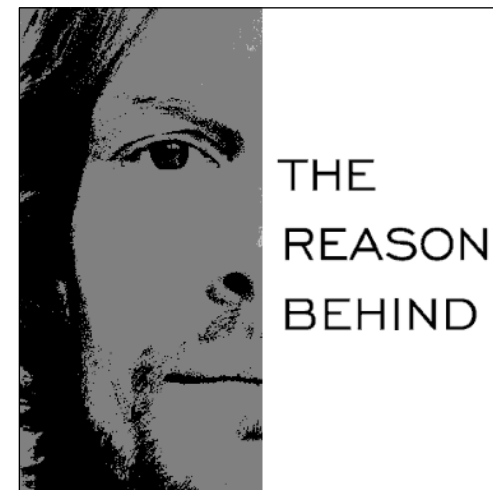


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Entity

It all started in 2011, when an idea about an ultra linear and very high gain input stage took shape in my head. The first prototype was built the same year and sounded very promising, but it was difficult to tune it to absolute stability. In retrospect I realize that I didn't know enough about high frequency tuning. My components also weren't measured and selected to the precision that later proved necessary.

Five years later I had finally tamed the input circuit. The project now showed such promise that I went crazy and set my goal at perfection. With the help of measuring and selecting every component involved into groups with extremely small tolerances, machining the cases out of solid annealed billets of pure copper, dividing the stereo circuit into two completely isolated channels, designing a whole new power filter section and dual stage regulation and spending month after month of listening through every combination of the narrowly spaced component values, I finally arrived at SINGularity. This extreme built-to-order product was first shown to the public in April 2019.

Entity uses the same input circuit, phono equalization, output stage and power regulation as SINGularity. What has changed is the case (instead of the extremely expensive copper case it's now simple, functional and inexpensive), the power supplies (instead of four switch mode power supplies with massive filtering it's now equipped with the same copper screened linear power supply that I use in Slipsik 8) and the channel separation (instead of two completely isolated Mono channels, it's now a dual mono design in a single case with a shared power supply).

I did try to cut things down further; I had the idea of making Entity out of a cheaper selection of components, in order to keep the price as low as possible. For instance, many of the components that are sorted out when building one pair of

SINGularity would be enough to make between 25 and 40 units. But this turned out to be a blind alley. I was never 100% engaged by the music that this version presented. When I finally gave in and built Entity with the same circuit as in SINGularity, the result was a revelation. Like hitting bullseye.

So I kept the two diamonds (my excessively selected and tuned MC phono circuits) and put them in a shoebox. Be prepared for a wild rollercoaster ride through your record collection!

In February of 2021, I tested adding a circuit to Entity that equalizes the idling currents. I wasn't sure what to expect, as in theory I predicted that it could have both a positive and a negative impact on the music. Lots of similar ideas have been tested over the years and most of them are discarded because they don't bring an improvement. But this time was an exception. The impact was all positive. The circuit made Entity "relax between the notes" and the music flowed with greater ease and emotional conviction. Entity version 1.1 was born.

In September of 2022, a new chassis ground was tested on Entity. Chassis ground is one of the great mysteries in HiFi; even when the signal ground is isolated from the chassis and the music has no connection at all to the mains ground, the connection between mains ground and the chassis still has a profound effect on how the music is reproduced.

The new chassis ground parts were selected by trial and error and many listening tests. There are four parts involved and each combination has an optimal torque with which it's fastened to the chassis. I simply ordered every suitable part I could find and spent a few hours every day to listen through them all, assisted by recordings and taking a lot of notes. The most musical combination resulted in Entity version 1.2. It is a very rewarding improvement and an inexpensive upgrade for Entity owners.