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**Audio Engineering Society
Chicago Section**

AES 2003-2004

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Tuesday, October 12, 2004, 7:00 PM

**"How-to" Surround Workshop with Engineer
and Author Mike Sokol**

The next meeting of the Chicago section of the Audio Engineering Society will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2004, 7:00 PM. Members and non-members are welcome. The Audio Arts & Acoustics Department of Columbia College, Chicago, will host the meeting in their Live Sound Lab.

Presentation topics will include:

- Discussion of creative multi-channel mixing methods.
- Multi-channel CODECs and encoding techniques.
- Broadcasting in surround.
- Bass management techniques.
- Mastering for surround - hardware and software issues.
- CD-R and DVD-R burning.
- Surround playback from CD-R, DVD, PowerPoint and hard drives.
- Live sound multi-channel techniques for theater SFX and corporate presentations.
- Advanced and proprietary surround microphone techniques.

This presentation is an invitation to the AES Chicago Section from S. Benjamin Kanters - Director, Audio Technology Center of Columbia College. It is presented by the Audio Arts & Acoustics Department of Columbia College Chicago with support from DTS, SRS Labs, Tannoy, Steinberg/Nuendo, & Immersive Media Research.

Meeting Location:

Columbia College "Live Sound Lab", Lower Level
33 East Congress Parkway
Chicago, Illinois

Transportation and Parking:

The nearest CTA train stops are Harrison on the Red line and Library on the Brown, Orange, and Purple lines.
The closest parking garages on South Wabash Ave between Congress and Harrison. There are many parking garages within walking distance of the meeting location.

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Send requests to Jeff Segota at Segota_Jeff@shure.com

About Mr. Sokol:

Mike Sokol's career spans 25 years in performance, recording and sound reinforcement. He is the house sound engineer for Prospect Coffee House Acoustic Concert Series, Kepler Auditorium Hagerstown Junior College in Hagerstown, Maryland. Sokol has published many articles on sound system basics, recording, editing techniques and other topics in professional journals such as Computer Video, Electronic Musician, EQ, Radio World and TV Technology.

Last Month's Meeting:

On September 28th, the Chicago Section visited Pressure Point Recording Studios, located along Record Row in Chicago. Pressure Point is a recently renovated music recording facility, and the purpose of the meeting was to learn about the design considerations with respect to sound isolation and room acoustics. About 50 people attended the meeting, which was held jointly with the Engineering and Recording Society of Chicago.

Section Chair Gary Kahn kicked off the meeting by introducing studio manager and host Chris Schneider. Mr. Schneider gave a brief explanation the goals for the renovation, which were musical room acoustics, high sound and vibration isolation between rooms, and an esthetically pleasing space.

Kirkegaard Associates provided acoustical consulting, and design team representative Scott Pfeiffer spoke next. The team took great care in isolation detailing, taking into account the building's limited floor-to-floor height. A secondary window within the live room provides the primary acoustic isolation from the street noise of Michigan Avenue, keeping the historic façade unaltered. The team designed the shape and finish of the control room to accommodate 5.1 as well as stereo recording and mixing, and bass traps were designed after taking room-mode measurements both mid- and post-construction to optimize their effectiveness in providing an even response.



As Mr. Pfeiffer explained, the live room features an adjustable wall of hinged panels, allowing the user to choose a surface that is reflective, absorptive, diffusive, or a combination of the three. Curtains can also be deployed over a rough stone mosaic wall to provide either diffuse reflection or absorption. The result of these variable elements is a space that has a wide range of acoustic conditions with ease of adjustment.

Four large wireways link all rooms to the equipment and control room console. Special attenuation detailing was incorporated at wall penetrations, and wire runs at the floor were coordinated within the isolation floor system to prevent sound leaks between the various rooms.



Following the presentation, attendees were treated to a tour of the new space. The tour started at the drum room and isolation booth, located at one end of the long, narrow facility. The tour then proceeded into the live room, where the adjustable wall was seen first-hand. Next came the control room, where samples of both stereo and surround recordings were reproduced for the guests. The tour ended in a multi-purpose room on the other side of the control room.

Upcoming Meetings

November, date TBD: John Eargle, Microphones and Mic Arrays for Surround Sound (spatial) Recording

December, date TBD: Bob Schulein presentation on Binaural Stereo Recording

Thanks

The Chicago AES would like to thank Rent Com for supplying audiovisual equipment for so many of our meetings. www.rentcom.com



Email and Printed Mailing Lists

The Chicago Chapter distributes most of its meeting notices by email. By distributing these meeting notices via email, we can save our section the cost of mailing out the notices. By adding your name to the email list you will receive notice of meetings sooner, and will receive any last minute meeting changes, that are not feasible by regular mail. If you would like to be added to the email or postal mail list, or have any change in address please contact Jeff Segota by the phone or email listed in the header.

Information about past and future meetings can always be found at the AES Chicago Section website at: www.aes.org/sections/chicago

AES Chicago Section

October Meeting Summary

What: "How-to" Surround Workshop with Engineer and Author Mike Sokol

When: Tuesday, October 12, 2004, 7:00 PM

Where: Columbia College "Live Sound Lab", Lower Level
33 East Congress Parkway
Chicago, Illinois



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