

ASSOCIATION  
FOR RECORDED  
SOUND  
COLLECTIONS



# ARSC New York Chapter MARCH 2019 Meeting

**7:00 P. M. Thursday, 3/21/19**

**→At the CUNY Sonic Arts Center←**

**West 140<sup>th</sup> Street & Convent Avenue, New York**

**Or enter at 138th Street off Convent Avenue (N.B. not always open)**

**Shepard Hall (the Gothic building) – Recital Hall (Room 95, ground floor)**

**An elevator is located in the center of the building**

## **“Maintaining vintage analog audio equipment in a digital age”**

**A conversation with Bob Shuster and Marcos Sueiro Bal**

Around the age of 10, **Bob Shuster** was fascinated with mechanical things, particularly reel- to-reel tape decks, and he began taking them apart and putting them back together astonishingly well. Over the years, this developed into Bob’s ultimate love and amazingly deep knowledge of all reel-to-reel machines, both professional and consumer models. He has assisted AES (Audio Engineering Society) with their Audio History Museum project to recover and document lost materials and information relating to the history of the reel-to-reel machine.

After attending both the Eastman School of Music and IAR (Institute of Audio Research) for Audio Engineering and Technical Maintenance Engineering, in 1977 Bob began his long career in the upper echelon of world-class recording studios. At Media Sound in Manhattan, he was dubbed “Midnight Bob” due to the fact that he performed all of the heavy technical maintenance and repair work on the studio equipment during the midnight to 8AM shift. Ten more years were spent at what is considered by many to be the most technically acclaimed studio thus far in the history of recording: Power Station Studios, again as a Senior Audio Maintenance Engineer. Bob was also affiliated with Record Plant, Electric Lady, Sony Studios (as a mastering technical maintenance engineer), Pomann Sound (as a video post-production technical maintenance engineer), Avatar Studios (the former Power Station Studio opened under new ownership), NBC (as on-air systems engineer), and MTV/Viacom Networks (as on-air systems engineer).

During that time, Shuster Sound was Bob’s sideline business. Now, it focuses on professional and consumer audio technical maintenance, repair and installation.

**Marcos Sueiro Bal** is the Archives Manager at New York Public Radio. He is also Co-Chair of ARSC's Technical Committee, and was part of the Collection Management Task Force that drafted the *Library of Congress National Recording Preservation Plan* in 2012. In 2011 he co-translated the definitive text on audio preservation, *Guidelines for the Production and Preservation of Digital Audio Objects*. He is a member of the Standards Committee of the Audio Engineering Society, and director of the Education Committee of the Archivists Roundtable of Metropolitan New York.

**Our next meeting will be on April 18, 2019**

**“RIAA Equalization for Velocity-Sensitive and Displacement-Sensitive Phono Cartridges”**

**With  
GARY A. GALO**

#### **DIRECTIONS TO THE SONIC ARTS CENTER**

**Subway:** Take the 1 train to 137<sup>th</sup> Street City College and walk north to 140<sup>th</sup> St. & Broadway, then go east to 140<sup>th</sup> St. & Convent Avenue. Take the A, B, C, or D trains to 145<sup>th</sup> St, go west on 145<sup>th</sup> St. to Convent Avenue, then south on Convent Ave. to 140<sup>th</sup> St. **Bus:** M4 and M5 on Broadway; M 100, 101 on Amsterdam Ave. (one block West of Convent Avenue)



*The Sonic Arts Center at CCNY offers 4-year Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Music with a concentration in Music and Audio Technology. Their program provides an in-depth curriculum emphasizing real-world skills with a project-based approach. Students enjoy a well-rounded program, with emphasis on audio technology, music theory, orchestration, and history to help them compete in a field that today demands an ever-growing and highly diverse skill set.*

All ARSC NY Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

**Voluntary contributions to help defray our expenses are welcome and tax deductible!**

To join ARSC, visit <http://www.arsc-audio.org>