



# AUDIO SHOW EAST

Trinity Park Ipswich  
April 28+29 2023

let us be your guide

signals  
hi-fi for grown-ups

30  
1993 - 2023

**W**elcome to Audio Show East. Thank you for coming along. It's ten years since we celebrated Signals hi-fi's 20th birthday with our first mini hi-fi show here at Trinity Park.

Our last Trinity Park Show was in 2018 and a combination of trying new, smaller, events at our St Cecilia's House HQ and the restrictions brought by Covid led to a sizeable break.

Our business has grown considerably in recent years and now, even more than ever, this event can show only a snapshot of what we have available. Far more products are held in Trimley so, if something catches your interest, please do get in touch.

There is a plan of the site on the outside back page. As you can see, we are using two buildings, the main one, where you will have entered, and the Suffolk Rooms on the other side of the courtyard.

## Prizes / gifts / incentives . . .

Starting with the premise that no-one actually wants to come to these things, we have a history of offering some rather good prizes in a free draw for those who do make the trip. Manufacturers often 'chip in' with products that we can give away.

With this year celebrating thirty years of Signals hifi, we felt old and ugly enough to raid our own stock cupboard and do this ourselves but we've been touched by some suppliers offering items without us even asking. If you registered in advance and check-in at reception, you will automatically be entered into our free draw for a prize.



First is the Naim mu-so QB 2 worth £799

Next, a Chord Mojo 2 DAC / headphone amp worth £499 - it's smaller than it looks here!



The rather wonderful Meze Classic 99s pictured left and worth £279 come next in the line-up.

Final prize, for the main draw, there is a QED Reference Ethernet cable (2m) worth £159



But there's more! Indeed, the best has yet to come.

Go into the Dynaudio room, click on the QR code and you could **win a pair of their stunning Evoke 10 loudspeakers, worth £1300**, in the finish of your choice.

You can even upgrade to something better from their ranges for the difference in the price.



## Loud and Soft

Because the movable walls between rooms in the main building are a little too communicative, we have established a rule of adjoining rooms having alternating loudness levels.

Effectively, this means demonstration periods interspersed with quieter times when people can talk or, in the case of the Chord Electronics and Naim Room, play headphones.

The schedule will be posted on the doors.

## signals

In case you are finding us via this show, Signals is a small, independent, audio dealership with a fairly wide reach.

We are based in a re-purposed 1993 built former Catholic church in Trimley St Mary on the outskirts of Felixstowe.

We have a number of demonstration rooms and masses of demo (and new) stock. Bookings are appreciated, so that we can get ourselves organised and relevant equipment set up.

For Audio Show East we get our suppliers to set up systems in the various rooms that Trinity Park offers. All are large, so can skew results somewhat from what 'normal' rooms would allow.

At St Cecilia's House (our HQ), the rooms are set up more like normal domestic ones, although our central area is 7m tall and useful for people living in barn conversions.

Our team of Andy Heavens, Mick Dann, Kevin Fulcher and Alastair Gardner (me) will be on site with name badges in place. Feel free to chat to us.

## Big Nose / Big Head



Explosive new Hi Fi industry Double Act Kevin Fulcher (DittonWorks on Youtube) and Russell Kauffman, the nose behind Russell K, invite you to join them in an open discussion on speaker design. It is intended to be very informal, just like a group of friends chatting in the pub. Except in this case it's bring a coffee and join the conversation.

Russell will be talking about some of the decisions designers have to make developing loudspeaker systems, notably how he chooses woofers and tweeters whilst demonstrating how 'raw' drive units with no crossover or cabinet can differ in perceived sound quality.

He will also demonstrate a comparison of a speaker cabinet with and then without damping

This will be the centre section of the Suffolk Rooms over the courtyard from main building. Please check at the main desk for times and availability or book via this QR link:





Representing Audioquest, Toby Allen is your guide.

Let's address the proverbial Elephant in the room, and get straight to the point, all cables are bad...there aren't any cables from any manufacturer any-where in the world that can make a system better. Impossible. There you go, we said it.

However, the actual challenge is to make cables that do as little sonic damage to our systems music replay as possible; it doesn't take anything medical, or military grade, or the inclusion of rare earth metals to make a cable that honours the signal it needs to carry.

If you commit to understanding the context of what the cable needs to do, be that a speaker cable, power cable or interconnect cable, you can design and build products that do a better job of connecting from point a to point b with minimal loss and disruption.

But you shouldn't take our, or anyone else's word for it, you should take a listen and judge for yourself.



We'll have a system set-up featuring a brand-new model from GoldenEar, prior to its world-wide launch at the Munich High End Audio Show in May. Accuphase and Linn electronics that'll be perfect to check out. AudioQuest, power, speaker and interconnects for yourself.



One of several brands celebrating 50 years this year are Rega.

Rob Noble from Rega is on hand to take you through the range.

Rega has become an increasingly significant brand for us at signals. Based in Southend and manufacturing in the UK from their two factory sites, they have grown dramatically in the past few years.

Originally recognised for their roots in more budget hifi, they are increasingly making some extremely serious products. The primary system that will be played comes into the sensible mid to high end category.

Their Aura Phono preamp costs £4400 but has embarrassed several far more expensive alternatives.

The Planar 10 turntable with Aphelion cartridge may seem pricey at £6840 but, again, it's terrific value when put in context. The Aethos amplifier is a similar story and Rob's decision to use Dynaudio Evoke 50 loudspeakers was driven by the same desire to give maximum possible 'bang for buck'.



Lateral audio stands will be used in the Rega and Accuphase rooms. Lateral's owner and designer, Kevin Hancock, will be on hand to answer questions.

His new Arena audio interfaces will be there too. Kevin will have a stand in the marketplace; area in the centre of the Trinity Rooms section of the site.



First room on the right as you enter the main building and you'll find Chris Fayers and Clive Smith from 'Musicworks' with an array of their Accuphase integrated amplifiers.

Their room system source will be the very fine Accuphase DP750 SA/CD player and the full range of the 'Accuphase' integrated amplifiers will be on hand.

The Musicworks' team have decided to focus on their integrated amplifiers at this year's show. Should you be tempted by the Pre & Power route, we can always play these at St Cecilia's House at a later date.

The other complimentary parts of their room system: Dynaudio' Confidence 20 Loudspeakers, signal cables from 'Audiomica', equipment racks from 'Lateral' and for the 240v side of things, a 'Musicworks' G4 Mains Distribution block along with an excellent alternative choice of power cables, and very much a favourite at 'Signals Hi-Fi', the 'Naim' Powerline.



Next room on the right and you'll find Dynaudio's Bill Livingston and Marc Brekelmans playing the new Naim 200 series electronics into a pair of Dynaudio Confidence 30 loudspeakers.

Dynaudio is a Danish loudspeaker maker, founded in 1977. Dynaudio builds speakers using only their own drivers.

With two adjacent rooms using Confidence series loudspeakers and Rega choosing to use their Evoke 50s, Dynaudio are having a fair amount of exposure at this year's show.

Scan the QR code in their room and you can enter the free draw to win a pair of Evoke 10 loudspeakers worth £1300.

A relatively new brand to the Signals' portfolio, Dynadudio has made a huge impact on us. At all price levels, they offer impressive value and performance.

For the show, we are sticking to conventional passive loudspeakers but the new Focus series of digital, active, internet ready speakers are worth seeking out.



Chord Electronics Ltd.

Continuing down the main corridor from the front door, third room on the right is being looked after by Chord Electronics.

Representing Chord Electronics, Maurice Tryner and Doug Graham are demonstrating the new Chord Ultima 3 pre-amplifier with both Ultima 5 + 6 power amplifiers. The source components

are Innuos Zenith music server connected to Hugo M-Scaler and Dave DAC.

Loudspeaker choices are Kudos Titan 606 + 707 floor-standers.

On hand for the quiet periods will be the full range of Chord DAC / headphone amplification products along with a selection of headphones.



Next, and final, door on the right hand side of the corridor leads you to Naim Audio.

Naim have suffered huge supply related woes over the past couple of years. Part of the issue was that they were simultaneously developing and commencing manufacture of a whole new 'Classic' range of amplification and streamers.

Now it's 2023, the new range can start to be revealed and moods could hardly be more buoyant.

Darren Woodyatt, Jason Gould and Tom Gooderidge are playing the new Naim NSC 222 pre-amplifier / streamer with NPX 300 power supply and the New Classic NAP 250 power amplifier:



Focal transducers will be used. We've heard the New Classic 222 / 250 combo drive some very high end loudspeakers, so we expect something fairly serious will be used at the show.

In addition, the full range of Focal Headphones will be in the headphone bar. Whether this is in the Naim room or in the central section of the Suffolk Suite will be decided closer to the event.

Either way, there is a lot worth hearing and those Bathys bluetooth 'phones are better than they have any right to be.



Other side of the corridor from Naim and you have Kudos Audio, a long time Signals' favourite brand. Derek Gilligan (MD) and Mark Benson (production manager) are your guides

In previous years they have been operating in active mode with external line level crossovers and multiple power amplifiers. This year, the system is rather simpler and the speakers will be using their internal passive crossovers.

With Chord Electronics using Kudos Titans, it's novel to report that Kudos are powering their Titan 808s (the flagship floor-standers) with Chord Electronics.

The Ultima Pre 3 preamp will be used again but this time with dual Ultima 3 mono power amplifiers.

Front end is up a notch too, with Innuos Statement server, Chord M-Scaler and Dave DAC.



With Innuos being demonstrated in two dem rooms, we expect to have Stephen Healy from Innuos on site too for the duration.

With their new Pulse streamers, high end Phoenix Net switch, Zen, Zenith and Statement servers and Phoenix USB reclocker, Stephen will have some interesting products to show and explain.



Working your way back towards the front of the main building, last door on the right leads to ATC.

This is another company who are celebrating their 50th anniversary. ATC is the longest established brand on our portfolio. We've been stocking their products for almost all of the last 30 years.

Ben Lilly and Dave Spiers from ATC will be your guides along with Richard Bates from Auralic.

The equipment line-up is ATC SCM 150 active loudspeakers fed by ATC SIA-2 pre-amplifier and Auralic Aries 2.1 Streaming Transporter and Vega 2.1 DAC.

For analogue, there is a Vertere MG-1 'Magic Groove' turntable with Phono One phono stage.

Auralic is a relative newcomer to Signals but we've been impressed with how well they can work.

Their Altair G2.1 pre-amp-cum-streamer (complete with moving magnet phono stage) is an excellent match for ATC's active loudspeakers.

In this instance, we are using something from a little further up the range.



Lurking in the bar / cafe area, you will find Alan Ainslie and Stewart Day from ADMM. They distributor Melco, ADOT optical Ethernet and NuPrime.

We were early adopters of Melco music servers and have consistently seen this as the best way to store and serve data to UPnP devices such as Linn and Naim streamers. Melco also make high end data switches and CD drives.

Uniquely, when Melco use solid state SSD drives, they also disable the default data cycling that is normally in place.

The recent arrival of the N1385 solid state server has seen a significant uplift in performance. We hope to be able to demonstrate this at Trinity Park.

ADOT offers a very cost effective way to isolate your music data network from electrically noisy drives and PSUs and is well worth investigating.

The ADMM gteam are well versed in explaining, so give them a good grilling.)

Taiwan based NuPrime make some excellent affordable audiophile data switches, music streamer transports, DACs, power amplification and headphone amps.

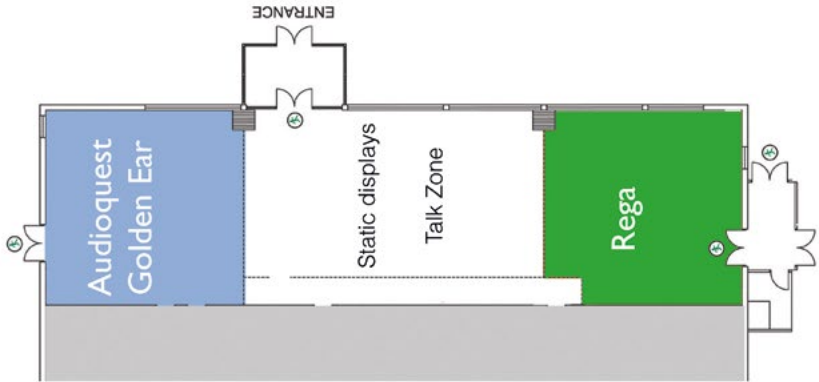


SongKong and how to use it  
Paul Taylor explains

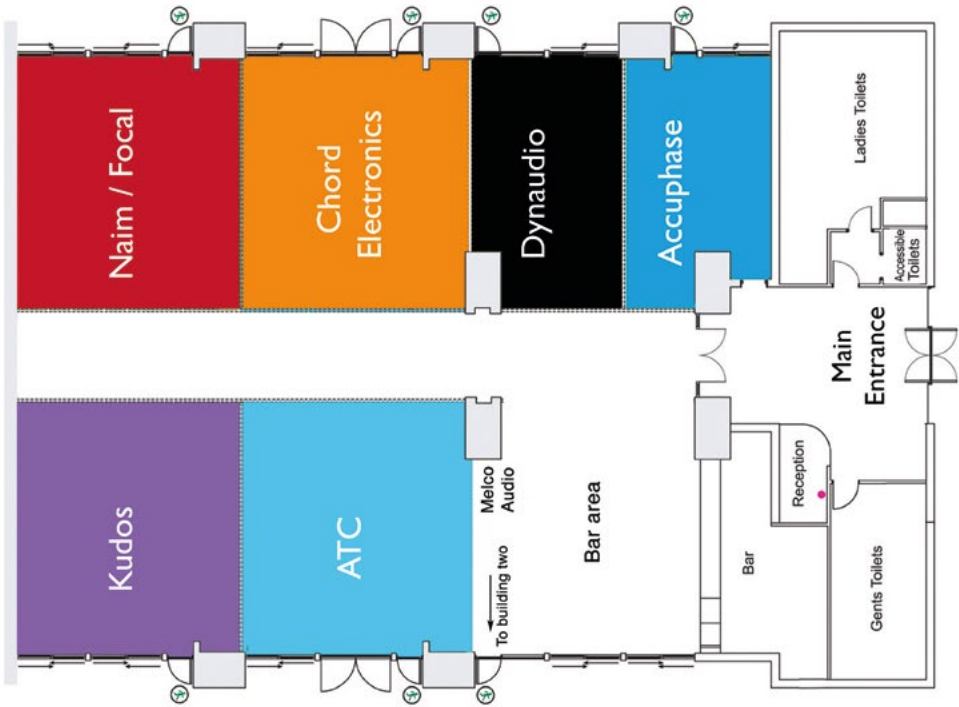
Have Melco? Baffled by SongKong? We will be holding a couple of sessions per day with Paul Taylor from SongKong in the Trinity Rooms.



Follow the QR link and you can book your space.



Trinity Rooms



Events Centre