



INFORMATION ON NEXT MEETING

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC: POINT OF VIEW OF A VIOLIN-MAKER

Thursday 25th of January 2001, at 17h30 at the "Musée Historique" of Lausanne (situated right next to Lausanne Cathedral)

SPEAKER: Luc Breton

ORGANIZER: Walter Köller

LANGUAGE: French

The first meeting of the 3rd millennium will be dedicated to the tradition of instrument making. Mr. Luc Breton, our lecturer, will be speaking about the art of making stringed instruments and the evolution of instrument making over the ages. He will explain to us the influence of the technical and cultural evolution on the manner of conceiving and interpreting music. He will describe the fundamental problems of contemporary music while comparing it to old concepts. Different sound examples will illustrate the metamorphosis of temperament and articulation in relation to the rhythm during the century that has just ended.

This demonstration is also the opportunity to discover this museum that houses, amongst other things, a beautiful collection of old musical instruments (the visit of the museum is only possible before the conference).

The traditional meeting around a glass of wine will be organised, after the meeting, in one of the small restaurants in the old part ("Cité") of Lausanne.

Biographical Notes

Luc Breton was born in 1946 and it was at the age of 12 that he began to practise his profession of violin and bow maker. With the passing of the years, he acquired an international reputation mainly in the construction and the restoration of instruments used in Baroque music. He has made, in particular, more than 350 new lutes for musicians from all over the world, not to mention the violins, cellos and other stringed instruments. It was finally in the tranquillity of a small village of the "Vaudois" coast that Luc Breton chose to install his workshop, some 25 years ago. Not only is Luc Breton a passionate craftsman, but also a well-informed musicologist. As a specialist in the evolution of musical technique and composing, he is regularly invited for conferences both in Switzerland and in Europe.

PRELIMINARY SWISS SECTION PROGRAMME FOR 2001

Note: this is very much a preliminary programme, as some of the authors still have to be confirmed. We will as far as possible keep the to the dates announced and will be publishing full details in our next Newsletter in March.

Serial Digital Interface (SDI), Bern, 29th of March 2001

Title & author still to be confirmed, Bern, in May after AES Convention,

Loudspeaker Technology Using Digital Signal Processing, Regensdorf, 14th of June 2001

Sound Reinforcement Going Digital ?, September 2001

New Ways of Producing Radio Material, Radio Virus in Basel, 11th of October 2001

Recording Studio Design, Bern, 29th of November 2001

REPORT ON PREVIOUS MEETING

DIGITAL MIXING CONSOLES IN PRACTICE

Thursday 30th of November 2000, at 17h00 at Studer Professional Audio AG, Althardstrasse 30, Regensdorf

SPEAKERS:	Stefan Ledergerber	Studer Professional Audio AG, Regensdorf
	Tibor Tamas	Studer Professional Audio AG, Regensdorf
	Andrew Hingley	Sony Broadcast & Professional Europe, Basingstoke, UK
	John East	Sony Oxford Development Team, Oxford, UK
REPORTER:	Markus Erne	Scopein Research, Aarau

46 participants gathered for the last meeting of the Swiss AES Section in 2000.

Mr. Karamustafaoglou, member of the Swiss Section committee and development engineer at Studer, welcomed the participants before two groups were formed with one of the groups immediately walking off to the nearby Trend Hotel, where J&C Intersonic, representative of Sony Professional products had installed the DMX-R100.

At Studer, Mr. Ledergerber and Mr. Tamas respectively presented the concept behind the D950 digital console. The console cannot only be configured in terms of signal-path, DSP-load, channel assignment and assignment of the channel control strips but it additionally offers the possibility of having multiple control surfaces using the same pool of DSP-power. Depending on the customer's needs, five small consoles can be configured in a studio complex as well as two large consoles using lots of effects e.g. in a video post-production situation. A special focus has been put on the reliability, and operability by providing redundant DSP-boards which may take over in case of system failure. One of the most attractive features of the D950 console is certainly the Virtual Surround Panning which uses far more advanced algorithms than simple intensity panning. The participants then had the chance to get a demo of the console where a lot of the features could be presented in detail. Many questions from the audience completed the interesting presentation before groups changed location in order to be informed on the second console.

At the Trend hotel, Andrew Hingley and John East provided all the necessary information about the new Sony DMX-R100 console. Andrew presented first the market potential and the target market of this new product. Although the console integrates an input-output matrix, it is more channel-based than freely configurable consoles. John East explained in great detail the layout of the control surface of the console. The huge amount of experience John has acquired from designing most of the large scale SSL-control surfaces as well as the substantial experience from the Sony Oxford design could be entered into the design process of the DMX-R100. Although the control surfaces make use of grouping and assigning functions, multiple assignments to knobs and controls have been avoided where needed. Andrew again took over and highlighted some details of the technology used in the console. Analog Devices SHARC-DSP's using 32-Bit floating point technology are used and a future I-Link-port (also known as Firewire or IEE1394-protocol) will enable multiple consoles to be linked. A demonstration of the console motivated the participants to ask a lot of interesting questions.

Both groups gathered again at the Trend hotel for a final conclusion and everybody agreed that the idea of having two presentations of products having a completely different price-tag was a success.

Many interesting discussions followed during the dinner at the Trend hotel.