

AES Audio Engineering Society - Pacific Northwest Section

Around the Puget Sound, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.

February Meeting Notice

Sound Man

From WWII to MP3

A Film

by

Scott Budman and Don Hardy

and

Magnetic Recording - Theory and History

by

Steve Turnidge and Rick Chinn

Presented by

AES Pacific Northwest Section

[Shoreline Community College](#), Shoreline WA

Room 818/Music Bldg, 7:30pm

Wednesday, February 7, 2007



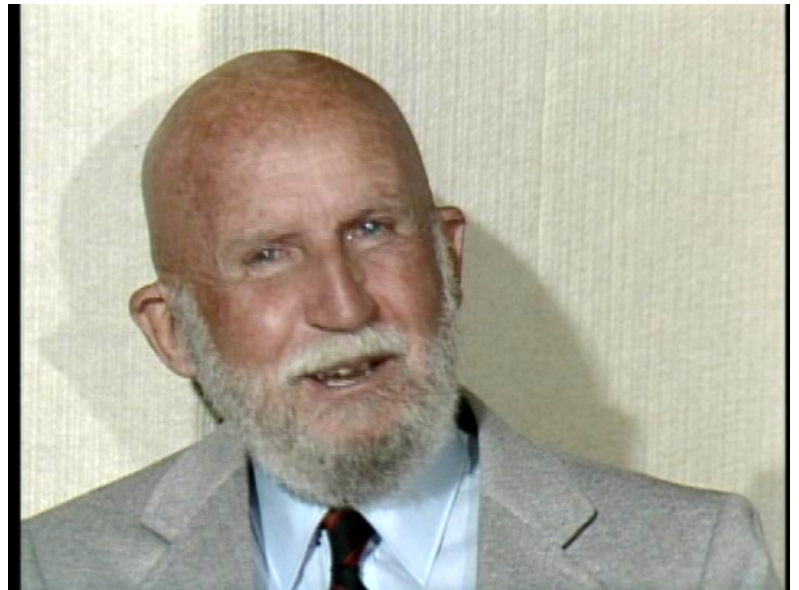
At the close of World War II, a Bay Area engineer turned WWII soldier, came upon a certain recording machine during his expeditions in Europe. This engineer/soldier had the foresight to recognize the technology and future for the machines he saw and he took it upon himself to bring two of them back to the United States. The contraption, known as magnetophone, was to become the lynchpin for the U.S. recording industry, allowing the voices of Bing Crosby and Les Paul, among others, to be saved for future generations.

From then on, it's only a step to the shift from records to tapes and the growth of Ampex, one of the early titans of the Silicon Valley. Having helped revolutionize the entertainment world, Jack Mullin, quietly living with his family, was

happy to stay out of the spotlight.

Jack Mullin's influence extends from the creation of tape following World War II to the rise of the iPod in recent times. Sound Man sheds welcome light on the career of this neglected pioneer, responsible for the innovation described as "a musician's dream."

Sound Man's subtitle, "From WWII to MP3," indicates the important contributions of this fascinating personality, finally given deserved tribute. Director Don Hardy has assembled a vast array of interviews (including musicians Les Paul, Greg Kihn, Chuck D., and Stephen Stills, Bing Crosby's widow Kathryn, Mullin's friends and family) to bring us the story of this essential player in the music industry, a true "sound man."



After the film, PNW Committee members Rick Chinn and Steve Turnidge will make a presentation describing the inner workings of analog magnetic tape recording - its history and theory.

The Pacific Northwest Section extends its thanks and appreciation to Don Hardy and Lucky Exit Films for allowing us to view this excellent motion picture.

Further Information

The following are available from the AES (at charge):

The Man and His Machines JAES, Vol 37, No. 6, June 1989, Peter Hammar

The Birth of Tape Recording in the U.S. Preprint 1928 (F-1), AES 72nd Convention, October 1982

The Jack Mullin/Bill Palmer Tape Restoration Project JAES, Vol 49, No. 7/8, July/August 2001, Richard L. Hess

[Jack Mullin in Wikipedia](#)

[Santa Clara Magazine: The Man Behind the Sound](#)

[Santa Clara Magazine: Uncovering the story of Jack Mullin](#)

[John Mullin recalls the development of the tape recorder](#)

n.b. *The material presented at our meetings is the opinion of the presenter and not necessarily that of the Society. You are encouraged to conduct your own research and to form your own opinions before adopting the presented material as Truth.*

Our meetings are open to anyone interested in Audio. AES membership is NOT required for you to attend our meetings.

Last modified 2/5/2007.