



Sound Inc.

VAIL JAZZ FESTIVAL ADDS BBE SONIC MAXIMIZER™ PROCESSORS TO ITS SOUND SYSTEMS

Mention the name Vail and immediately one conjures visions of snow-covered ski slopes, spectacular mountain scenery, populated with international jet-setters, leaders of industry and movie stars many of whom own palatial homes in and around the village of Vail.

Another increasingly famous image of Vail is of late summer sunshine, before the snow arrives and while the mountains are still green and lush. This image of Vail includes the sounds of some of the world's greatest jazz musicians performing for hundreds of fans at sessions in afternoons and evenings. One hears many of the great jazz standards plus major new compositions, more than a few written by the artists themselves.

Surrounded by the breathtaking beauty of the Colorado Rockies the music takes on an added richness, the creativity and spontaneity of the great performers blossom and a musical experience of surpassing delight is presented to the fans in the audience.

The visionary powerhouse behind all this is Howard Stone, a highly successful Beverly Hills attorney who decided to retire from the practice of law and devote his time, energies and passion to building the world famous institution known as the Vail Jazz Festival. Excellence in all aspects is the standard Howard has set for his festival and when he learned of the dramatic improvements BBE makes to sound systems Howard decided BBE Sonic Maximizer processors had to be part of his sound. "A wonderful part of listening to jazz, is to be able to hear all the subtleties in the music", Howard observed. "Wind instruments, as well as drums, cymbals, pianos and basses, have sounds with incredibly rich harmonic structures. Each player brings his own distinctive harmonic patterns and expressions to the music just as singers do with their songs. When a sound system is so accurate and faithful to the original that all these nuances and details are revealed to the ear, the listener experiences an astonishing degree of aesthetic satisfaction. We are confident the BBE Sonic Maximizer processors will help our audiences to enjoy that delightful musical experience."

Richard O'Dell, president of O'Dell Audio which provides the sound engineering for all the performances at the Vail Jazz Festival, is pleased to have the BBE processors for his systems. "I've had a BBE Sonic Maximizer for over ten years that I use with my own guitar rig. I love it!" Richard says.

BBE Chairman, John McLaren, attended this year's Festival and was overwhelmed by the superb performances in Vail. "One of the most hypnotic musical experiences I've ever had was listening to a forty-five minute set with brilliant Chilean vocalist, Claudia Acuna, accompanied only by bassist, John Clayton. Clayton's technique and musicianship are awesome. Not so surprising

though, when one recalls that John is renowned in both jazz and classical fields and serves as Artistic Director of Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Hollywood Bowl”.

The Vail Jazz Festival Foundation puts much emphasis on helping young musicians develop their talents because Howard Stone is deeply concerned that this uniquely American art form be preserved and developed. An important part of the Vail Jazz Festival, therefore, is the master classes held for talented youngsters and conducted by several of the star performers for a week before the Festival opens. Then, on the opening day, the youngsters become the Vail Jazz All-Stars and perform the works they have been studying with the masters.

The excitement and enthusiasm generated by the Festival in the surrounding mountain communities has enabled Howard Stone to create a jazz-focused music education program in the schools in Eagle County in which Vail is located. There are over two thousand students enrolled in the program – an amazing number for such a sparsely populated region.

Among the people attending the Festival were fans from Japan, China, Australia and several European countries. The Vail Jazz Festival is an experience to be treasure and savored for a lifetime. To hear inspired performances in a place of surpassing beauty in such a warm and friendly atmosphere is truly a joy!

For attendance and sponsorship information contact Christine Richards, Executive Director, The Vail Jazz Foundation, Inc., PO Box 3035, Vail Colorado. Tel 970 479 6146, fax 970 477 0866. E-Mail vjf@vailjazz.org. Web site: <http://www.vailjazz.org/>

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