

Acoustics & Psychoacoustics

is a new book by David Howard and Jamie Angus, audio academics at York and Salford universities respectively, which is a comprehensive introduction to acoustics and psychoacoustics. *Acoustics and Psychoacoustics* – now in its third edition – is said to provide a practical guide to “how real musical sounds behave and are perceived in real spaces” for practitioners of music technology, sound recording and acoustics. A CD of audio examples is included, while the book’s supporting website offers links to online sources.

W >> www.books.elsevier.com
 W >> www.users.york.ac.uk

Postoffice,

the Amsterdam-based post-production facility, has installed a DREAM Constellation-XT in its new digital audio post department. The system has been located within the building that houses the existing music suite and will enable the addition of voiceovers, sound effects, sound design and final mixdown. The Fairlight Constellation-XT – powered by a 24-channel 72-bus QDC engine – features a single 8 U frame and offers six-band parametric EQ, two stage dynamics, a 48- or 96-track recorder and integrated plug-ins on each channel.

W >> www.fairlightau.com

A Mackie TT24

digital mixing console is at the centre of operations at Culture Lab, a new digital media facility located at Newcastle University. John Ayers, who specified the sound systems, explained that the TT24 was selected according to criteria of flexibility, quality and ease of use: “We needed a console that visiting researchers would be able to get to grips with relatively quickly.” The facility has also recently taken delivery of a number of EAW’s NT Series loudspeakers.

W >> www.mackie.com
 W >> www.eaw.com

On with Forward’s planning

Next phase complete at top Rome facility

ITALY: Just over a year after its official opening, Forward Studios – a unique commercial recording set-up located in a large villa near Rome – has announced the first stage of the expansion to the international-level facilities: alongside the original 5+1 and 7+1 Caesar Room featuring a 72-channel AMS Neve 88, the complex now offers clients the 45sqm Aurelius Room (also a 5+1 and 7+1 set-up) and the 22sqm 5+1 Augustus Room, both designed by John Flynn and Claudio Belletti of ADG.

Forward Owner and general manager Massimo Scarparo explains, “Since the official opening in February 2005, we’ve been very busy on projects involving Italian artists, several of whom have worked with top UK and US sound engineers, such as Dave Pemberton (Orbital, Eagle Eye Cherry), who worked on the new album by Subsonica, Haydn Bendall (head engineer at Abbey Road for ten years), who has worked on three or four projects here, including album tracks by Michele Zarillo and Nicky Nicolai.”

Regarding his intention of keeping the studio a truly original facility, Scarparo continued, “Apart from making us the only facility in Italy with an AMS Neve 88R and a Solid State Logic 9000J – in fact I think there are only four or five other studios in the world with this combination – the two new rooms were designed and fitted out to enable use to further expand our

client target.”

As far as the choice of hardware for the new rooms, he added, “The equipment installed was carefully selected bearing in mind the clients we address and, as opposed to other studios, we offer fully-equipped ready-to-run rooms. Of course, we are able to supply anything else our clients need, but prefer to offer them a complete high-end package.”

The Aurelius’ SSL desk was supplied by Milan’s Funky Junk and, although a relatively new desk (having been installed in its original location in France in 2003), was completely overhauled by FJ and by Giovanni Blasi of Solid State Logic Italia. As well as the SSL, Scarparo decided to add a pre/post-production facility, and equipped the Augustus Room with a Sony DMX-R100.

The monitor set-up in the Aurelius consists in Genelec 1034A (main) and a pair of 1031A (five of which are used as surround speakers with a 7071A sub), Adam S3, Yamaha NS10 and Auratone 5C and, with the assortment of leading edge outboard units at clients’ disposal, Scarparo is hard put to indicate any equipment in particular, but deems his Neve 1081 preamps and Urei 1176LN Black Face worthy of mention.

Although both rooms have only been operational for a few months, Scarparo is already at work on the next upgrade to the Forward “sound factory” – another live room, adjacent to the Aurelius and



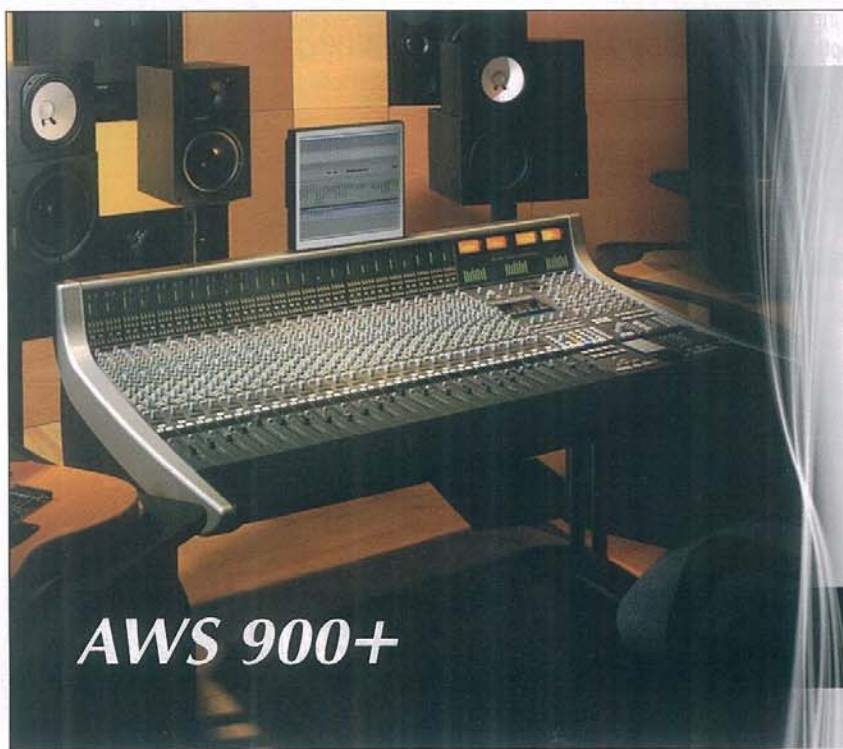
The Aurelius Room – the 45sq m 5+1 and 7+1 set-up – is part of Fast Forward’s expansion



The Augustus Room, like the Aurelius, is designed by John Flynn and Claudio Belletti of ADG

an English-style pub for clients. **MIKE CLARK**

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