

On Sunday, September 16, 2012, the monthly meeting of the Audio-Video Club of Atlanta was held at the Virtual Properties Realty Training Room in Duluth, Georgia. This meeting featured a demonstration of products produced by our speaker, Benny Amina from Modular Electronics. There were over 30 members and guests present at the meeting, including one new member.

Our president, John Morrison was first up with some announcements. John discussed future meetings and the "end of year" membership special for new members – join now and get the rest of this year plus all of 2013 in your membership. Also the upcoming Christmas party for members will be on December 16, and this secretary volunteered his home for the occasion. John handed over the meeting to Dennis as he was not feeling well. Dennis described the Emofest (at Emotiva in Franklin, Tennessee) trip that some members went on, and an upcoming PC Audio working committee meeting.

Dennis then introduced our speaker for the day, Benny Amina. Benny runs a repair shop in Roswell and also designs and builds equipment under the name Modular Electronics, Inc. His line of high end audio equipment includes tubed pre-amps with phono pre-amps as well as a tubed line stage pre-amp, tube and solid state amplifiers, several lines of speakers including surround sound speakers, and his own line of interconnects.

Benny is from Iran and has been in the repair business since 1992. As televisions became modular and too expensive to repair (it is easier to replace them), he concentrates now on audio gear repairs and working on his own lines of equipment. His shop in Roswell has a listening room for folks to audition his designs.

Benny was here to demonstrate some of his equipment using three separate systems comprised of his equipment. He brought two speaker systems for listening, a 92 DB sensitive 3-way system using Danish and Chinese drivers (retails for \$2500), and a 94 DB sensitive 2-way system using Danish drivers (\$1200). He also brought a new tubed preamp with MM (no MC) phono stage, with the power supply in a separate enclosure, a newly designed tube power amp with 20 watts per channel in stereo mode or 30 watts in mono, which retails for about \$1500, and a solid state 100 watt per channel stereo amp, which we did not demo at this meeting.

The first system we listened to was made up of the 3-way speaker, two mono amps, the preamp, and using as source a Pioneer linear tracking turntable made in the 1970's, the PL-L1000. This and an Oppo CD/DVD player served as our source for the three listening sessions. After many selections on vinyl were listened to, we went on to the second system.

The second system we listened to was made up of the 3-way speaker, a modified (by Benny) MFA 6550 tube stereo amplifier, the preamp, and the Oppo CD/DVD player. After more listening, we listened to the third system. This was made up of his 2-way speaker, his two mono amps, the preamp, and the Oppo CD/DVD player as our source for this listening session.

The club thanks our presenter for a great afternoon of learning and listening, and to Virtual Properties for once again letting us use their training room. It was very interesting for us to see and hear some great equipment made right here in Atlanta!

Thomas Horner
Secretary, A-V Club of Atlanta