

# AUDIO UNLIMITED

## News and Announcements

April 2006

### EXOTIC TRANSPORTATION CONCOURS

The Audio Unlimited gentlemen you have come to know as the ultimate audio gurus have another hobby of their own: attaining top speeds on anything with wheels! In honor of this obsession our 20th Anniversary Open House will feature a special Exotic Transportation Concours. Fun toys on display will include a Formula Sports Racer, both Audio Unlimited sponsored race cars, a Segway, and a Lance Armstrong Trek Madone SSLX bicycle.



### AUDIO OPEN HOUSE FEATURES



#### SYSTEM 1

JM Lab Nova Utopia Be  
Mark Levinson No. 436 Mono Amps  
Mark Levinson No. 326S Preamp w/Phono  
Mark Levinson No. 390S CD Player  
Clearaudio Master Reference w/Goldfinger Cartridge  
Tara Labs 0.8 & Omega Cables



#### SYSTEM 2

JM Lab Electra 1027 Be  
Mark Levinson No. 383 Integrated Amp  
Accuphase DP-78 CD Player  
Clearaudio Ambient Turntable  
Tara Labs ISM The 2



#### SYSTEM 3

Avalon NP Evolution-NEW!  
Pathos Classic One Mk 3  
Accuphase DP-57 CD Player  
Tara Labs Vector



#### THEATER

JM Lab Profile Series Speakers  
Arcam AVP700 Pre/Pro  
Arcam P1000 Amp  
Arcam DV-79 DVD Player  
Dwin TV4 Projector-New!



#### SPECIAL GUESTS

**Walter Scofield** - VP of Mark Levinson  
**Ben Goldman** - National Sales Manager of Mark Levinson  
**Mike Levy** - Regional Sales Rep of Mark Levinson  
**John Gritton** - Regional Sales Rep of Arcam and DWIN



You are cordially invited...  
20th Anniversary Celebration  
and Open House

#### Wine & Hors d'Oeuvres Reception

*Formal Mark Levinson Line Launch*

Friday, April 21 from 6-9PM

&

#### Audio Open House

*featuring Special Guests and the  
Exotic Transportation Concours*

Saturday, April 22 from 11-5PM

**TWO DAY  
EVENT**

*Product News and Announcements Inside...*

More information:  
[www.AudioUnlimitedDenver.com](http://www.AudioUnlimitedDenver.com)  
Carl or John 303.691.3407



Sports Racer exhibition provided by Surface Exploration,  
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**NEW**

mark  
levinson

## MARK LEVINSON

[www.marklevinson.com](http://www.marklevinson.com)

Audio Unlimited is excited to announce our partnership with this icon of American high-end audio. Since 1972, Mark Levinson has been designing and building some of the best electronic components in the world. In fact, many of their components defined the industry as we know it now. Over 30 years later, they are still going strong and continue to define the future of high-end with such innovations as the No. 40 Media Console and the No. 51 DVD/CD Player. The No. 51 was debuted at the '06 CES, this \$18,500 statement DVD player redefines the way we think about high-end video. The line is best broken into 4 product categories as follows:

**CD Players:** The No. 390S player is capable of acting as the centerpiece of an all-digital system with its analog volume control system that acts in 0.1dB steps. The \$6700 390S features four-layer Arlon circuit boards offering superior dielectric properties, dual-differential 24-bit DACs operating at 384Khz, a proprietary drive mechanism that is a work of art and a power supply that could power many of today's amps. Additionally, the No. 51 is the statement digital piece in the line and is described in detail below.

**Preamplifiers:** There are 3 levels of fully balanced, programmable preamps available which all feature the Levinson Link for communication with other components in the system and precision machined chassis. The 320S at \$8000 features multiple regulated power supplies for the individual sections and channels, dual-mono design, balanced conversion for single-ended inputs, proprietary discrete volume attenuation modules, advanced noise-suppression and superior isolation of all circuitry. The No. 326S at \$10,000 adds an Arlon circuit board and enhanced performance to the already cutting edge design of the 320S. The No. 32 is the Reference offering at \$16,000, featuring the ultimate in circuit design, an advanced cast chassis designed to fully isolate the analog circuitry from unwanted resonance, a unique dual-chassis construction with the power supply and control circuits in one chassis and all analog boards and connections in the other for superior isolation and shortened signal paths. Additionally, all preamplifiers can be fitted with phono modules for a completely integrated analog solution.

**Amplifiers:** The 400 Series amplifiers feature slim chassis designs with optimized resonance control, convection cooling, massive power supplies that allow the doubling of power into 4ohms, Arlon circuit boards, matched output devices and top quality parts. The series is comprised of the No. 431 200wpc stereo amp (\$7,000), No. 432 400wpc stereo amp (\$8,000), No. 434 125watt mono amp (\$10,000pr), No. 436 350watt mono amp (\$13,500pr) and the No. 433 200wpc triple monaural amp (\$10,000). As a reference offering, the No. 33H features a fully balanced power supply, on board AC regeneration, "double" balanced voltage gain stages, fully balanced output stage and an adaptive biasing system. All of this technology works together to provide 150watts of power with almost inexhaustible amounts of current and unrivaled sonic finesse. Additionally, the No. 383 integrated amp offers a unique no-holds-barred design. The 383 offers the majority of the performance found in the separates at a relatively modest \$7,500.

**Home Cinema:** The No. 40 Media Console is simply the finest media control center ever produced. This benchmark product features a separate chassis for audio and video processing, option bays for configuration to match the precise needs of any system, front panel LCD preview screen, silky smooth on-screen displays, multiple power supplies and the famous Levinson sound. It is not inexpensive at \$30,000 but simply put, it is the best available and worth every last cent. The No. 51 DVD/CD Player (\$18,500) was designed for reference quality playback of DVDs and CDs. It is not a universal player and therefore does not compromise on the playback of DVDs or CDs. The construction is similar to that of the other reference level products in the line and yet again is simply the best product available of its type.

Please visit the Levinson website for more information on these fine products and check out these recent Absolute Sound articles: December/January '04 review of the No. 436 by Anthony Cordesman, "the kind of amp you can buy and forget for years. You can trust it to disappear in your system". January '06 review of the 326S by John Atkinson, "the No. 326S offers all I want from a preamplifier. Recommended.". April/May '06 review of the 326S and 432 by Robert Harley, "The No. 432 is fully competitive with the best amplifiers Mark Levinson has produced." & "The No. 326S preamplifier rendered me slack-jawed."

## ACCUPHASE

[www.accuphase.com](http://www.accuphase.com)

The DP-57, which was recently the subject of a fabulous review and got the cover shot in the December '05 The Absolute Sound, has just received their coveted "Digital Product of the Year" award. This CD player represents quite the deal at \$4,900. As good as the DP-57 is, the DP-78 is even better and what we are happy to call the best single box CD player available today. This \$10,000 CD/SACD player is a replacement for the flagship DP-85 (\$16K) and is an advancement of the DP-77 design.

The T-1000 tuner at \$4,500 is our new reference and the standard for all other tuners to aspire to beat. The T-1000 is a technological tour-de-force featuring a proprietary tuning circuit that combines analog and digital in a way simply never thought of before. This allows for each area of signal processing to be completed in the best possible way. It also allows for a feature so simple that it is brilliant, a digital output. The first reaction was to question why anyone would ever want a digital output on a tuner. The answer was obvious, a great majority of audiophiles own cutting edge DACs or CD players with digital inputs featuring amazing levels of performance just itching to be tapped into, so in this configuration, think of this as an FM transport. But also keep in mind that this tuner is pure magic out of the analog outputs and that no corners have been cut there.

## AVALON

[www.avalonacoustics.com](http://www.avalonacoustics.com)

Avalon could be found in many rooms at the CES with the Isis topping the list of new introductions for '06. The \$58K Isis is a 4-driver design featuring dual woofers and an all-new black diamond tweeter which has been increased in size, the gorgeous cabinet work is 100% Avalon and makes a grand yet elegant statement. The Isis borrows many of the advances used in the flagship Sentinel Diamond making it a technological tour de force. This is an audiophile product that you can be proud to display in your living room with attention to detail not even found in today's finest furniture. If you want one of the best loudspeakers that money can buy, look no further!

The new \$1,995 Evolution NP 2.0 heads up the versatile and affordable Evolution NP range, offering an outstanding value for the money. Dynamics and high efficiency are the principle hallmarks of this series. These loudspeakers are exceptionally efficient thanks to their technically sophisticated design and high-energy proprietary drivers. So whether driven by a surround sound receiver or a high-end amplifier, the NP Series speakers will provide maximal sound pressure levels and explosive dynamics with minimal input wattage.

## BALANCED AUDIO TECHNOLOGY

[www.balanced.com](http://www.balanced.com)

Ranging from \$1,995 to \$23,000, BAT offers the best value in precision crafted tube and solid-state electronics. BAT's long standing run of great press and awards attests to their commitment to excellence. It should be of no surprise that our BAT/Avalon room was one of the favorites at the '05 Rocky Mountain Audio Fest. The BAT room at the '06 CES was a stunner and featured the introduction of the VK-42SE balanced preamp. The VK-42SE is a solid-state unit with a design derived from that of the flagship VK-51SE. This preamp retails for \$6,495 including the remote option and features Vishay resistors, oil-filled capacitors, SUPER-PAK and a fully balanced MOSFET gain stage just to name few.

Check out the April/May '05 issue of TAS and the November '05 issue of Stereophile for excellent reviews of the fabulous VK-55 (\$3,995) and VK-3iX (\$2,495). This affordable BAT pair offers something very special for the money. Wayne Garcia also chimes in on the VK-55, which has been one of our favorite smaller tube amps since its debut last year. Never content to leave a good thing alone, the innovators at BAT have improved the performance of their remarkable VK-P10SE (\$6500) phono stage with Lundahl step-up transformers. Having one of these awesome units with the \$2000 Super Pak upgrade, we can tell you that it lives up to its reputation as one of the best phono stages short of Boulder's \$31,000 2008. See the review in the January '05 issue of Stereophile.

## BOULDER

[www.boulderamp.com](http://www.boulderamp.com)

For Boulder, the CES saw the official introduction of the 850 mono amps for which we hosted the world premier three months earlier at the Rocky Mountain Audio Fest. At the Audio Fest, the 850's paired with the 1012 DAC/Preamp, JM Labs Diva Utopias, Tara Air 1 cables and an Accuphase DP-57 was awe inspiring for the money and a truly fabulous package. The 810 preamp was also officially announced at the CES and will begin shipping in April.

The 850 Monos borrow much of the circuit topology of their big brothers at a cost of only \$5000 per chassis, amazing when you consider that the next mono up is \$18,500! They feature the classic Boulder design and pack serious punch with 200 watts per chassis and the current to drive tough loads. Cosmetics and build quality are 100% Boulder, meaning no corners will be cut. They feature a unique compact footprint but unlike the majority of today's "affordable" offerings, are analogue designs, not cheap switching amplifiers.

The 810 Linestage is a scaled down version of the acclaimed 1010 (\$12,000) and features a similar circuit topology in a dual mono configuration. This gem will feature 4 line level inputs, full-function remote control, and state-of-the-art construction. The price will be around \$8000 and the performance will be tough to match for twice that price.

Of course, the 2000 Series electronics are still the best at any price and a perfect match for any loudspeaker. If you are looking for the best attainable performance, the 2000 Series is your answer. For something a bit more economical but still leaving most everything else in the dust, the 1000 Series is the way to go. And for giant killing performance coupled with truly affordable price points, the 800 Series is beyond compare. Look for a new 800 Series offering once every 3-4 months and remember, there is nothing built like a Boulder!

**CLEARAUDIO**

*www.clearaudio.de*

Lots of great new products have debuted from Clearaudio this year. The flagship Statement table featuring a fluid damped gyroscopic level system, magnet isolated drive system, computer-controlled motor that samples 7000 times per minute and an arm that is simply off the charts. This masterpiece of German engineering is the ultimate in analog reproduction and worth every cent of the lofty \$100K that it commands. Another statement product is the new \$8,000 Goldfinger cartridge, the holder of multiple patents, that is capable of an unheard of 100db dynamic range (that is digital territory!) and has an effortless, sweet sound to it. The ultimate record cleaner award goes to the Double Matrix at \$3,750. This amazing machine is fully automated and cleans both sides of the record at the same time! No muss and no fuss, just a perfectly clean record. On the more affordable end of the range is the \$2,000 Champion Unlimited turntable features a special direct wire version of the Satisfy tonearm with adjustable VTA. Also released is a Champion Magnum, this table features a 70mm platter with double plinths sandwiching a piece of aluminum and a special carbon fiber Satisfy tonearm. This table is just under \$4,000 with the arm and offers serious bang for the buck. The revolutionary Ambient table, which combines the multi-layer wood plinth with aluminum skins first used in the Anniversary table, features a 40mm bearing, outboard motor with integrated Smart speed controller that features a digital readout, and the Satisfy carbon fiber arm. This table sounds every bit as good as it looks and represents a real bargain at \$4,500.

**JM LAB/FOCAL**

*www.focal.tm.fr*

Three new offerings present at the CES were the SW 1000 Be subwoofer (\$3,995), the CC 1000 Be center (\$2,695) and the SR 1000 Be surround speaker (\$4,795). These are the latest offerings in the new Electra 1000 Be line, sitting just below the Utopia Be range. The design starts with a gorgeous double-radius enclosure that completely eliminates the formation of standing waves, to which a very unique port design is added. Additionally, a special version of the Beryllium tweeter, "W" cone drivers, advanced OPC crossovers and several other advancements are added. The line includes the 1027 Be, a \$7,500 floorstander with excellent bass extension and the 1007 Be monitor at \$4,000. Check out Sam's Space in the Nov '05 Stereophile for a great review of the 1027. While not quite to the level of the Utopia Be, these are the next best thing! With Chorus S models starting at only \$395, the state-of-the-art Grande Utopia Be at \$85K and such innovations as the iCub, there is a JM Lab model for every system and budget.

**KUZMA**

*www.kuzma.si*

Founded in 1982 by mechanical engineer Franc Kuzma, KUZMA Ltd is committed to a no compromise design philosophy and the finest in analog sound reproduction. Easy to set up and use, the Stabi S, Stabi Reference, Stabi XL and Stogi series of tonearms range from a very affordable \$1,750 to \$19,500. The Stabi Reference table fitted with the Stogi Airline tangential arm enjoys a Stereophile Class A rating.

**PATHOS**

*www.pathosacoustics.com*

Based on the 35wpc TT Integrated, the recipient of a Stereophile "A" rating and the subject of many rave reviews the world over. The \$6700 TT Anniversary is now available, the Anniversary features the addition of a balanced input, special volume control circuit and a full function remote control. This already awesome package has been taken to the next level and don't let the low power output fool you, this amp will drive all but the most inefficient of speakers. The new ClassicOne Mk 3 integrated amp replaces the Mk II and features a new input and output stage, WBT style binding posts and a new transformer case. This amp is a bargain at \$2,750 and is available now. The ClassicOne integrated amp delivers the legendary Pathos INPOL sound in an affordable package. Don't be fooled by the compact size and affordable price, this amp is a great match for speakers costing as much as \$7.5K or more! On the other end of the price/performance spectrum is the INPOL2 reference integrated amplifier that could easily be called the World's best integrated without stretching the truth. This amp was the proud recipient of the 2005 CES Design and Engineering Award and features an advanced

progression of the unique INPOL circuit outputting 50wpc. It is not inexpensive at \$9,900 but when you consider that it takes on \$20K separates with ease, it is certainly a deal. Hot off the press is the Endorphin CD player. This top-loader features a Pathos elaborated drive mechanism, dual differential 24bit DACs sampling at 192Khz, 120db dynamic range and a unique balanced tube output stage. The Endorphin will begin delivery this Spring at a price of \$7,950 and is 100% Pathos in both the sound and build quality. This means that it looks gorgeous and sounds as good as it looks!

**RUNNING SPRINGS AUDIO**

*www.runningsspringsaudio.com*

Running Springs conditioners could be found all over the CES and almost all of them were owned by the exhibitors and not on loan! These are the finest conditioners that we have found with absolutely no current limiting, even when used on 2000 Series Boulder.

New from Running Springs are the Jaco at \$2,199 and the Danielle 2 at \$2,799. The Jaco is an 8 outlet, 20 amp device capable of running an entire system or just your source components in conjunction with a Duke (\$1,499) for your amp. The Danielle 2 is a progression of the original Danielle incorporating advances discovered while designing the Jaco. The Danielle 2 is a 12 outlet, 20 amp device also capable of running everything from an entire system down to just your source components.

With models starting at only \$1,199, there is a state-of-the-art Running Springs conditioner ready to work its magic on almost any system. So what are you waiting for, "power up"!

**SPENDOR**

*www.spendoraudio.com*

For over 30 years, Spendor has developed a succession of distinctive and innovative loudspeakers with a reputation for a natural uncolored sound, engineering excellence and outstanding technical performance. The new S series of loudspeakers from Spendor adding to the history of the 'Spendor Magic'. With the new S3c at only \$1,499, the S5c at \$1,999, the S6c at \$2,499, the S8c at \$3,199, and the S9c at \$4,999, there is a Spendor for almost every budget. Reviews and awards continue to come in from all over the globe, here are just a few:

The S5c in Stereophile: "each note had generous color, and was given a decent space to bloom and die away. And the extreme dynamic shadings Tony uses throughout "I Am a Pilgrim" were if anything put across better by the \$1,999 Spendors than by my \$9,000 Quads."

The S5c in Hi-Fi News: "A new Spendor that offers all the naturalness of old, but with a crispness and bass to turn heads"

The S6c in Hi-Fi News: "There is also a something else about it, a quality that is so rarely found in loudspeaker systems: a sense of natural presence,"

The S8c in Hi-Fi News: "It's big and it's a Spendor, but the all new S8c offers the brand's near legendary qualities-and then some"

The S8c in Hi Fi Choice "The voices in the female backing choir were clear and beautifully separated, but nicely rounded."

Stereophile: "Budget Component of the Year"

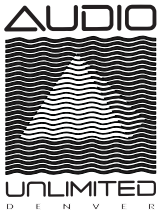
**TARA LABS**

*www.taralabs.com*

Here are some of the reasons why Tara has been "the cable technology leader" for well over a Decade:

Tara regulates all the process of its copper from ore to the final product, a rare degree of control. Tara RSC cables are made entirely in the USA, even the copper is mined in the USA. All Tara cables exceed the ASTM standard for mono-crystal copper. *Research:* The CCZT (Constant Current Impedance Test) testing method remains the only testing methodology in the audio cable industry for the measuring and comparing of different conductors and cables. *Design:* Tara is able to design cables to their level of performance because they know what makes a real difference utilizing CCZT. *Innovation:* Their ideas, concepts and products, such as the Air Tube (TM), Vacuum Dielectric cables and the new RSC Vector Series have been quantum leaps in thinking about cable design. *Technology:* The execution of these innovations is made possible through the use of highly complex and technically advanced construction processes. Without Tara's state-of-the-art production facility and accomplished engineering team, none of this would be possible.

With high-end cables ranging from the \$150 Vector 2 through the state-of-the-art Zero at \$12,800, there is a Tara cable for every system. Look for a review of the amazing Zero interconnect which features a vacuum dielectric and the companion Omega speaker cable in the December '05 issue of The Absolute Sound. Jonathan Valin writes "...the TARA Labs [Zero and Omega] recover(s) the echo of...voices from way back at the rear of the stage...far better than the Nordost. Better in fact than anything else I've yet heard". At \$12,800 and \$9,995, they are not inexpensive yet a true value when compared to the other flagship cable products out there that are significantly more expensive, yet lacking the technology and mesmerizing performance of these cables.



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RETAILERS OF WORLD CLASS AUDIO AND VIDEO EQUIPMENT

# AUDIO UNLIMITED

Celebrating our 20th Anniversary

**Thank You.**



jm labs



mark levinson



tara labs



accuphase



mark levinson

## Audio Unlimited Authorized Line List

Accuphase, Acoustic Energy, Aesthetix, Air Tight, Arcam, ASC, Avalon Acoustics, Balanced Audio Technology, Basis, Benz Micro, Boulder Amplifiers, Cambridge Audio, Chang Lightspeed, Clearaudio, Dream Vision, Dwin, Dynavector, EAR, Echo Busters, Electrocompaniet, Esoteric Audio, Finite Elemente Racks, Grado Labs, Graham, JM Lab Utopia & Electra & Profile, Koetsu, Kuzma, Magnum Dynalab, Mark Levinson, Matrix Audio, Muse Electronics, Nagra, Pathos Acoustics, PS Audio, Richard Gray's Power Company, Running Springs Audio, Shelter, Spendor, Tannoy, Tara Labs, Totem Acoustic, Transrotor, Vincent, YBA, Zoethecus **and more!**