



AES

SWISS SECTION NEWSLETTER

140th Issue

INFORMATION ON NEXT MEETING

THE SWISS NATIONAL SOUND ARCHIVE

Thursday and Friday, the 2nd and 3rd of November 2017
Swiss National Sound Archives, Via Soldino 9, CH-6900 Lugano

SPEAKERS: Terry Nelson for the AES
Pio Pellizari for the Swiss National Sound Archive
Technical staff of the Swiss national Sound Archive

ORGANISER: Patrick Greppi

LANGUAGE: English

Summary

The Swiss National Sound Archives with its headquarters in Lugano is the sound archives of Switzerland and is responsible for safeguarding the sound heritage of our country.

It was created in 1987 as a foundation under private law. In January 2016 the foundation was dissolved and the Phonotheque was integrated with the Federal Office of Culture as "Swiss National Sound Archives Section" of the Swiss National Library. The Swiss National Sound Archives collects and catalogues audio documents, both in music and in spoken word, that have a relationship with the Swiss history and culture. For example: recordings of classical, rock, jazz, and folk music, audio books, tales, theatre plays, interviews, research documents (field recordings), or private collections.

Subscription

As our website is under construction, please send an email for subscription to the AES Swiss webmail address: swiss_section@aes.org

The closing date for subscription is **October 31**.

Do not forget to specify the number of attendees for the meeting as well as for the optional dinner (Thursday evening). The dinner will be at your own expenses.

You will find below some hotel suggestions. Please let us know if we can be of any help.

We are looking forward to seeing you at this two-day event!

Programme

Thursday, November 2nd

- 13.30 Arrival at the Swiss National Sound Archives and welcoming
- 14.00 Introduction, mission statement and visit of the Swiss National Sound Archives
- 16.00 R&D activities – Visual Audio
- 17.00 End of day one

Optional dinner

Friday, November 3rd

- 8.30 Meet at the Swiss National Sound Archives and coffee.
- 9.00 Technical presentations about infrastructure, digitization, restoration, preservation and technology
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.30 Documentation and technical services
- 15.00 End of meeting

Hotel suggestions

- Hotel Besso (**) <http://www.hotelbesso.ch/en/>
- Hotel Federale (***) <http://www.hotel-federale.ch/it/>
- Continental Parkhotel (***) <http://www.continentalparkhotel.com>

REPORT ON PREVIOUS MEETING

SPATIAL AUDIO

Thursday, the 29th of June 2017, Bern

SPEAKERS: Erich Meier - Amoenus Audio
Tom Ammermann - New Audio Technology

REPORTER: Terry Nelson

The meeting dealt with Audio over Headphones and this is a subject that has seen a regain of interest over recent years.

Erich Meier of Amoenus Audio presented his headphone amplifier system that sets out to recreate the aural experience of listening over high quality loudspeakers.

The basic premise is that the sound from headphones is perpendicular to the ears, whereas the sound from speakers is configured in a 60 degree configuration (in an ideal situation). The effect of this is that the audio content does not correlate very well and this was borne out by listening tests. Mr. Meier installed three listening stations to allow attendees to compare the response with and without processing and it was found that results varied quite noticeably with different types of programme material. These differences were often between traditional stereo techniques and multitrack recordings.

The second half of the meeting was with Tom Ammermann of New Audio Technology and the meeting took on a decidedly 'high tech' aspect ! As Mr. Ammermann was recovering from a medical intervention on his foot, he was not able to attend the meeting in person but via a Skype AV call. The files for his presentation were sent ahead and put on a computer to be played back via a distributed headphone system for each attendee. The presentation thus alternated between the Skype linkup and programme content.

The audio for the examples was in a virtual multichannel format and the programme material consisted of extracts from films and the video game « Doom 3 ».

The use of virtual immersive – or surround – sound opens up large possibilities for personal entertainment and is definitely a leading subject in today's audio world.

Attendees enjoyed the traditional "apéro" offered by the AES Swiss Section and lively discussions continued afterwards during the optional dinner at the Tre Fratelli restaurant.