



BURKHARDT'SMAIER

Press release

Burkhardt'smaier

Happenbacher Str. 57
D-74199 Untergruppenbach

T +49 7131 7 97 54-55
F +49 7131 39 49-40

pr@burkhardt'smaier.de
www.burkhardt'smaier.de

The essence of sound

Berthold Burkhardt'smaier, the founder and mastermind behind the audio systems manufacturer Burkhardt'smaier, explains his understanding of music and its reproduction: "My key experience in understanding music was a meeting with renowned conductor Sergiu Celibidache, who I wanted to impress with my 'Direct Cut' recording technology. Like other outstanding representatives of his art, he was strictly against music recordings. I wanted to change that. So, I stood in front of the Munich Philharmonic as an expert in this challenging recording method - and Celibidache didn't turn up."

Maestro Celibidache - intellectual, exuberant, and merciless and benevolent in equal measure - was the master of slowness, of sound that magically unfolded. This was achieved through his extraordinarily long and meticulous rehearsals, and his attention to the smallest details and to the balance of the orchestral parts. The Romanian believed it was simply impossible to record a successful concert. In addition, the star conductor was not concerned about sound itself but always about how music is created from sound, how it affects the listener in its totality, including the overtones within the acoustic space.

Eliahu Inbal, a no less significant colleague of the great Sergiu Celibidache, once tried to put this into words:

"The most difficult thing about reproducing live music is capturing what I call 'the air'. By this, I mean the thing between the instruments. It is delicate; delicate air that can be heard. At my stand, I hear what the instrument produces. It has a core, a tone. And then it gets really light and airy. The higher frequencies. It is a kind of aura. And the aura of one instrument mixes with that of another, which produces 'the air'. It is hard to replicate."

Fathoming "the essence of sound" – this is precisely the aim of all Burkhardt'smaier audio components. All that matters is the effect that it has on the listener, the bridge between music creation in the concert hall or in the studio and the faithful reproduction of the sounds – ratings and laboratory tests count for nothing.



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Every form of sound reproduction is ultimately only an illusion, not a true reflection of reality. This is something that Berthold Burkhardt'smaier came to understand very clearly in the wake of his experiences with Celibidache. Music only exists where it is being played, where sounds are being created. In contrast, recording is merely an attempt to "capture" this reality in the best possible way, to simulate reality and preserve the musical experience for posterity.

It is therefore nothing more than the perfect illusion. Music is the expression of feelings, experiences and dreams. How can these emotions be reproduced and once again made tangible? These are the questions that are tackled by audio systems manufacturer Burkhardt'smaier.

"Making something audible" requires all the sound information from a recording medium to be extracted without loss and brought to the ear of the listener in the purest way possible. Only in this way, in an ideal situation, does listening evoke the emotions that the artists and their audience experienced when the music was originally played. The musicians and audience can become one.

But how is this done? And how can you achieve the "essence of sound"? All the elements of the transmission path are independent of each other and influence each other, so it is important to bring them together into an organic whole. This sounds complicated, but it is in fact very simple. The transmission path should only transport the musical tone, not modify it or interpret it in any way. That's it. Only when the whole transmission path is free of all external and technical influences can the sound become music. Only then do the musicians 'play' in the room and the emotions of the artists and listener combine.

The audio systems manufacturer Burkhardt'smaier has closed the gap between music production and lossless reproduction at home. Audio components that bear this name transport "the essence of sound" in a neutral way, reproducing every kind of music without adding their own intrusive signature. Berthold Burkhardt'smaier's radical approach, which is exclusively devoted to music, has revolutionised the audio market and makes his developments unique. For the first time, music lovers can experience sounds just as intensively as the artists themselves.

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Burkhardtmaier is a high-end manufacturer of ultimate audio systems, consisting of loudspeakers and electronics, which set new global standards for an authentic music listening experience – without digital tricks or manipulation as the sound travels from the recording medium to the ear. So we don't just hear musical sounds, but instead we experience music afresh every time. We come close to the very essence of sound. This ground-breaking approach gives Burkhardtmaier the edge over other market players. Every Burkhardtmaier audio system is unique and produced by specialists especially for a client using the very best and most suitable materials and components. The audio systems manufacturer Burkhardtmaier is based in the German state of Baden-Württemberg, the home of amateur inventors and perfectionists. www.burkhardtmaier.de

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