

Official
**NATIONAL
LAMPPOON**[®]
Stereo Test and
Demonstration Record



K. Williams

Official National Lampoon Stereo Test and Demonstration Record Liner Notes

Narrations, dramatizations, characterizations, demonstrations, emulations, explanations, ejaculations, and examinations



conceived and written
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Sound Engineer: John Hechtman

Narrator: Stan Sawyer

Voices: Ed Subitzky

John Belushi

Chevy Chase

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Sounds: Themselves

Executive Producer: Gerald L. Taylor

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Recorded at National Lampoon Studios

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READ THESE LINER NOTES CAREFULLY. AT THE END OF EACH SECTION, YOU WILL BE TESTED. ANSWER EACH QUESTION, PUTTING A CHECK MARK IN THE BOX BESIDE THE ANSWER THAT YOU THINK COMES CLOSEST. DO NOT GUESS — A WRONG ANSWER WILL BE MORE HARMFUL TO YOUR GRADE THAN NO ANSWER. DO NOT PROCEED TO THE NEXT SECTION UNTIL YOU HAVE FINISHED THE PREVIOUS SECTION. YOU WILL BE ALLOWED A TOTAL OF FIVE MINUTES TO READ THE SECTIONS AND TO ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS. DO NOT WASTE TIME!

NOW BEGIN:

INTRODUCTION

This is the **Official National Lampoon Stereo Test and Demonstration Record**. It will help you determine how well your stereo system is working, whether or not it is adjusted perfectly, how loud it can play, and whether your sense of humor is in tune or out of tune. The **Official National Lampoon Stereo Test and Demonstration Record** consists of two sides which are called, respectively, "Side One" and "Side Two." On each side are different sections called "bands." Your record player will automatically proceed onto the next succeeding band after it has played the last one, except at the end of "Side One," when you must turn the record over. The diameter of this record is 12 inches, and the outer circumference, calculated by the formula, $C = d$, is 37.69911180 inches.

Questions

- This is known as the
 - Water Music** by Beethoven.
 - I Wanna Go Home** by Dion and the Belmonts.
 - Great Hits of Lawrence Welk, Volume III**
 - Million-Selling Animal Lyrics.**
 - Official National Lampoon Stereo Test and Demonstration Record.**

- Side two is called
 - "Side One."
 - "Side Three."
 - "Side Two."
 - "bands."
 - "Side Six."

A Brief History

The history of stereo test and demonstration records is unfortunately somewhat obscure. In 1879, the Edison **Official Test and Demonstration Cylinder** enjoyed brief popularity; it was followed by the **Official Test and Demonstration Wire**, the **Official Test and Demonstration Ear Trumpet**, the **Official Test and Demonstration Man**, the **Official Test and Demonstration Woman**, and the **Official Test and Demonstration Wireless**. The advent of the war with Mexico, however, put a damper on these efforts. As President Taft exclaimed during an impromptu speech to the Republican Party Convention of 1916, "If Mexico had in fact won the skirmish and we were Mexicans today living in a Mexican regime, our life might be much worse and then again, it might not have been all that bad. However, it is certainly likely that whatever progress has been made in this important area to date...would have been, shall we say, hampered, at least for the while." With the sudden rise of Gaullism in 1948 and the dread of all-out atomic war in the 50s, people once again turned to their stereos for escapism, and thus the popularity of test records was newly assured. They were included as standard equipment in some late-model fallout shelters, according to the formula $E = pq^t (m - n^x)$.

Questions

- The history of stereo test and demonstration records is
 - a turbulent, passionate one.
 - a left/right one.
 - somewhat obscure.
 - cylindrical with a diameter of 12 inches.
 - a microhistory of Gaullism.
- Stereo test and demonstration records were sometimes included in fallout shelters according to
 - the whim of the Mexican Generals.
 - the edict of President Lincoln.
 - "Side Four."

- The formula $E = pq^t (m - n^x)$.
- none of the above.

Purpose: Testing

All good high fidelity equipment should reproduce, in as accurate a way as possible, the original sound. This means, among other things, that it (1) should be able to reproduce the entire audible frequency range, from the very low notes to the very high; and (2) should do so without audible distortion. To see how well their equipment actually accomplishes this, many music lovers turn to **Official Stereo Test and Demonstration Records**. On these records you will find such things as (1) low and high tones to test the range of your system; (2) good stereo effects to test your system's separation; and (3) highly modulated passages to test the ability of your cartridge to track without undue distortion. In addition, **Official Stereo Test and Demonstration Records** contain special passages that help you adjust the controls on your equipment to obtain maximum tone quality. Fortunately, neophyte listeners need not concern themselves with the technical whys and wherefores behind these tests; like the boy who is lost in the jungle and finds a map dropped by a plane, they need only follow simple directions to get to where they want to go. Perhaps the largest jungle in the world today is the *Abeloxia* of Chile. Through this dense knot of foliage wanders, crawls, and flies an estimated 6,700 species of animals, birds, and insects.

Questions

- The purpose of a good high fidelity system is
 - the *Abeloxia*.
 - 37.69911186 inches.
 - to replay music as accurately as possible.
 - to replay Muzak as accurately as possible.
 - all of the above.
- What the boy was really hoping for was
 - 6,800 species of animals, birds and insects.
 - Beethoven.
 - the collapse of Gaullism.
 - highly modulated groove passages.
 - to be found.

Purpose: Demonstration

According to psychologists, one of the primary attributes distinguishing man from his animal cousins is his interest in, and ability at, showing off. In modern times, the technological manifestation of this evolutionary genetically-fixed deterministic species-wide tendency is often represented under the guise of inviting people, often of the opposite sex (defined by Webster's as "the difference between man and woman") into the home abode for the purpose of demonstrating the loudness and power of the music system therein. In keeping with this primal urge, **Official Stereo Test and Demonstration Records** typically may offer a potpourri of very loud sounds, very deep sounds, and very high-pitched sounds. Thus the listener can both satisfy himself that his system is capable (or not capable, as the case may sometimes be) of turning out some powerful effects, and can likewise demonstrate these effects to win the admiration of those concurrently at his abode, and thus fulfill his bio-heritage in a socially acceptable manner. According to other psychologists, this is not so.

Questions

- Sex is
 - a biological fact.
 - one of the main reasons why people take off their clothes.
 - the difference between woman and man.
 - fulfilling.
 - better when the fidelity is high.
- According to psychologists,
 - we are, at heart, basically brutal, sexual creatures with strong sex urges.
 - if we don't listen to our hi-fis often enough, we are likely to go out and molest members of the opposite sex to satisfy our ever-present sexuality.
 - man, of all primates, prefers sex to reading.
 - the other psychologists are not always right, both about sexual matters and about other matters.
 - the formula for sex is historically obscure.

A Miracle in Plastic

When the average American con-

sumer picks up an **Official Stereo Test and Demonstration Record**, he cavalierly accepts the advanced technology that went into its production, giving little thought to the hundreds of careful steps, each in itself having the perfect right to be called a scientific miracle, entailed therein. Today, most records are made of a wonder substance called *polyvinyl chloride* and are cut to diameters of 12 inches (which means their circumferences must be 37.69911180 inches). A special centering machine makes certain that the label is pasted on in the center, not over the grooves, and a big drill, powered by electricity, slowly descends upon the record, its huge hulking frame cloaked in shadow, edging closer, closer, closer—will the record escape!—its chisel-sharp point dripping a tiny trail of oil as it relentlessly drops, making a hideous clicking sound . . . click! click! click!—but the record, see the record, it is locked in and no, there is no escape!—now the very shadow of the drill is upon it!—click! click! click!—drip! drip! drip!—closer and closer and closer and closer—wait a minute! At the very last moment, who should arrive at the record factory but the Mexican troops just in time to save it!

Questions

- Modern technology is
 - an often unappreciated miracle.
 - part of the *Abeloxia*.
 - all of the above.
 - all of the below.
 - inherently sexual in nature, and always on the verge of translating its inherent sexuality into overt sexual activities.
- The moral of this piece can be said to be:
 - "A stitch in time saves nine."
 - "Technology without autocracy is like autology without technocracy."
 - "The average American consumer is well-fed but ill-read."
 - "You can get lost in a jungle, but you can get found in one too."
 - "The hole in the middle of a record of pure gold is as empty as the hole in the middle of a record of ordinary black vinyl."

Summary

In your hands right now you are holding the **Official National Lampoon Stereo Test and Demonstration Record**. On this record you will find tests that help you evaluate your stereo system, help you adjust it properly, help you (frankly) show it off a little, and also make you laugh at a frequency of not less than twenty yocks per minute (± 2 ha). Remove the cellophane. Take the record out of the paper. Place it on your phonograph and, while you are listening to it, you will probably be enjoying yourself too much to recall the fact that modern biologists believe, of all the secondary sexual characteristics, it is the ones of the woman that most attract the ones on the man, and vice-versa.

Questions

- According to modern research, the *Abeloxia*
 - has a circumference of 37.69911183 inches.
 - was invaded by both De Gaulle and the Mexicans.
 - has many species of animals, but few turntables.
 - is sexually very busy at night.
 - is a cheap hotel known for its loose women.
- The **Official National Lampoon Stereo Test and Demonstration Record**
 - is in your hands right now.
 - will help you evaluate your equipment and bring you much laughter, which you can use too.
 - is wrapped in cellophane which must be removed before playing it.
 - contains a multitude of explicit references to matters of a sexual nature.
 - all but four of the above.

Important Notice

On this record, you will find several tests for your stereo system that really work. Where the record tells you that a test is serious, please believe it. Although we have attempted to make this record as funny and off-the-wall to listen to as possible, we have also included real tests which will really give you real information about your equipment. Please believe us. It's true.

Side 1

1. Introduction to Side One
2. Test: Voice
3. Test: Balance
4. Demonstration: Several Parameters
5. Demonstration: Separation
6. Demonstration: Frequency Response
7. Test: Unmodulated Grooves
8. Special Service
9. Test: End of Side One

Place Spindle Here

Use on record
player only.

33 $\frac{1}{3}$ r.p.m.
STEREO

**Official National Lampoon
Stereo Test and Demonstration
Record Label**

Written By: **Ed Subitzky**
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Side 2

1. Introduction to Side Two
2. Test: Realism
3. Test: Resistance Accuracy
4. Test: Phasing
5. Test: Exaggeration
6. Test: Listener
7. The Punishment Band
8. Conclusion

Place Spindle Here

Use on record
player only.

33 $\frac{1}{3}$ r.p.m.
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