

Past Program Notes – The Audio Company, Marietta Saturday, February 6, 2016

Please note that there were no Program Notes from the January meeting. I did not feel it appropriate to comment on a meeting in which I was so personally involved!

That said, the February meeting was another exceptional meeting. The new Audio Company store has many of the finest high-end brands that we have missed for several years since the downhill slide of this industry in Atlanta. The good news is there are now more choices in Atlanta and you can make an appointment to hear some of the brands that have been missing! I won't attempt to describe the equipment that we listened to but IMHO the big room was pretty great! The big Focal Grand Utopias driven by the VAC Statement 450S amp was about as relaxed and dynamic as it gets. Nothing thrown at them caused them to be even slightly stressed. They just made music! Lots of other beautiful equipment to see and hear were exhibited. Check out their website for the brands and make an appointment to see them!

The really special feature of this meeting was provided by Kevin Hayes, both President and Chief Engineer of the Valve Amplification Company (VAC). By his presentation, Kevin showed himself to be both a consummate engineer of vacuum tube gear but also a true music lover. It was obvious to us from the way he talks about both his creations and the music to which he chooses to listen that he doesn't tolerate crap in either! In addition, he is one of those presenters, who generates so much enthusiasm for what he is discussing that we forgot that time was passing! We kept questioning him until he asked if we wanted to hear some music. How often does that happen!!

Truly a fun time was had by all... and by the way, it was also one of our best attended meetings of all time!

See the Meeting minutes for more details.