE VIDEO

Rockamerica's *Ed Steinberg* sends this report of Italy's *On Video* festival:

"The festival was put on by the City of Rome, and took place in the Mattatoria, an old slaughterhouse the size of several football fields .... in the center were two movie screens, screens that make American drive-ins look like nothing. In between the screens, a bandshell with live music. There was a boxing ring (!), galleries for art, rooms with TV monitors and cassette machines to watch tapes. There was the video cafe where I was, which seated about 300 and had a Barco 50' screen playing video art and rock tapes. RAI [Radiotelevisione Italiana] had a bank of TV monitors outdoors which ran programs continuously. Everything was going on at the same time.'

The video cafe part of the show was run by *Soft Video*, an Italian firm run by *Giacomo Mezzoni*, who flew Ed in from New York to show rock tapes and give a short lecture on music video. West coast video promoter *Claude Santiago* was there as well.

"In Italy rock video is in a prehistoric state," Ed says. "Record companies won't spend more than a few hundred dollars, but American and British videos are very much in demand, and there is a big interest in progressive music there."

While in Rome, producers of the Italian TV network RAI asked Ed to curate a selection of American rock videos for a magazine format show called *Eye and Ear*. Licensing for videos in Europe is particularly tricky, he adds, as permission from local distributors is required and theft and bootlegging is widespread.

Technisphere in New York will be editing a second season of New York Hit Parade, a clip show produced there for RAI. The assemblage of top-ten pop clips with street-beat wraparound by suave host and line producer Franco Scipiani, is handled by Mark Brownstone, head of postproduction. Location taping in <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-inch has been supplied by Video News Service.

"Last spring we did thirteen 15-minute programs, editing from ¾-inch to ¾-inch, then bumped up to two-inch PAL for shipping overseas," Brownstone said. This year the show will be edited to one-inch prior to conversion to PAL, as Technisphere recently acquired a Hitachi HR-200B Type C recorder for mastering.

Brownstone said RAI's New York office concerns itself with obtaining releases for the videos selected for the show.

"RAI scheduled the show for Sunday afternoon, right before the big soccer games, so ratings were good and it had a very large audience," he adds. "I'd say it is possibly a very good showcase for American bands."

#### NOTES FROM ALL OVER

Former head of Stiff U.S., Bruce Kirkland, has announced the formation of Second Vision, a company which will assist recording companies in promotion and coordination of videos in stores, clubs and TV outlets. First project will be the Swiss electronic band Yello. The clip for "Smile" and artist Will Powers was directed by Todd Rundgren for island Records. CSI Productions (Compton, CA) has produced three clips for Joan Baez in conjunction with her current European tour. Jim Sudalnik directed. Michael Branton of Videowest flew to West Germany earlier this year to document Rock Palast, an outdoor concert that drew 18,000 to hear Joe Cocker, Steve Miller Band, Stray Cats, U-2 and other acts. (Branton has some great helicopter footage.)

Plastic Opera Company taped its first clip at the Dallas Communications Complex for Driving School, a band headed by Carmine Rojas, bass guitarist for David Bowie. The video is called "The Guiding Light." Plastic Opera is run by two sisters, Kayce Geer and Sharon Little.

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Circle #126 on Reader Service Card World Radio History



#### by Neal Weinstock

The scene: a conference of video producers thrown by Devlin productions, a video services house that has "pre-mastered" many a videodisk project. The subject: interactivity.

The reporter never saw a conference more buzzing with deals.

"It's certainly the current hula hoop," says Richard M. Wolfe, VP of engineering and video systems at 20th Century Fox. Whereas script proposals used to come into the studio with a note attached, ".... would make a good videogame ...." now the buzzword is interactivity. And the next several months should contain a good indication whether interactive video is an evolutionary marriage of the videogame business and the movie business, or whether it is a technology that is yet another momentary fad.

For people on the audio side, the significance of interactive video is that all formats involved include hi-fi audio, too. They'll need us . . . to make it happen. But who are they? And, what is interactive disk?

They are, among other folks, makers of programming for the new interactive home CED players, for industrial LV (laser-optical) players, and for synchronized CD players. But when the subject is interactive videodisk, the *sub*-subject can be very varied.

At the Devlin conference, a few of the 200-odd producers were most interested in entertainment programs for the current home, or "level one," players. A few more were most involved in still photo catalog programs, also for "level one." Many more were into using interactive technology for sales training and other industrials, which might involve level two interfacing of an industrial LV player with a microcomputer. And a buzzing undertone throughout the day and evening seminar was the anticipation of interactive disk-based, level two video arcade games. This was the deep sub-subject Devlin's speakers did not address directly; it was merely sidled around all day, as participants slyly sought deals



and information while shyly denying interest in what was of most interest to most participants.

The conference was precisely a week before the outbreak of "Dragon's Lair." For those unaware, this is a game, the first arcade command post to make use of a videodisk. It does not make use of all that its technology might offer, however; but for being rushed to market *first*, it doesn't really look bad. Since theirs will *not* be first, there seemed to be a general consensus among producers with visions of billions in arcade quarters dancing in their brains that a higher level of interactivity, including audio, might be advisable.

Back to the Devlin conference: John Hartigan, marketing manager of Sony Video Communications, attempted to demonstrate Sony's SFA 1000 Still Frame Audio Adapter; he did not quite succeed, but attendees got the general idea. The SFA 1000 interfaces with Sony's industrial player to record, and play back, up to 40 seconds of 10 bit digital audio (about the quality of a TV's speaker) on a still frame of video.

Hartigan was followed by his own close friend John Messerschmitt, corporate VP of North American Philips, who doesn't care much for the idea of still frame audio. "Why get 10 bits of digital audio to a frame when you can have 16 beautiful bits for as long as you want by interfacing a Compact Disc Player?" he asked. Upon which, he demonstrated the Philips/Magnavox VP832 industrial videodisk player with computer interface. Not only can the unit be synced to a digital disk, its inexpensive computer controller (which is similar to the Odyssey videogame console) can assemble still frames from various parts of a disk so fast as to create random access motion.

The possibilities for these two devices include not merely arcade entertainment, but vast industrial applications. Said Mark Heyer, a Sony consultant with The Braden Group of Greenwich, CT, "If you're an Exxon, you can print bar code on each part that goes into assembling a refinery; a worker could call up a moving picture description of what to do with the part, with multi-lingual audio and still-frame checklists."

(The Sony still frame audio might be only 10 bit digital, but moving frame audio is LV's standard analog—88 dB S/N, etc.)

Another possibility was presented by Robb Creese, designer/producer at Videodisc Publishing, Inc., whose turn to speak came exceptionally early in the morning. He produced the "Vidmax Mystery Disc" for Philips, the single largest selling consumer LV disk. A sequel, "Many

Roads to Murder," has just come out. Some scenes from the Mystery Disc were demonstrated; it is a fairly standard whodunnit, but the audience selects action and solves a murder. The show's structure is quite reminiscent of the board game, "Clue." Shot originally on ¾" video on a budget of \$225,000, plus a cost of \$9.50 pressing per disk, plus promotion and distribution, Mystery Disc has sold 9,000 copies at \$29.95. However, it is soon to come out in interactive CED, too—the sequel is already out in CED. The sequel, with similiar costs, took 6 months to make, the original a year.

(By the way, there may seem to be some confusion about the spelling of disk or disc. Sandra Devlin says Latin is more suitable to art, Greek to science, so she leaves "disk" to computer people and says "disc." This curmudgeonly observer, preferring consistency, believes the Greeks were a whole lot better artists than the Romans, too.)

Ms. Devlin spoke often and lengthily on technical issues in producing interactive disks. She suggested, for example, that shooting on 16 mm films at 30 frames per second, where possible, is most preferable. That way, assembly of all the still frame, audio, and other components can be achieved in the film-to-tape transfer. 30 f.p.s. is important (as opposed to the normal 24) because still frames are often taken from moving footage, and a 1:1 transfer ratio means all of the frames are usable as flicker-less stills.

Devlin also discussed the importance of assembling a slide-tape-film show of all the elements to go on a disk, thus making sure everything works before sending it all off to be pressed. 3M has recently begun pressing in California, but various producers seemed to concur that the best pressings are made by Sony in Japan, with a six week turnaround. Sony's John Hartigan said that, "62 percent of all level two disks have programming errors, even with that slide-tape emulation process." Thus the turnaround time becomes even longer. Peter Crown, of Romulus Productions, hazarded a guess that an interactive disk may wind up costing 50 percent more than a similar idea done `normally.'

But then, what is a "normal" interactive videodisk program? Romulus made an educational disk for the government, and has already sold an adaptation to RCA, for consumer release as a game about Skylab. All sorts of other deals were in the offing that day with Devlin, too. And the buzz words "music video" were on many a lip, too. Hot categories tend to inspire crossovers: or, in Latin, interfaces. Cards were exchanged, deals were struck, soon we'll know.



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# HARDWARE SOFTWARE



#### Lexicon 1300

Lexicon's Model 1300 audio delay synchronizer effectively solves "lip-sync" problems that result from the increasing use of digital video processors and synchronizers. The system decodes the hysteresis and frame offset information from any video synchronizer to provide frame accurate audio synchronization in any broadcast or production setup.

Three standard decoding options are supplied: pulsewidth decoding, "wild-feed"/genlock decoding or serial data decoding, each with its own interface panel and software. The removable Delay Configuration Control Module can be configured to conform to any delay/sync decoding scheme presently in use and provides software/hardware flexibility for future configurations.

The system has an optional Remote Video Sensing Module which allows audio synchronization information from the video section of the facility to be communicated via RS-422 to the Model 1300 mainframe located in the audio area. The Model 1300 system is available in mono or stereo configurations. It will allow synchronous operation of multiple units in master/slave configurations.

#### Philips VP 832

This is an industrial, or level two, LV player. It includes RS232C interface for programmability. What one would want to program is the unit's random access capability: within 3 to 5 seconds, at maximum, any frame on a 12 inch videodisk can be accessed. In practice, frames can usually be accessed much faster, if they are banded fairly close together—say, within one radial inch of disk space. In fact, a full motion picture can be randomly assembled from various frames dispersed over that one radial inch.

The unit will also interface easily, through its microcomputer controller, with a compact disk player. It plays both standard (CAV) and extended play (CLV) LV disks.

#### Panasonic OMDR

Panasonic makes the cheapest optical memory disk recorder around. It operates in color NTSC, and will record still frames with access time of 0.5 seconds. The only problem with it is that picture quality is merely equal to 34" videotape; therefore, it cannot be used for professional mastering of widely distributed disks. However, it can be used for all sorts of single generation applications—including as a test for shows later to be mastered for pressing.

It interfaces through RS232C port to CD players and to a whole series of Panasonic still frame video tape recorders. The OMDR will record up to 15,000 still frames on an 8 inch disk.



#### Audio & Design TCR 1

Audio & Design's TCR 1 Portable Time Code Reader operates for up to 2000 hours from one set of internal batteries, reading time-code from serial time-code outputs.

Apart from reading SMPTE/EBU time-code, at the flick of a switch the unit will display "user bit" code. Drop-Frame and Color Frame are indicated below the frame count digits. The TCR 1 also has an output through which the time-code can be accessed "cleaned-up". This will be found useful if the source tape is not the master and where the time-code may have degenerated.

the time-code may have degenerated. The LCD display may be illuminated for 20 seconds by pressing the illumination button. Alternatively, when the TCR 1 is AC powered, the LCD display will be continuously illuminated.

The TCR 1 measures 5 3/8'' (37 mm) x  $1\frac{34''}{190}$  mm) and will sell for a recommended retail price of \$495.00.

#### Sony SFA 1000

The Sony Still Frame Audio Adapter is capable of recording up to 40 seconds of 10 bit digital audio on a still frame of video. Actually, this 40 seconds of sound is not literally fitted onto one frame, but onto 39 frames. At that rate, one side of a totally still frame video disk would play for 15.4 hours. At the other extreme, that is, a still frame lasting two seconds, consuming 9 frames of video, the total disk side would last 3.3 hours. In practice, most disks would last much closer to the motion video standard of one hour's length, even with many still frames dispersed throughout the program.

Still frame frequency response is rated by Sony at 3500 Hz, -3 dB; there is a remote control supplied, and RS-232 interface is optional. The SFA-1000 is made to interface, right out of the box, with Sony's LDP-1000 LV player and SMC-70 microcomputer. (\$1,000)



#### Quanta Model Q8

The Quanta Model Q8 Titling System was engineered to achieve the highest base resolution of any broadcast character generator now available. It features 26 nanosecond base resolution and each raster scan line affords 2048 individual pixels, delivering reproduction of fonts, logos and other graphics with unprecendented clarity, brilliance and accuracy.

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#### -from page 90, AUDIOPHILE

suspension. All these have a very audible effect on the sound.

What about digital audio? Obviously, digital is the language with which audio and video software can communicate, so it is here to stay. However, audiophiles are divided and increasingly skeptical of the claims made by the PCM digital manufacturers of the "sonic perfection" of their systems. They are very good (virtually perfect) in some respects, such as freedom from hiss, low frequency and mid-range tonal balance, and pitch accuracy. Audiophiles are becoming increasingly disenchanted, however, with the way current PCM systems handle high frequency musical information (phase shift, beat frequency harmonic foldback, etc.) and low-level information (bit-word length too short). It's not perfect yet. Many thousands of audiophiles refuse to buy digital records. There is a growing demand for 60's vintage RCA and Mercury recordings among high-end audiophiles.

How important is the audiophile to the recording industry? On an absolute current dollar volume basis, the audiophile does not represent one of the largest market segments, but the record buying market is changing.

unit's dual, floppy disc system. Also, a second channel can be incorporated into the Q8 to give the operator two keyboards for simultaneous on-air editing operation.



#### Audico Videotape Reloader

Video cassette housings can now be easily loaded and reloaded at substantial savings with the Video Cassette Tape Loader/Reloader/Rewinder manufactured by Audico, Inc., on Elk Grove, IL. The system can be equipped to load the exact tape lengths needed directly into Umatic, VHS and Beta housings. The reload feature automatically removes old tape without taking the housings apart, thus enabling their convenient reuse. The whole process takes 2 to 3 minutes.

Another feature allows for the direct transfer of prerecorded and blank tape between cassette housings. For archival applications, a number of shorter originals can be transferred and stored in one full-length housing, thus saving a generation, reducing storage space, and freeing housings for reuse. Prices for the basic loading system begin at \$4,275.

Recently, a three year demograhic study was conducted by the RIAA in conjuntion with the National Association of Recording Merchandisers (NARM). The results of that study are summarized in Audio Times, Vol. 25, No. 7, July 1983. The study found that the demographics of the music recording industry are shifting progressively to a more mature consumer. Retail sales of unsophisticated music categories are declining dramatically, as are pur-chases by the 15 to 19 year-old age group. Those sales are being made up in the 20 to 24 and 25 to 34 year-old age groups. These older buyers have more discretionary income, are more discriminating in their tastes, include more audiophiles, and have better stereos. This age group constitutes 26.4% of the total population of America. This is an important market segment to understand!

Audiophiles are not a bunch of mystics who can always hear the "forces of nature". They are discriminating listeners who love sound (we all do), but usually don't make their living at it. They can be a valuable advance indicator of the viability of new audio gadgets and trends. They are a perceptive and disproportionately influential voice in the recording market place. It would pay us to lend an ear.



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THD:	<0.05% (+4dBm@1kHz)
E   N (Noise):	- 130dBm (20Hz-20kHz)
POWER AMP	
Freq. Resp.:	+ O, - 1dB, 5Hz- 40kHz
THD:	<0.1% (200 mW to 200 Watts RMS, 20Hz-20kHz) Typ. below, 0.05%
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