

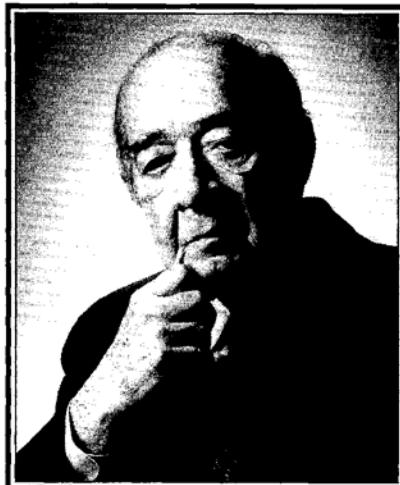
In Memoriam

Saul B. Marantz, a life charter fellow of the AES, died January 16 in Somerset Medical Center, Somerville, New Jersey. He was 85 years old.

From his youth, Marantz was fascinated by electronics. While he was growing up in Brooklyn, NY, his love for music prompted him to build audio components.

In the 1950s and 60s Marantz became known for the elegance and simplicity of his audio product design. Working with Sidney Smith and Richard Sequerra, audio engineers, Marantz created a series of vacuum-tube components that became the standard for the hi-fi industry. Several of these products remain classics even today.

In the early 1960s transistor technology resulted in another model product from Marantz and his colleagues, the Model 18 receiver. This was a high-quality example of what a receiver could be, combining the pre-amplifier, power amplifier and tuner in one box. Young audio designers held the Marantz name in such high regard that they would bring their completed designs to him for an opinion. His reputation for excellence, simplicity and economy lasted for



Saul B. Marantz
1911-1997

many years and resulted in finished products that rarely needed changes.

After World War II Marantz settled in Queens, NY. His efforts to refine sound reproduction in his living room led him to build a high quality preamplifier called the "Consolette." Word of this new device spread, pushing Marantz into a new business venture. Smith was struck by Marantz's sense of the potential of sound reproduction and formed a partnership with him. Both men were perfectionists, but the famous Model 10B tuner overextended the company's resources.

Since 1964 when the company was sold to Superscope Inc, it has had several owners. Now owned by Philips Electronics N.V., the company last year reintroduced likenesses of the original products under the name of Marantz Classics. After the sale to Superscope, Marantz remained as president until 1968 when he retired for a brief time. In 1972 he cofounded the Dahlquist Company, a high quality loudspeaker company, serving as president until 1978 when he again retired. Just last year he helped establish the New Lineage Corporation and Eye Q loudspeakers.

To his many friends and colleagues Saul Marantz was a special person. They continue to speak of his humility, his openness and respect for the ideas, work and opinions of others. "He always gave credit to individuals for their design contributions," said a colleague. He had a holistic approach to design: the product must improve performance, be easy to use, and fit into the home. It also must look like it will sound good. The products he created in the 60s were affordable, yet the finest in their class.

In addition to the AES, Marantz was also a member of several other professional organizations.