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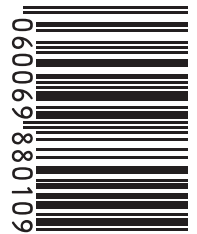


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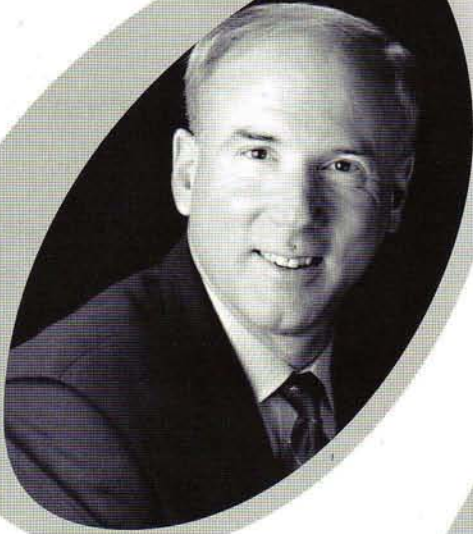
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David **Wilson**
 Founder of
 Wilson Audio



What projects have you been working on recently?

Wilson's projects take two parallel paths: research and development. Development includes the design of upcoming new products and upgrades. Research asks more fundamental questions. We are currently conducting research on enclosure materials, electromagnetic fields, driver technology, and even very small details, such as solder metallurgy.

In your opinion, what has been the biggest innovation in high-end speaker development in the past few years?

The area of data analysis. The arrival of affordable but sophisticated loudspeaker-design software and hardware has benefited all types of loudspeaker manufacturers. The data yield from our current testing equipment and software is far more profuse and complete than what was achievable even a short time ago. At Wilson Audio, this process will never replace the sensitivity and sensibility of the human ear, but when used judiciously and intelligently, the new data analysis technology enables the designer to answer engineering questions with a much higher degree of efficiency and reliability.

Which products out there have truly shaped the way the high end is today?

The advent of music servers, such as the Q-Sonix or the Sooloos, has

fundamentally changed the way we consume, store, and play back music. Just like CD, it has taken the ingenuity and creative thinking of great high-end audio companies to advance the sonic viability of music servers, but it is happening. This technology may well be the bridge that spans the gap between the iPod generation and the current high-end audio community.

Your listening room is on fire; which single component do you rescue and why?

My irreplaceable LPs and master recordings. Much of this music, especially the rare LPs, would be difficult or impossible to replace. There are very few pieces of audio equipment about which I feel truly sentimental, but music is what drives me to make great loudspeakers in the first place.

Outside of your own brand/s, which high end brands/products do you really admire?

As I have owned ARC gear continuously since 1973, Audio Research immediately springs to mind. Transparent Audio's cables – for their time-coherency, reliability and music neutrality – and Basis' turntables and tonearms also make the list. And when it comes to cartridges, I have to namecheck Koetsu – for its musically accessible and liquidly lush phono cartridges – and Lyra – for the brand's transient fidelity and exemplary dynamic shading.

Which electronics brands/products do you feel work best with Wilson speakers?

We have invested heavily in designing loudspeakers that work with a wide range of electronics, rooms, and with a variety of music. Important design features include wide bandwidth, dynamic resolution, and sensitivity. These qualities enable Wilson loudspeakers to be driven with a very wide range of tube and solid-state electronics.

What can you tell us about the best hi-fi system you've ever heard?

Unsurprisingly, most of the music playback systems I listen to feature Wilson Audio loudspeakers. This doesn't mean that I don't think there are other great loudspeakers out there, but I'm in the business of designing and building Wilson Audio loudspeakers. My reference system, which resides in a purpose-built room in my home, has benefited from many years of fine tuning and research – and is continuously compared with my absolute reference, live, unamplified music. The Music Room in my home is not only a place in which I listen for recreation and relaxation, but also a tool used to further my art – designing loudspeakers. All of my creations spend time here at the end of their design cycle. This is where final crossover tuning for all Wilson products is completed. #