



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER NEWS

Heirloom Audio: “AnnaLog” to Digital at RMAF 2009

It's been said before that one day in the not-so-distant future many audiophiles will list their primary sources as computer and turntable. Heirloom Audio paid homage to both with top shelf honors at the 6th Annual Rocky Mountain Audio Fest.

On the left, a Sony VAIO laptop running WinAmp + iTunes via the Bel Canto USB Link 24/96 and DAC3, and on the right, the oh-so-scrumptious Nottingham AnnaLog (courtesy of ASL Group), making its long-awaited re-debut in the Heirloom Audio room, sporting Ace-Space 294 arm and Lyra Skala MC cartridge. Also on hand were the splendid Naim SuperLine phono stage and SuperCap2 power supply. Quicksilver Full Preamp and Silver 70 amplifiers drove the Reference 3A Episode.



As is our custom, we would like to present a few awards – The 2009 HAL Awards at RMAF:

Most exciting new product:

Grandest soundstage heard in any demo room:

Greenest system (least to blame for the blackouts):

Most heirloom-worthy product (in our biased opinion):

Naim DAC, ASL Group, Rm 578

Bel Canto Design, Rm 589

Bel Canto Design, Rm 589

Nottingham AnnaLog, HAL, Rm 570

Also: Congratulations to the winners of our RMAF drawing for tickets to see the **Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado**. Many entry forms were completed and the 5 lucky winners were: Steve Carson (Boulder), Mary Claire Cartford (Denver), Tom Jirak (Lafayette), Josh Renkin (Denver), and Nick Thompson (Castle Rock).

Upcoming Music Events:

Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado
(Season Sponsor, Heirloom Audio, Ltd)

The Art of Fugue
Noel Nouvelet
Winter House Concert
Mozart by Candlelight

November 22
December 18-20
January 17
January 22-24

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Heirloom Audio Product Lines

Aspara Acoustics

Tired of speakers that can't get going without drawing a kilowatt or more out of the wall? Want sensitivity without enormous size or weight? Wish for these things without high frequencies beaming at you like lasers? You must be wishing for **Aspara HL1** horn speakers. This is a natural, musical sounding horn speaker that can actually image! With a whopping 100dB sensitivity, these babies are plenty happy with just a few watts. Only 28 inches tall at the shoulder, 43 inches tall at the top of the head, and a very manageable 114 pounds, they are easy to live with as well. Make an appointment to hear them with our Quicksilver SET Mono amplifiers (8 watts).

Bel Canto Design

New to the Bel Canto line and recently arrived in our showroom is the **VBS1 Virtual Battery Supply**. The **VBS1** is designed to power up to 3 Bel Canto components configured for 12-volt DC supply. The **CD-2** top-loading CD player is configured as such, and the **VBS1** leaves the stock line wart *in the dust!*. That is reason enough to want one, but here are a few more reasons: **DAC3VB**, **Phono3VB** and **Pre3VB**. Soon to arrive in our showroom will be the **DAC3VB** and **Phono3VB**. We are stoked...

Don't let the **VBS1's** small size fool you – this is one *gynormous* power supply in a very sleek (and rather dense) package. Consider these numbers: 500,000 microfarads of total capacitance and over 100 joules of energy storage, with a noise floor that is 10x to 100x lower than traditional linear power supplies. This is achieved in part with the expert application of a low-noise switch mode power supply that has significantly lower audio band noise than transformer-based designs. The end result is over 100dB of isolation. Plenty of wallup, and battery-quiet without the battery!

Cambre'

Cambre' **Core** racks deliver an ideal combination of elegance and practicality, meeting an important need for audiophiles. A variety of finishes are available, including maple, cherry, rosewood, black ash, espresso, and walnut. You also have your choice of either black or silver anodized aluminum hardware that is machined from solid stock. Distribution of this line is undergoing changes in the U.S, and their website is currently under construction. It is our intention to remain a Cambre' dealer, and we hope to report soon that the transition is completed. Please stay tuned...

Copland Digital Room Correction

Do you need new speakers or do you need a new room? Don't rule out the latter, because excellent room correction is utterly simple, elegant, and affordable with the Copland **DRC-205** (\$2995). Again for 2009, the **DRC-205** has been selected for the The Absolute Sound Editor's Choice award for 2009. One demonstration and you will easily hear why it also received The Absolute Sound 2007 Golden Ear Award and 2007 Digital Signal Processing Product of the Year award. Used as a stand-alone unit, there is no learning curve to speak of, and as such many audiophiles will be in the express lane to musical bliss. For those with more technical desire and ability, the option to connect with a laptop and be able to see what the **DRC-205** sees and further customize it will make this an indispensable tool as well.

Furutech

Again for 2009, the Furutech **e-TP609** power distribution block is seen featured in The Absolute Sound Editor's Choice Awards. This should come as no surprise. Milled from a solid block of aluminum, it features 6 star-grounded outlets that are made to be as non-resonant as possible with their proprietary "Axial Locking System". It even stands on adjustable cone feet! With the **e-TP609** nothing gets in the way of power distribution, yielding the greatest dynamic range and sharpest focus possible from your AC line.

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Graham Slee

If you are a vinyl collector, you will appreciate the unique **Revelation** phono stage from Graham Slee (\$1599). Why? Replaying vintage mono LPs (and even some early stereo LPs) can be a discouraging affair, given the lack of a universal standard for equalization that existed pre-RIAA. We've heard some of the world's most expensive turntables sound rancid without proper equalization. That's where this handy phono stage comes in, providing adjustable EQ for the most common equalization curves of the day. It has 42.5 dB gain, and can be paired with their **Elevator EXP** for MC mono cartridges such as the Lyras.

Hannl

Hannl **Aragon** – 2009 The Absolute Sound Editor's Choice Award winner! If you are really into vinyl, you have probably seen other record cleaning machines in action. If so, you'll immediately appreciate the virtues of the Hannl **Aragon** LP cleaning machine. In our view, a cleaning machine should: 1) be a pleasure to use, 2) produce consistently excellent results, 3) do it reasonably fast, and 4) require minimal fuss and maintenance. To those need-to-have features we would add the following nice-to-have features: 5) be reasonably quiet, and 6) be reasonably low in what might be called "flaming nerd factor". The Hannl **Aragon** truly possesses all of these features. We would be very happy to show you its capabilities.

Lyra

The Lyra **Skala** reproduces great beauty with exceptional grace. At \$3555, we know it is a big investment, but this one is tough to beat at any price. Come have a listen to the compelling musicality of this latest generation Lyra. Sumptuous yet revealing reading of the amazing amount of information hidden in the grooves of your record collection is what you'll enjoy with this cutting edge moving coil cartridge design!

Naim

World's first: The **Naim DAC** is the world's first Apple-authenticated high-end DAC, accessing directly the digital data from an iPod or iPhone. There is no shortage of inputs, having both front *and* back panel USB inputs handling up to 24/768, and 4 coaxial S/PDIF inputs handling up to 24/192. Thumb drives inserted in the front USB input can be controlled by the front panel (how cool is that!). Behaving somewhat like a virtual CD player, data is read into a "rotating" data RAM buffer independent of the timing signal, and then read back out with one of ten crystal oscillators. This impressive DAC debuted in the Naim/ASL Group room. Not yet available as of this writing but expected very soon, we have preordered a unit so that we can be among the first to demo its impressive capabilities.

Nordost

Nordost's Norse line was well represented at the Heirloom Audio room at RMAF 2009. Our 2 systems:

System 1

Frey RCA interconnects
Frey speaker cables
Silver Shadow digital coaxial interconnect
Brahma AC cables
Vishnu AC cables
Shiva AC cables
Thor power distributor
Pulsar Points

System 2

Frey RCA interconnects
Frey speaker cables
Shiva AC cables
Thor power distributor
Quasar Points

If you live in our area, please schedule an appointment with Heirloom Audio, Denver's authorized Nordost Norse Series dealer. Experience what the world leader in high performance audio cables can do for music!

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Nottingham

AnnaLog

Our sincere thanks go to ASL Group for offering us the opportunity to showcase the reintroduction of this magnificent turntable at RMAF 2009. Talk about an heirloom piece of kit! Every home should have one of these. If playing vinyl always looked and sounded this good, our nation's youth could not help but appreciate the magic that is vinyl.



There are so many nice touches to the **AnnaLog** turntable. The art deco styling is the finest Nottingham has produced, and caught the attention of many visitors to the HAL room. Of course, both beauty and intelligence are in abundance with this turntable.

The leveling feet are a dream. The platter lifting handles make table setup a snap for 1 person. The heavier-than-it-looks graphite slab that serves as a "mat" is the ideal LP interface, and is also easy to keep dust-free. Beneath it all, the generous supporting base helps drain resonance under the leveling feet. Overall, size and weight were comfortably within the means of our standard Cambre' rack. We also loved the supplied Wave Mechanic power regulator (not visible in photo) as it allows fine adjustment of the speed. All told, the **AnnaLog** is a stunning turntable indeed!

Quantum Resonant Technology

The audiophile community has really taken to Quantum power purification. It makes a startling difference to everyone who hears it. The human voice is the greatest beneficiary of this wonderful but mysterious technology. Singers seem to calm down and sing more beautifully, more like they are happy to be singing. Usually one pays a sonic price for such an improvement, but because this is a field-based technology (*without* instead of *within* the signal path), there is no downside to the purified AC power Quantum provides. We urge you to visit us for a demonstration. Purchase either a **QX2** or **QX4** and receive a free copy of "The Little Book of Quantum" while supplies last.

Quicksilver Audio

We display several models of Quicksilver's tube power amplifiers and preamplifiers, including the **Silver 70**, **Mid Mono** and **SET Mono** monoblock amplifiers and the **Line Stage**, **Remote Control Line Stage**, and **Full Preamp** preamplifiers. Most others are available by special order. Those lucky enough to own Quicksilvers enjoy a natural, musical bliss, economical yet rock-solid build quality, and the comfort of knowing their purchase will last many satisfying years. Considering tubes? Never underestimate the musical communication of a Quicksilver amplifier.

Reference 3A

The newly updated **Episode** speaker was featured in our exhibit room at RMAF 2009. Upgrades include continuous cast copper internal wiring and bi-wire jumpers, mechanically grounded driver frames, a copper shorting ring that improves linearity in the driver voice coil magnetic gap, larger brass adjustable cone feet, and gold plated tellerium copper conductors in the binding posts. An already great speaker line has evolved, and without a price increase as of yet. That is the kind of value we appreciate at Heirloom Audio!

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