

# SOUND REINFORCEMENT



**An anthology  
of articles on  
Sound Reinforcement  
from the pages of the  
Journal of the  
Audio Engineering  
Society  
Vol.1--Vol.26  
(1953-1978)**

# **preface**

The task of assembling the “best” papers on the art and science of sound reinforcement from the pages of the *Journal of the Audio Engineering Society* is a formidable one, and no two practitioners would probably agree as to which are best or most useful. In preparing this collection, I have attempted to consider the worth of the individual papers in two ways: first, their value to the practical sound system designer and installer; second, their value in supplying historical perspective on the growth and development of the sound reinforcement field. It is hoped that the full range of articles reprinted will prove useful to readers as a compendium for sound reinforcement.

In delving into the AES *Journal* files, I could only be pleased with the wealth of information and ideas turned up in the search. Our *Journal*, however, does not have a monopoly on good papers; much can be learned about the sound reinforcement field from other professional publications, including *The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*, the *Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers Journal* and the *IEEE Transactions on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing*. Many excellent texts can also be found in foreign and commercial publications. In addition, I have referenced some of the other available literature which I have found useful. You will find it listed under *Related Reading* at the end of this reprint collection.

Our field is making rapid strides these days, both in the area of “smart” electronics that can make operation and adjustment of sound reinforcement easier, and in the area of transducers, which are improving with regard to frequency and uniformity of directional characteristics. I would predict that before ten years have passed, we will probably add a second volume to this collection.

Although I, as a guest editor, take full responsibility for the inclusion and exclusion of specific papers, I have been greatly assisted by Peter Tappan and Don Davis. Without their advice, their suggestions and comments this collection would have been both less complete and less useful. Readers will notice variations in the appearance of the papers as to layout and handling of type, especially those papers published before 1967. It is, however, in keeping with the historical nature of the volume that papers be reproduced as they originally appeared.

Thanks are due especially to all of the authors whose papers are reprinted here, for sharing their insights and experience with the rest of us. It is their collective accomplishments and contributions to the field of sound reinforcement which make this collection possible.

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