

**AES PNW Section  
May Meeting Notice**

**Two Meetings This Month**

**Let's Listen to a large Line-Array**

**Presented By**

**Dan Mortensen, Dansound Inc.**

**Saturday, May 1, 2010 - 3:30pm,  
Concert @ 8pm  
ShoWare Center  
Kent, WA**

[Directions](#)

Due to a remarkable set of circumstances, we have a unique opportunity to see and listen to a large scale PA system in a large arena, and to view a soundcheck and speak with the band engineer before enjoying the full concert.

"The Guthrie Family Rides Again", which is made up of Arlo Guthrie and four generations of his family, will be performing at Kent's ShoWare Center, a recently built hockey arena and home of the Seattle Thunderbirds. Our Committee member Dan Mortensen and his company Dansound Inc. will be providing the sound system and you are invited to come for the soundcheck, talk to Band Engineer Bruce Clapper, and come back for the concert. Attendees will be able to leave the arena after the soundcheck and find food nearby before coming back for the 8pm concert.

The PA will feature the longest Meyer Melodie line array ever assembled in the Seattle area, per side: 12 elements from Dansound Inc., and 8 from Point Source Inc., for a total of 20 (40 total). Dan will briefly discuss the factors requiring this size of array, and we will walk around and hear how well it fills the seating area, which is at one end of the arena. Seats are both fixed on a vertical slope, and movable on the flat floor, and the challenge is to get listeners everywhere hearing something similar.

Bruce is willing to talk a bit about what it's like to be in his position, dealing with a different venue and PA system each day. Questions will be welcome to the limits of our time.

Please note that this offer is to members of the PNW AES community only; seating availability is limited, and you will need to RSVP. Picture ID will be checked when picking up the tickets, and tickets are limited to two adults plus children per RSVP.

Information about the show is at <http://www.ci.kent.wa.us/content.aspx?id=1454>

Policies for the venue may be found at <http://www.showarecenter.com/venu/policies> and driving

**Audio Perception:  
Why you hear what you hear**

**Presented By**

**JJ Johnston, Chief Scientist, DTS  
Inc.**

**Saturday, May 8, 2010 - 1-4 PM  
Old Redmond Firehouse Teen Center  
16510 NE 79th Street, Redmond, WA  
98052**

[DIRECTIONS...](#)

Most of us have happened on a high-end audio store, site, or salesman at least once in our lives, and find ourselves confronted with some very "interesting" objects, from "Rainbow Foil" and "Quantum Clips" to points for the bottom of your speaker that are alleged to violate conservation of momentum. We've all seen advertisements for expensive audio cables, and those of us who have looked know that the 100 dollar cables are just the tip of a very expensive iceberg.

In the first part of this talk, the way that an audio signal progresses from the ear, through the inner ear, and on into the brain, some of the phenomena of how it is reduced from a pressure wave to memory, and how that process is both noisy and guided by both expectation and (in)attention will be mentioned in a conceptual way (no mathematics required). This understanding, which is based on many years of research by cognitive psychologists and psychoacousticians, will show how we can easily listen to exactly the same thing twice, and remember two very different events. Some audiovisual demonstrations of expectation and other effects will be given. Some parallels between extreme audiophilia and other forms of questionable science will be noted, in the context of being explained by the easily mislead nature of human perception, in particular the results of the placebo effect and expectation bias.

In the second part of this talk, some of the more "interesting" audio devices will be presented, hopefully by a variety of folks with some exposure to the genre, and the so-called physics of their function examined.

**About JJ Johnston**

JJ is presently the Chief Scientist for DTS, Inc, working from Kirkland, Washington. DTS provides the high-quality audio system for BlueRay disc, and is an industry leader in audio coding, codec

directions are at [http://www.showarecenter.com/visitor\\_info/getting\\_there](http://www.showarecenter.com/visitor_info/getting_there)

RSVP before APRIL 30 to Dan at [dansound@att.net](mailto:dansound@att.net)

Schedule:

3:30pm-4:00	Line check finishes, introduction
4:00- ~5:00pm	Quietly observe soundcheck
~5:00-6:15	Discussion, listen to PA
6:15 or so	Arena empties, crew break
8:00-10:30	Concert

preprocessing, multichannel audio, loudness control, and other advanced signal processing algorithms for audio.

His prior contributions include MPEG-2 AAC (Advanced Audio Coding) standard, developed in collaboration with Fraunhofer IIS and other experts in the field of audio compression, MPEG-2 AAC is a reworking of the original AT&T Perceptual Audio Coder (PAC), done with Anibal Ferreira, co-invention and standardization of the well-known "MP3" algorithm, a variety of loudness estimation and control methods, automatic speaker and room correction systems, room and acoustic simulators, and invention of a perceptual soundfield reconstruction system to capture the "sound" of an actual performance venue and reconstruct the perceptual cues of the venue in a fashion that can be conveyed in a small (presently 5) number of conventional, independent audio channels multichannel audio presentation, and audio coding (bitrate reduction). ... [more](#)

**n.b. Because of the lateness of the March meeting, we will not have an April meeting.**

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## Elections

It is once again time for our annual elections to the Section Committee, and we encourage all interested members to run for an office.

The Committee's main duty is to coordinate our more-or-less monthly meetings, as well as to keep our Section running smoothly. A copy of our by-laws and our mission statement can be found [here](#).

Our Section is run by 4 officers and 10 Committee members. The officers are up for election every year (serving a one-year term), and half the Committee as well (serving a two year term). Those Committee members in even-numbered are up for election now, since this is an even-numbered year, so we are looking for even-tempered people to be in those positions. If you are an odd person, you might want to wait until next year and run for office then, as I will be doing.

To maintain our collegial atmosphere, we don't have aspiring Committee members run against a particular person; in the election, the top 5 vote-getters are elected to the 5 open positions. We discourage people who have not been on the Committee before from running for Officer positions, since those people need to have some idea of how the Section works before being responsible for actually running it. If more than one person runs for an Officer position, that competition will be more direct than for the Committee positions.

To be placed in the election, send your CV and/or a brief description of why you would like to be on the Committee to [Rick Chinn](#), our Webmaster. This information will be put unedited on our election webpage so the electorate can see why they should vote for you.

The election will take place at our June meeting (subject, date, and location TBA). Only AES members are allowed to vote. In addition to these advance self-nominations, there will be an opportunity to nominate new candidates from the floor at the meeting.

We take our Committee positions seriously, and you should only run if you are interested in participating in the operation of the Section. It is not an honorary job.

Thank you.

**Dan Mortensen, PNW Elections Committee**

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## Steve Turnidge

*AES PNW 2009-2010 Section Chair*

**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.**

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