

Series 8 Review by Ralph Tarnofsky



Ralph Tarnofsky is the founder of Professional Audio Consultant located in Milburn, New Jersey and has been a premiere Tributaries dealer since 1992.

Professional Audio Consultants opened for business in 1974 when stereo and television were the focus of home entertainment. At that time clients primarily looked for the most realistic listening experience. Ralph had a desire to apply his love for music and critical listening skills to the business of helping people select the right audio equipment. Today Professional Audio Consultants design & implement world-class custom home entertainment systems enhancing lifestyles and living spaces.

Something Fun to Sell: Series 8

I have a customer who recently came to us and bought a new pair of Triton Two towers by GoldenEar. He then returned and got the Super50 Center channel speaker to match, realizing that his old center speaker could not create the seamless sound-stage he was listening for.

We began talking about turntables, and he realized that his old Technics was now just not up to the listening task he was about to put it to. I had a brand-new Denon DP 500M Direct drive turntable in stock sealed in the box, and recommended that he try it with the Grado Gold cartridge, which I installed and set up for him so we could then do some auditioning.

We first listened with a set of Straightwire "Encore" 1 meter audio cables, which go for about \$100/set. We witnessed great detail and clarity on Fleetwood Mac "Rumors" vinyl, with the differences being more pronounced between cymbals, hi-hat, and guitar finger-picking. Vocals were clean as well.

Then we went and did it: we took off the Encores and put on the Series 8 - 1 meter stereo pair. The customer's first description of the difference was "he was hearing so *much more information*". We perceived more space around the instruments, now there was exact positioning on the stereo stage for all high-frequency info: vis-a-vis, being able to place the instruments exactly where they should be across the stage, with more of a sense of depth and dimension. Vocals became dramatically cleaner, richer, and easier to identify which performer was singing: harmonies were smooth and strong but retaining an easy ability of honing in on each voice. Electric bass and kick-drum blended well but still retained their individual sonic qualities without muddiness.



Bottom line: the Series 8 audio cables once again produced a dramatic and easily perceivable improvement in clarity, resolution, musicality and overall listening pleasure, and reduction of listening fatigue due to these benefits.

It's so much fun to try these out with customers and watch as they can't deny the improvement and then buy them because they can't deny the value for the performance level. Thank you again, Joe, for providing us with something that is fun to sell!