



INTRODUCTION

Wynton R. Morro founded Avalon with the desire to bring the art of music recording closer to the essence of the original performance. Avalon's pure Class A recording systems provide the world's leading engineers, producers and musicians with state-of-the-art, electronics designed especially for high-fidelity music and sound recording. These carefully engineered systems enhance the creative senses and become one with the music itself.

FEATURES

Avalon systems utilize 100% discrete, high-bias pure Class A audio amplifiers. These pure Class A amplifiers are incorporated into minimal signal path designs which include sealed silver relays, balanced DC coupled high-current "outside-world" drivers, fully discrete linear DC regulators, low noise toroidal power transformers



and selected high quality active and passive components. This powerful combination of design features gives increased musical headroom and greater dynamic transient capability for a truly transparent audio passage.

SONIC EXCELLENCE

Avalon has been manufacturing high-end Pure Class A systems since 1985. Our dedicated pursuit of sonic excellence assures the most harmonious musical signal transfer into the 21st century. Whether you are recording a solo vocalist, capturing the delicate nuance of an acoustic instrument, mastering music and film productions or recording symphonies, let Avalon take you to the leading edge in analog and experience sonic reality like never before!

A FEW AVALON USERS

Abbey Road, UK • Absolute Audio Mastering, NY • Allen Sides • Ars Nova Studio • Audio Affects, CA • Babyface, CA • Bob Dillon • Bob Fernandez, CA • Brandon's Way • Brian Adams, BC • Casandra Wilson, USA • Celine Dion, Canada • Cello Studios, CA • Chances Are Studios, TN • Cheonum Studio • Cho Bong Record • Chuck Everts Sound, CA • Chung King Studios, NY • Chunhatongil Studio • Core Studio, Korea • Craig Street, NY • Crystal Method, CA • Dennis Sands, CA • Denny Purcell, TN • Design FX • Dispatch, France • Doug Botnick, CA • Dreamhire, NY • Dyam Music, France • Ed Seay, Nashville • Encore Studios, CA • Fernando Saunders, NY • Flash Brothers, WA • Fletcher, MA • Front Page, CA • Future Records, VA • George Benson, NJ • George Duke, CA • Georgetown Masters, TN • Guy Roache, CA • Hanson, TX • Hit Factory, NY • Hollywood Bowl, CA • Ian Underwood, CA • Indigo Girls • J Pop, Korea • Joel Moss, CA • John Gass, CA • Jungle Island, Nashville • JVC, Japan • King Records, Tokyo • Korea Art • Kwangjoo Sunyul Music Acad. • Lee Hoon Studio • Leslie Ann Jones, CA • Los Angeles Philharmonic • Lou Reed, NY • Magic Shop, NY • Mariah Carey, NY • Mario Breuer, Argentina • Massive Attack, UK • Masterdisk, NY • Mastermix, TN • MCA Music

Studios, NY • Michael Brauer, NY • Michael Powell • Music Box, CA • Mutt Lange • NHK, Japan • NRG Studios, North Hollywood • O'Henry Sound Studios, CA • Oasis Mastering, CA • Oceanway, CA • Pacific Sound, France • Paisley Park, MN • Pat Metheny, NY • Phil Ramone, NY • Pizzazudio Recording, Ontario • Platinum Studios, Taiwan • Pony Canyon, Japan • Puff Daddy • Quintessential Sound, NY • Right Track Studios, NY • Rob Chiarelli, CA • Roland Corp., Tokyo • Royaltone Studios, CA • Saehan Media, Korea • San Diego University, CA • Sangmyung University • Shawn Murphy, CA • Simply Red, UK Skywalker Sound, CA • Sony Music Studios, NY • Sony Pictures, Los Angeles • Sony, Japan • Sound Castle Studios, CA • Sterling Sound, NY • Steve Vai, CA • Studio Polygone, Paris • Studios Cuillaurne Tell, Paris • The Kitchen Mastering, NC • The Lodge, Emily Lazar, NY • The Rental Company, NY • The Studio/Jed Leiber, CA • Tom Barney, NY • Top Master, Paris • Toy Specialists, NY • Tyrell Music, CA • Vanessa Williams • Walt Disney Imagineering, CA • Walter Afanasieff, CA • Walter Becker, HI • West Productions, CA • Western Outdoor, India • White Zombie, CA • Whitney Houston • Willowtree Music Mastering • Windham Hill - Will Akerman • Windmark Recording, VA • Yang Hyun-seok Studio



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Rob Chiarelli
mix engineer/producer

First and foremost is the Avalon AD2055 EQ. In my opinion it's the best stereo EQ on the market. Possibly the best ever made. I like it because it has a very natural, musical sound. Particularly noticeable are the clear open high frequencies and warm lows. I use it on whatever is most important in the mix. Sometimes it's the lead vocal, sometimes the mix buss itself. It has saved a lot of records. Next for me is the VT-737SP mic preamp, line level, compressor and EQ. It's also the best all in one box on the market. The EQ in the VT-737SP has similar qualities to the AD2055.



AD2055 Pure Class A Music Equalizer

The compression in the VT-737SP is smooth and musical, particularly good when using low ratios like 2:1 and 3:1. I always use this in combination with a Sony c800g microphone when cutting vocals and I have had numerous compliments. When mixing I also use the VT-737SP on lead and/or background vocals. I am often asked by producers about gear. The one box I tell them to get above all the rest (and first) is the VT-737SP because of its flexibility and great sound. The AD2044 compressor is one of my favorites for acoustic piano, stereo background vocals and also the mix buss. Once again, this is one of the most transparent compressors ever.

Rob Chiarelli has engineered and mixed for Will Smith, Madonna, Janet Jackson, Ricky Martin, Coolio, Ray Charles and Christina Aguilera to name a few



Emily Lazar
mastering engineer/producer
CEO, The Lodge, NYC

I rely on the AD2077 mastering equalizer for its incredible depth and elegance. It is the most versatile EQ I've ever used. The integrity of the stereo image is both wide and true and the tonal range is extraordinary. I can achieve great control in the bass, while keeping the midrange smooth and precise...and the high end air seems to go on forever!

When I need a touch of color, I turn to my VT-747SP. It gives me the flexibility of choosing whether I want to add the tube signal path or not...and that extra little EQ rocks! Avalon truly sets the pace...absolutely brilliant!

Emily has mastered albums for Taj Mahal, Sinead O'Connor, Mindless Self Indulgence, Saturday Night Live's 25th Anniversary Musical Performances, The original cast album for Hedwig and the angry Inch, as well as soundtrack albums for Pokemon: the First Movie, Boys Don't Cry and American Psycho, among others.

It's not every day that a piece of gear comes along that raises the standards like the Avalon gear does! My VT-737SP flies like a 737 and Avalon has taken my sound to the next level. I have used it on numerous million selling records including the latest releases from Babyface, TLC, Boyz to Men, and on projects as diverse as Fourplay, Kenny G, Savage Garden and Madonna. The folks at Avalon continue to develop what I consider to be the highest quality equipment and are truly defining the State-of-the-Art.

As we all continue to grow in our respective fields, it's great to be a part of a team that can absolutely handle the demands of the industry raising the bar to new heights. I am proud to be a member of the Avalon team or should I say, the "A" team!

Nathan is a sought after musician having worked with, and along side, Phil Collins, Eric Clapton, Whitney Houston, Elton John, Michael Jackson...



AD2077 Pure Class A Mastering Equalizer

I engineer and program all the projects that I work on, which means that I'm always "under it" from a time standpoint. While I'm forever experimenting with my setup in order to create "the angel" sound in my unorthodox way, I always search for the gear that gets me "there" most quickly and simply, with the highest quality. In my case clean and pristine isn't the be all and end all, what I need



The Angel
producer/artist/ composer

more than anything is the right vibe and flavor. Guitars, vocals, bass, horns, literally everything goes through my Avalon so I get plenty of fat, well compressed bottom end and super smooth EQ.

In the ever evolving world of what can sometimes be called "clinical" digital recording, the VT-737SP puts the analog warmth I need back into my digital set up!

The Angel aka. 60 Channels has remixed The Pharcyde, Jody Watley, Spearhead and Donald Byrd and recently scored the box office hit "Boiler Room"



Nathan East
bassist/producer

The Avalon VT-737SP is peerless! I just finished recording & mixing my new rock album, soon to be released, using the VT-737SP in so many configurations with incredible results. Being a musician, engineer, producer and vocalist demands that I seek out the finest, fully loaded High Voltage Pre-Amp, Opto-Compressor, 4-band EQ. I couldn't believe the VT-737SP had it all in spades in one complete unit! It's profound versatility for recording various instruments, vocals and mixing applications is unsurpassed for high quality, effectiveness, warmth, depth, range and dynamic subtlety. Moreover, I had subjugated myself to a scrutinous A/B'ing test comparing a host of other competitive units which they proved underachieving to the world class Avalon line. For anyone with serious recording and musical taste, it is THE sexy showpiece for any studio. I know it will turn you on. I've been there. Avalon Rules!

Produced, written, & performed No. #1 Billboard Hit - Adventure / Columbia Records. Recently finished producing her new solo rock album, WHEN YOU LIVE. A Multi-level artist, musicians who have played or recorded with ACADEMIA include Joe Zawinul (Weather Report), Steve Gadd (Paul Simon), Jake E. Lee (Ozzy Osbourne), Maurice White (Earth, Wind & Fire), Greg & Matt Bissonette (David Lee Roth), Rikki Rockett (Poison). She was awarded Artist of the Year by L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan; was former musical director for the Quincy Jones Workshops & scored for feature films.



Photo by Mary Tenme

Eleanor Academia
artist/writer/musician
producer/engineer

"My Avalon VT-747SP lives on the stereo buss, adding incredible air and punch. The flexibility of the two band filters in the sidechain allow me to fine tune the stereo buss compression, producing an explosive sound. The Avalon AD2055 is the best EQ I've ever heard. Having the cleanest low and low-mid frequencies, combined with the most open top-end makes this my favorite tool in the studio. I personally use five of these on all my mixes. Even with the massive amounts of equalization, the sound stays musical and true. I've been a devoted fan and owner for 10 years and counting (they didn't pay me for this). A sample of artists graced with Avalon processing:



Jon Gass
mixer/producer/engineer

Babyface, TLC, Whitney Houston, Toni Braxton, Boys II Men, Phil Collins, Dru Hill, David Bowie, N'Sync, Aretha Franklin, Mary J. Blige, Mariah Carey, Take 6, Michael Bolton, Faith Evans, Diana Ross, James Taylor, Usher...

When I'm working in the studio, I depend on the latest innovations from Avalon to get the right sound. Artists need the freedom to create. If they're concerned with whether or not I'm able to capture a performance, it ultimately hurts the final product. Besides it's my job to make sure we're getting the necessary recording, and Avalon products make my job a whole lot easier! The M5 Pure Class A preamplifier creates an unparalleled vocal intimacy while optimizing absolute signal integrity and the sonic quality can't be matched. I also heavily rely on the AD2055 Equalizer. The clear top end gives a sound that inspires the artist, and the dynamic range appears to reach infinity. I've yet to find a musically transparent analog EQ which can compare. Avalon makes me look like I know what I'm doing. If it weren't for Avalon's equipment, I might be flipping burgers for a living!

Rob Jacobs has engineered for The Eagles, U2 "Rattle and Hum", and has currently been working on Don Henley's new album.



Rob Jacobs
mixer/producer/engineer



VT-737SP Vacuum Tube Preamp-EQ-Compressor

"Dude,...15Hz...hurts good! Our sound immediately went First Class with the VT-737SP and the VT-747SP. The FATTEST bottom and cleanest top we've ever heard. We were looking to step up our sound for our second album, and the VT-737SP and VT-747SP provided the answer!"



"The Crystal Method"
electronic music composers



Kevin "K.D." Davis
mix engineer

I made the switch to the Avalon AD2055 as my vocal EQ about three years ago and I've never gone back. The music I tend to work on is primarily vocal oriented. Therefore I demand an EQ that can accurately target exact frequencies and then allow me to shape the sound into the mix. The Avalon AD2055 fulfills this role flawlessly. Anyone who is in the market for a powerful, high quality EQ should not pass up the AD2055. The sound is pure and distinct.

Kevin has engineered for many R&B artist such as Mariah Carey, NSync, Montell Jordan, Eric Benet, Tyrese, Coolio, Destiny's Child, and Boys to Men



**AD2022
DUAL MONO MICROPHONE PREAMPLIFIER**

The AD2022 is Avalon's fourth generation of 100% discrete, Pure Class A microphone preamplifiers and incorporates our famous "deep and powerful" sound stage with many new exciting features.

The AD2022 includes all the sonic quality of the original M2, M22, and M5 preamplifiers plus several improved design functions. Features include selectable microphone source loading for optimized cable/mic matching, variable-passive high pass filter, twin Hi-Z instrument inputs conveniently located on the front panel, improved high-voltage Class A power distribution, silver wiring and four layer double plated circuit boards for superior low level signal transfer. The AD2022 incorporates the most advanced high performance microphone transformer available. Split low ratio primary windings are carefully combined within a custom mu-metal core for extended smooth frequency response and very low distortion.

The musical performance of the AD2022 is breathtaking and has to be heard to be believed!

FEATURES

- 100% discrete, Pure Class A design
- Microphone and high Z instrument inputs
- Transparent, minimal signal path design
- Very low noise -126dB EIN
- High current DC coupled Class A output line drives
- Input -20dB pad for high level signals
- High headroom +36dB input before overload
- Selectable microphone input impedance matching
- Gain switched 4dB steps, +/-3dB fine output trim
- Twin Outputs, Balanced +36dB, and unbalanced

BENEFITS

- Deep, musical sound stage, transparent amplification
- Headroom that goes on forever
- High definition with natural harmonic balance
- High speed transient response captures all musical detail
- Wide dynamic range
- Enhances artistic involvement



**AD2044
DUAL MONO OPTO-COMPRESSOR**

The AD2044 Pure Class A opto-compressor features non invasive control of the signal path. The AD2044 floats invisibly across your instrument or mix buss and seamlessly enhances the body of the sonic image.

Features include state of the art, balanced 100% discrete Pure Class A signal amplifiers, practical "real world" user features and rugged hardware designed to deliver true high performance audio for many years. Computer matched, high speed linear opto elements provide the passive attenuator system for gain reduction. The AD2044 incorporates a unique external control loop and current monitored optical driver for smooth control plus the benefits of traditional vintage LDR compression. The AD2044 can be found in the world's leading recording studio's, mastering facilities and artist producer outboard racks.

FEATURES

- 100% discrete, Pure Class A design
- Dual mono or stereo operation
- Transparent, minimal signal path
- Very low noise -94dB
- High headroom +30dB output
- Fully variable threshold, ratio, attack and release
- Fast acting blue peak compression LED
- Sidechain input for spectral limiting
- Large professional VU meters

BENEFITS

- Perfect solution for two buss music-program compression, mono bass, instrument and mastering applications
- Transparent, non invasive compression
- High speed, current optical control elements provide low noise gain reduction within Avalon's minimal signal path design
- This compressor gives your music a beautiful sound and "character" at all levels of compression



**AD2055
DUAL MONO EQUALIZER**

The Avalon AD2055 Pure Class A music equalizer combines the most musical, low noise parametric equalizer with the best passive and active filter designs for accurate and powerful control.

The unique combination of advanced electronics and pure musical character enables the AD2055 to deliver high-speed transient detail at the operational extremes of real-world equalization demands.

The passive high and low bands offer alternate musical tone range to the full function active parametric mid bands. Passive equalizers have long been a favorite with music lovers around the world...full-bodied, powerful (up to +/- 32dB, 64dB range!) and sweet frequency selections are the benefits of the passive high-low EQ bands.

The Avalon AD2055 breathes life!

FEATURES

- 100% discrete, Pure Class A design
- Transparent passive and active filter design
- Dual four band equalizer
- Very low noise -94dB
- Fully balanced DC inputs and outputs
- Mid bands use 10 frequency for extended range
- High headroom +30dB output
- Switched frequencies in high and low bands
- Wide bandwidth 1Hz to 500kHz

BENEFITS

- Musical, easy to use
- Transparent minimal signal path
- Great for two buss music-program equalization, special instrument EQ and FX applications
- High resolution transient detail and auto bias DC servo loop control eliminate the need for all interstage capacitor coupling
- Very low noise at all settings



**AD2077
MASTERING EQUALIZER**

The AD2077 Mastering Equalizer is an ultraistic design optimizing absolute signal integrity. Switched rotary controls for all functions makes repeatable settings fast and easy.

The AD2077 embraces all the ultra-high resolution and sonic qualities of the AD2055. The AD2077 also features the unique combination of both active and passive filter designs. This musical combination of tone selections enables the discriminating engineer unlimited choices within the vast overlapping frequency ranges. Avalon's advanced true symmetry design offers high voltage, large headroom, extended bandwidth and very low noise. The use of 100% discrete, Pure Class A signal amplifiers gives the serious mastering engineer ultimate sonic character and a natural harmonic detail that enhances the program material and becomes one with the music itself.

The Avalon AD2077 is the most musically transparent mastering EQ available today!

FEATURES

- Smooth musical detail and sonic excellence
- Minimum audio signal path
- Pure Class A, 100% discrete design
- Dual Mono, fully switched silent controls
- Transparent active and passive filter design
- Very low noise -94dB
- High headroom +30dB
- 104 switched frequencies per channel
- Switched range control 0.5dB, 1dB, and 2dB steps
- Wide bandwidth 1Hz to 500kHz

BENEFITS

- Perfect for two buss music program equalization and ultra high performance analog mastering applications
- Full bodied, powerful (up to +/-20dB, 40dB range!)
- Unlimited dynamic range, open sound
- Transparent, minimal signal path
- All stepped design of 0.5dB, 1dB, and 2dB make it easy to duplicate and create the exact sounds from your imagination!



M5

MONO MICROPHONE PREAMPLIFIER

The M5 features 100% discrete, Pure Class A design. The M5 is the most musical, low noise, full function microphone-instrument preamplifier available.

Designed to optimize absolute signal integrity and musical performance, the M5 combines an advanced transformer input stage with twin high performance Class A cascode FET and bi polar discrete amplifiers for sonic excellence unequalled by lesser designs.

Avalon preamplifiers have been in use since 1989. They have found their way into the world's most famous lead vocalists recording sessions and studios and been featured on millions of the best selling (and sounding) albums and live performances.

The M5 microphone preamplifier is the first choice when you are looking to capture a full-bodied, dynamic, musical performance from the intimate depths within the artist.

The M5 will make your recordings musical masterpieces!



U5

DIRECT INSTRUMENT PREAMPLIFIER

The U5 Pure Class A instrument DI and preamplifier is designed to optimize absolute signal integrity and music performance.

Designed for deep and controlled bass. The U5 includes a variable gain Class A preamplifier to boost low level pick up signals and a high level speaker input for capturing the live sound of the instruments amplifier. Six passive tone EQ curves are also included to enhance a variety of acoustic and electric instruments. A high cut switch eliminates unwanted acoustic pickup and high frequency noise, while a headphone monitor amp has been included for personal listening. Twin DC coupled Class A output amplifiers drive both low level microphone preamp inputs and high level +4dB inputs for direct to tape recording and processing. The active-to-thru switch selects either the instrument input directly or sends the boosted-equalized signal to the amplifier via the front panel jack.

VACUUM TUBE VT-700 SERIES

The VT-700 series from Avalon brings classic vacuum tube euphonic's into the 21st century. Capturing the sonic subtleties of the past while infusing your sound with high definition discrete Class A power, the VT-700's deep and controlled bass, rich-smooth midrange and delicate extended high frequency performance come together in these easy to use musical magicians! Our careful selection of creative features provides an amazing amount of sonic sculpting capacity, giving you the very best in modern discrete electronics. The VT's deliver the natural harmonic balance for today's demanding music professionals ...it's easy with tubes!



VT-737SP

MONO MIC PRE/COMPRESSOR/EQ

Mono vacuum tube preamplifier, opto-compressor and discrete, Class A four-band equalizer. Unlimited rich sound loaded with sonic character, ideal for direct to tape, DAW and digital recording

The VT-737SP features a combination of TUBE preamplifiers, opto-compressor and sweep equalizer. The VT-737SP has three input selections: Transformer balanced microphone, instrument DI and a balanced line input. The opto-compressor features twin Class A vacuum tube triodes for gain matching. The optical attenuator acts as a simple passive level controller. Spectral control including de-ess is available with the dual sweep mid EQ to sidechain switch. Two VT-737SP's can be linked via a rear panel link cable for stereo tracking. The EQ utilizes 100% discrete, Class A high voltage transistors for optimum sonic performance. The high and low bands provide the smooth characteristics of an all passive design while the dual mid bands include variable frequency and switched Q-width selection. All switches incorporate sealed silver relay for the most direct signal path.

FEATURES

- Minimal signal path design
- Four Class A vacuum tube triodes
- EQ to sidechain for de-ess
- Low noise -92dB
- Soft start tube life extender

BENEFITS

- Rich, full bodied sound, easy to use
- Full dynamic control from soft compression to hard knee limiting
- Class A high voltage transistors for optimum sonic performance



VT-747SP

STEREO COMPRESSOR/EQ

Stereo vacuum tube opto-compressor with LF and HF spectral side-chain control, six-band program equalizer and tube bypass. Excellent for stereo buss compression, audio sweetening, and mastering

The VT-747SP features a features full dynamic control from soft compression to hard knee limiting. LF and HF contour spectral controls can be routed into the side chain path for enhanced frequency dependent compression. Sealed silver relays are used for all signal routing and bypass functions. The six band stereo program EQ incorporates 100% discrete, Class A high-voltage transistors, enhancing the smooth characteristics of an all passive design. The frequency turnover, Q and amplitude ranges have been carefully chosen for each band to provide the most natural harmonic balance and lowest phase change while offering simple and effective tone control. TSP (twin signal path) gives the choice of tube tone or classic transistor sound by placing high-voltage dual triode tubes or discrete amplifiers in the compressor and output driver stages.

FEATURES

- Classic opto-compression
- Stereo Class A six band passive program EQ
- TSP twin signal path, vacuum tube bypass
- Very low noise-92dB
- Stereo dynamic 60dB high resolution output meters
- Spectral side-chain monitor for pre-listen

BENEFITS

- Ideal for high performance DAW input signal conditioning, stereo buss compression-EQ, stereo keyboards and analog mastering applications
- TSP gives the choice of tube tone or transistor sound
- Rich, fat sound, easy to use



FEATURES

- High performance input transformer
- Microphone and high Z inputs to +36dB
- Very low noise -126dB
- High headroom +30dB
- Gain switched in 2dB steps to +64dB
- Large illuminated professional VU meter
- Variable passive high pass (bass cut) filter
- Low distortion less than 0.5% THD and IMD
- Twin LED peak signal indicators
- Low distortion less than 0.5% THD and IMD
- All signal routing with sealed silver relays
- Minimum audio signal path



Optional RM-2 Twin Rack Mount Kit for U5 and M5



Optional BK-1 Power supply card for B&K microphones (M5 only)

FEATURES

- Variable gain preamp to +30dB
- Pure Class A, 100% discrete design
- Dual microphone and line outputs
- Hi-Z 3,000,000 ohm input impedance
- Very low noise -100dB
- High headroom +30dB
- Six tone bank selections
- High cut switch eliminates high frequency noise
- DC coupled Class A output for superior bass
- LED active signal indicator
- Headphone monitor output jack
- High level 400 watt speaker input
- Ground isolation switch

BENEFITS

- Ideal for bass guitar and acoustic instruments, electric guitars, keyboards, synthesizers, and low output pickups
- High input impedance input stage for zero load effect on sensitive pickups and keyboards
- The U5 accepts a wide variety of signal levels and instruments giving your music vibrant and powerful sound
- Rugged hardware design, perfect for road use

BENEFITS

- Deep, musical sound stage
- Ideal for vocal and acoustic instruments, active DI input for the direct recording of bass, guitars and keyboards
- Long lasting, stainless steel hardware
- Musically balanced harmonic detail
- Fantastic, dynamic, transient capability