

June Meeting Notice
An Evening with Frank Laico
 Presented by
The Pacific Northwest Section
 of
The Audio Engineering Society
7:30pm, Monday, June 9th, 2008
Opus 4 Studios
Bothell, WA 98021

Our June meeting's guest is reknowned engineer Frank Laico. Frank worked at CBS/Columbia Records between 1947 and 1982, at Liderkranz Hall, 799 Seventh Avenue, and their famed 30th street studio, a repurposed Greek Orthodox church building.

Frank Laico: "In those days (during the 40's), CBS made their own equipment. The mixing console had only six positions! So if you had a large orchestra, you'd have to be careful about how you balanced it. In the pop area, you had rhythm that had to be heard, so you'd use an RCA 44B or BX microphone with the bass player on one side, the guitar player on the other. Over the drum kit, you might use a single RCA 77D or - couldn't mike individual (elements of the setup) because the consoles couldn't do that. You'd use one or two mikes to pick up the brass and winds, and one for the strings. And of course, your vocalists would have their own microphone. If we had a vocal group, we couldn't mike them separately, so we'd put them behind the string section and mike them high." [1]



Photo courtesy of David Simon

His output during that time was both prodigious and impressive, spanning different genres and artists. A few of his credits:

- Barbra Streisand
- Frank Sinatra (when he was on Columbia)
- Bob Dylan
- Miles Davis, *Bitches Brew*
- Thelonius Monk, *Round Midnight*
- Andy Williams
- Johnny Mathis



For a more definitive list, see [this link](#).

(n.b. They appear to have clobbered some of the dates, and our best guess is that some of the dates reflect a CD re-release rather than the release date of the original recording.)

One of Frank's gems is the Tony Bennett chestnut, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" Dan Daley writes about Frank's involvement with this classic in the June 2001 issue of [Mix Magazine](#). Another tidbit can be found in this interview with author [David Simon](#).

[\(scroll down a bit\)](#) David's book, *Studio Stories*

is a treasure trove of anecdotes about the famed studios, engineers, musicians, and producers in and around New York City. Frank Laico is one of his topics.

We'll use an interview format like we did with Roy DuNann, with ample time for your questions. Tom Conrad will be our guest interviewer.

[1] From the Sony/Columbia boxed CD set *Frank Sinatra - Best of the Columbia Years 1943-1952*

Elections

Our June meeting is also our annual business meeting, and if you are an AES member, please plan to attend so that we can be assured of having a quorum for voting purposes. Your section's officers serve for a one-year term and are elected by the popular vote of the members of your section at the June meeting. The executive committee members serve a two-year term, and half of the seats are up for election each year.

If you are interested in being part of the pulse of your section by serving as an officer or committee member, please contact any of the Officers or Committee. You must be an AES member to run for office or the Committee.

[More Info](#)

The ballot, at present, is:

Officers

Chair	Steve Turnidge
Vice Chair	Rick Chinn
Secretary	Gary Louie
Treasurer	David Franzwa

Committee

Mark Rogers
 Rob Baum
 JJ Johnston
 Ivan Tashev
 Kevin Jablonski

Candidates Biographies can be found [here](#).

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.

If you would like to be notified in advance of our meetings, you can send a request via the link provided below. Please note that we no longer send anything via USPS.

Rick Chinn

AES PNW 2007-2008 Section Chair

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

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