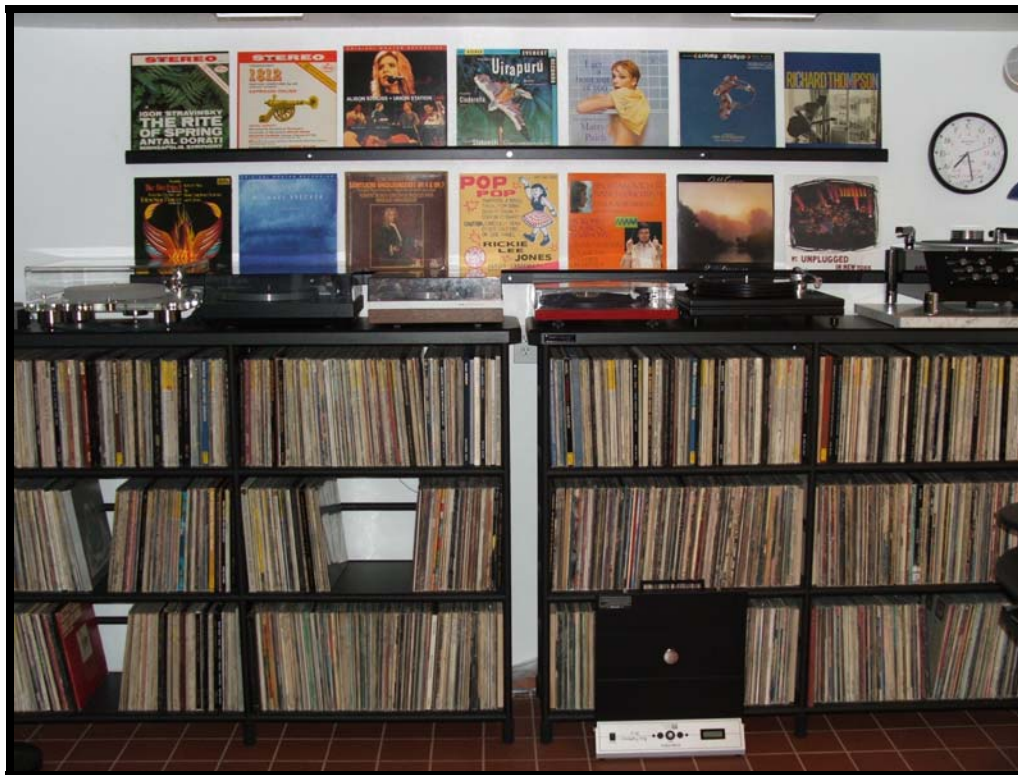


Heirloom Audio Ltd

SUMMER-FALL NEWS

Our *Vinyl Room* Unveiled!



Or, as we like to think of it, the “vinyl spa”, where an LP can really reach its maximum potential. This snapshot gives a partial glimpse of the facilities at hand. In addition to providing expert setup of **Nottingham** turntables (**Interspace Junior** pictured 2nd from right on top of the LP rack) with the best tools and techniques available, we have other essential services at hand, including LP cleaning and flattening. This image shows the exquisitely-built **Hanni Aragon** LP cleaning machine from Germany (top of LP rack, far right) and the **Furutech DF-2** LP Flattener from Japan (standing on the floor in front of the LP rack). Not pictured: **L’Art du Son’s** Record Cleaning Fluid that we favor with the **Aragon**.

The LP collection that stands before you was amassed by David over several decades. There’s not much space left as you can see. While a vinyl collection of even more massive proportions might fill David’s dreams, the means to procure both it and the mansion to house it patiently await the lucky winning PowerBall ticket. Until then, he obviously is not suffering too greatly. Also pictured are some older turntables David has owned over the years.

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Heirloom Audio Hosts Colorado Audio Society Summer Listening Event

Pictured to the left is the music system featured at a CAS event held at Heirloom Audio. The event was organized around an LP flattening procedure using the **Furutech DF-2**. We flattened a 180-gram warped LP for the gathered audiophiles (a 4-hour process start to finish), and listened to this system, talked, and enjoyed delicious fresh grilled chicken sandwiches and other delectables while awaiting the results (we never skimp on the eats at our hosted events!).

This music system enjoys a truly happy marriage between the prodigious, supple power of the **Bel**

Canto REF500M monoblocks and the delicate, musical rendering of the **Reference 3A Dulcets**.

Vinyl playback (**Nottingham Space 294 Heavy/Lyra Skala**) via the **PHONO3VB/VBS1**, and CD playback via the **Bel Canto CD-2/DAC3VB/VBS1** yielded a wide range of phenomenal music, all powered from a **Quantum Qbase QB8** with dedicated clean ground and **Quantum QX4** power purifier, all sources and amplification sited on **Cambre' Core Audio Racks** and connected with a **Nordost** cable loom. The disappearing act achieved by this system is tough to beat at any price, and every component shown here is very affordable in its own right. Everyone enjoyed this remarkable example of audio synergy.

Announcements

Heirloom Audio returns as the season sponsor for the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado 2010-2011 season. Check out their gorgeous new website at www.bccolorado.org for concert dates, programs, and lots more!

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

What is better than the Bel Canto **VBS1 Virtual Battery Supply**? Two of them, of course! We recently added a 2nd **VBS1** unit to our Bel Canto reference system, allowing us to dedicate one unit to the **PHONO3VB** for LP playback and the other unit to powering the CD player/DAC. True, you can power up

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to 3 VB components from a single **VBS1**. That said, we have found that you can drop the background noise level of the **PHONO3VB** *even lower* with a dedicated VBS1 compared to all 3 units powered together.

Is this reduction in background noise level significant? If you play both CDs and LPs and you need the higher gain setting of the **PHONO3VB** for a low output moving coil cartridge, then the answer is "Yes absolutely!" Owners of high output moving magnet cartridges on the other hand may find it harder to justify the additional cost of a 2nd **VBS1** (unless you just *like* a 2-box phono stage with no sharing, and who are we to argue with having good taste?).

Cambre'

If you subscribe to the "foundation" school as we do, you know the vital importance of a properly designed support structure to unlock the performance of your music system. Cambre' **Core** racks deliver an ideal combination of elegance and practicality, meeting this 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. Choose the number of shelves you need and the spacing between (7", 9", 11") to create your ideal system support. We now have an example of each size on the showroom floor so there is no need to guess. If space permits, the 48" doublewide video-style rack is also a nice way to go.

Hailing from Canada, Cambre' is now distributed in the U.S. by Discovery Marketing, our friends who also represent the Nordost line in our area. Every order is custom, so you get exactly what you need, and because its modular, you can add to it later as needed. We urge you to explore the benefits that a great foundation at a great price can do for your music enjoyment.

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**. 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 then further customize it will make this an indispensable tool as well.

Furutech

Our latest venture (adventure!) into the Furutech line is the **DF-2 LP Flattener**. As witnessed at a recent Colorado Audio Society listening event (see story above) this flattening device really works! While not every warped record qualifies to be flattened, most do, and the results are pretty impressive. Instead of taking your prized phono cartridge for a rollercoaster ride, flatten that warped record and put your conscience at ease.

Graham Slee

If you are a vinyl collector, you will appreciate the unique **Revelation** phono stage from Graham Slee. 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.

Hanni

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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 filled with WAV files and inserted in the front USB input can be controlled by the front panel (how cool is that!).

Our **Naim** system embodies the ideal of form and function in the service of music. Many visitors have commented how the system is simple – no fuss, no bother. It is relaxing and involving at the same time, a combination that one comes to appreciate more and more over time. This may describe the feeling you wish you had with your music system. Don't despair over *audiophile nervosa*! Make the investment in a **Naim** system today and you will be celebrating that decision for many years to come.

Nordost

Thanks to Hi-Fi+'s Chris Thomas for an informative and very positive review (issue 73) of Nordost's new **Sort Kones** resonance control devices debuted at the 2010 CES. Here at Heirloom Audio we have heard impressive results with the **BC** (bronze+ceramic) **Sort Kones**. They exhibit an uncanny, potent quality. One might be tempted to think that they add positive energy to music, but in reality they simply drain unwanted negative energy away from the component under which it sits. Once again an audio system's foundation proves to be vitally important to that system's musical communication. Resonance control is coming of age, and **Sort Kones** are leading the way.

The Nordost portfolio is a veritable who's who of high-end cable lines spanning from one extreme to the other. Names like **Blue Heaven**, **Red Dawn**, **Baldur**, **Heimdall** and **Frey** are well known to most audiophiles, as are **Shiva**, **Vishnu** and **Brahma** (to say nothing of **Valhalla** and **Odin!**). No cable company employs a more practical, more effective approach to solving the technology problems of power, interconnect and speaker cables as Nordost. No cable company stays so true to its approach from top to bottom as Nordost. Experience what the world leader in high performance audio cables can do for music!

Nottingham

We recently added the Heavy kit to our 2-arm Space 294 turntable (a.k.a. "Space 588"). This is a classic *cake and icing* upgrade. The additional mass adds a depth and dimension to the heart of the music and a blackness to the background that is well worth the added expense (cake). Besides interfacing perfectly with the LP, the graphite slab is the easiest platter surface we have encountered to keep clean (icing). The extra platter thickness and more shapely profile look right, too. After you see (and hear) the Space 294 with the Heavy Kit installed, you'll want nothing less.

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Quantum Resonant Technology

The wait is over! Quantum **Qbase QB4** and **Qbase QB8** power distribution blocks are finally available. Designed to work in tandem with Quantum **QX4** or **QX2** power purifiers, they separate the connectivity from the purification to enable flexibility in setup. This allows the field based purifiers to be located for optimum effectiveness, while leaving the option of locating the distribution block on or near the floor.

Key to optimal utilization of Quantum **Qbase** capabilities is having a clean, dedicated ground for your system. Each model features a WBT binding post to facilitate this option. While it will work fine without this, you will maximize the potential of your system by employing this feature. (See Chris Thomas' excellent review in issue 73 of Hi-Fi+). Installing a dedicated ground is not a very complex task, but it will require some effort and outlay for supplies. If you live in the Denver area and do not wish to mess with installing this yourself, we can recommend an electrician who has had the experience of doing this for us (and who surpassed our expectations with the work done).

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 **Dulcets**, the "baby" of the Reference 3A line, have found their voice with the best of breed class D amplifiers, the **Bel Canto REF500M** monoblocks. The same crossover-less, direct-coupled mid-bass driver design is in play in the **Dulcets** as with the larger Ref3A models. With somewhat lower sensitivity (86dB) than the rest of the line but an easily-driven nominal impedance of 8 Ohms, you'll want to drive the **Dulcets** with power on the generous side, and with grace and delicacy that will enable you to appreciate their superb musicality, a Reference 3A trademark. The Bel Cantos are the perfect match. If you are looking for a speaker of diminutive proportions, amplifiers that run nice and cool drawing only a few watts, and above all a sonic transparency that will recreate a live acoustic 2nd to none, this combo is your answer. Check it out soon!

Refinements are a natural part of the evolution of a great speaker line like Reference 3A. The entire line benefitted from such refinements in 2009. Several pre-update demo models are still available in our showroom (including the **Dulcets**), and represent a phenomenal value. Take advantage of an excellent opportunity to pick up these very musical speakers at reduced prices. If you are in the area, give us a call to find out what is available.

Don't forget to check the *Great Buys* link found on the *Product Lines* page at www.HeirloomAudioLtd.com for spectacular deals on demos and discontinued items!

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