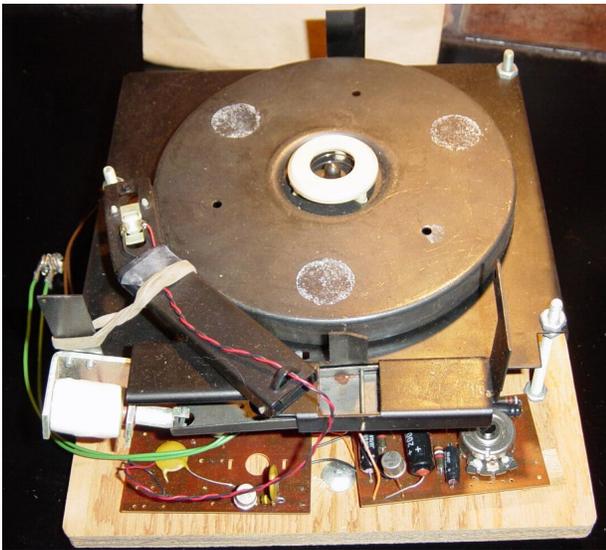


The 45rpm Phono Gazette

Maremont Talking Muffler phonograph



Turntable assembly and solid state amp

Imagine walking into a muffler store back in the early 60s and seeing this gizmo on the wall that says 'Push the button and listen to the talking muffler!' It's not known how many of these were made but Julian Burke has two of them new in their original boxes! Ed

By Julian Burke

Here are pictures of the Maremont Talking Muffler unit for one of their displays for 1963. Looks like it was powered by 2 each 9 volt photoflash batteries connected in parallel. It was started by pressing a doorbell button on the front. Interesting little unit and appears to be built in this country. There were no directions with this unit and I wondered how the record was supposed to stay on if this is mounted in an upright position. There is a little red cap installed on the cartridge to protect the needle. It looks like it could have been used on the spindle to hold the record on the platter. The record has the small hole so this would allow the little plastic cap to be pushed on the spindle. (holding the record on the platter) Other than a few small markings of numbers on it, there is no ID on its' maker. Does anyone recognize this transport mechanism? It looks like it could have parts borrowed from a jukebox manufacturer.



Wall Mounting with push button



45 rpm records with small hole

\$6/\$8 for 4 issues, \$12/\$16 for 9 issues. (USA/Intl)
Send to Phil Vourtsis, 13 Cornell Place, Manalapan, NJ, 07726
or you can use Paypal (Account is pvourtsis@optonline.net, no credit cards please)

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

The Workbench

Rejectitus update by Phil Vourtsis:

I've notice on some rp-190 changers it appears the factory puts a large gob of heavy grease under the bottom of the idler cam. The grease also comes in contact with the slider. My thought is this was added to slow up any momentum the cam wheel has when it disengages from the knurled knob during the reject cycle. The notch on the cam wheel is suppose to disengage the cam wheel at the end of the reject cycle, but when the machine warms up the rubber on the wheel because softer providing a better grip and the lubricant used on the cam wheel shaft thins out. So the thicker grease on the bottom acts like a slight brake when the cutout in the cam is reached. So when you take these items apart and clean them, don't forget to put back the gob of grease!

Transformers by Chris Cuff

Here is one for the books. Working on players for 50+ years and I found a new problem. I had a simple 2 tube 7EY type amp (35W4 and 50L6) that would play fine for 2 minutes or so, then go low in volume-it would vary from a bit low to nearly 90% off. Changed all the parts- resistors, caps,,tried 3 different 50L6's. I then noticed that if I pulled out the 50L6 while it was on and put it back, it would pop back in and play right for a while. It turned out to be the output transformer! I used a 45EY2 transformer, cutting off the brown lead, worked fine.



Custom Cabinet for rp-190

Stereo
From An
RP-190
Changer
by Jim
Romano



Good bass from AIWA speakers

My first ebay purchase of a restored RCA 45 EY 2 was back in September 2004. It was my first of ten restored RCA phonos that I would get from the GREAT Paul Childress. After a few months of watching these great phonos perform, I started to get

bored with the poor sound that came out of the 2 stage amps with the small speakers. I got 2 RCA "Mercedes Grill" radios restored by Doug VanCleave so I could plug a J2 into them to get better bass. I got better bass but no treble. I then got an EY4 & an HY4 from Paul. A nice big 8 inch speaker, a push/pull amp & a tone control. This got me treble but the highs sounded like tin as you increased the treble. I then got a restored 8HF45P From Doug VanCleave. Now I got better sound over all. The highs were sweet & clear & the bass was good. Not a lot of volume for this one time heavy metal fan so I got the idea to purchase an Ibanez SW35 bass guitar amp with a 12 inch woofer and a crossover tweeter system. It has 35 watts of power and a 4 band EQ on it. WOW what a sound. It makes the William Bosco low rider cartridge sound like a Shure VST V magnetic cartridge. I had power and superb sound coming from a 1950 RCA RP 190 changer. The only problem now was all of the sound had to come from one speaker. I love most types of music from the big bands & crooners from the 1930's all the way up to the music of the mid 1990's. Most of my 45's are stereo. My daughter played the bass guitar in her churches youth band so I purchased another of the same exact Ibanez bass amps for her. I tried to plug one channel into one amp & the other to the other amp. There was no way to ground out the old changers to the new amps without altering the amps so I just gave up on the idea. Then one day while searching ebay for an RCA item, I came across a small solid state amp that RCA made for Radio Shack. It was a model RCA SA-155 amp that is no longer manufactured. It has inputs for ceramic & magnetic cartridges as well as a tuner & tape input. I could feel the light bulb go on over my head. This could be just what I was looking for. I got it for under \$100 and it was worth every penny. It only has 1.8 watts per channel RMS but you'd be surprised at the volume it puts out. The speaker impedance is 8 to 16 Ohms & I just happened to have a pair of 8 Ohm Aiwa 3 way bass reflex speakers from an old shelf system that I purchased for my daughter for Christmas 1997. The rest of that system just fell apart but the speakers sounded great. I got a set of female RCA plugs off of an old Magnavox changer & installed them to a custom cabinet that I made myself at my brothers custom cabinet manufacturing company. The RP 190 changer is from a Columbia model 540 that I got at a garage sale back in 1972. The wood cabinet was moldy & the amp was tampered with but for \$1 I still thought it was worth it. Many years later, it now has the same cartridge that is used in the William Bosco Lowrider but no bracket, no screws & still wired for true 2 channel stereo sound. There's no spring in the back of the tone arm so the only weight is the plastic tone arm & plastic cartridge. The tone arm is very light but tracks very well due to the good compliance & trackability of this cartridge. I mounted the cartridge in a low profile style with wood glue so it would not distort the plastic cartridge or tone arm. It can play up to 15 records. I now can listen to my stereo 45's in true 2 channel stereo with great bass & treble. It took me 5 years, but I got the job done.