

45rpm Phono Gazette

**I must be dreaming!
Bass comes to the 7EY**

By Phil Vourtsis

Although there are some RCA Victor 45 rpm phonographs that sound good, some of the cheaper models sound pretty tinny. This was typical of the phonographs in the 50s. To cut costs you used a single stage of amplification, small 4 inch speaker and small cabinet. To me the ones that sound the worst are the 7EY series. Although they are some of the nicest looking and most colorful players, their bass response is nonexistent.

While garage saling recently I noticed that many people are getting rid of their older computer hardware, including optional speakers. Some of these speaker systems have sub woofers included with the satellite speakers. I picked up this unit for \$2 and tried experimenting with it. Usually today's amplifiers are not impedance matched with the old cartridges used on the 45 players. However the subwoofer circuit does work well! Just hook up the input of the sub woofer to the speaker output on your 7EY1 or 2 and you will be amazed at the bass you will hear.

The increased bass does create the possibility of rumble from the turntable so good motor grommets and rubber suspension cones are a must. Also playing full stacks of records helps smooth out things.

Another thing to look for is a sub woofer that works independently from the satellite speakers. This unit allows me to disconnect the satellite speakers and just control the sub woofer volume. Some units are hardwired so all the speakers are on. The satellite speakers may sound too shrill. Shunting some of the high frequencies with a capacitor at the 7EY speaker can correct this.

The sub woofer can also be used to increase the bass on other models like 9EY3, 45EY2, 45EY3. I wouldn't think you would need it on the New Orthophonic High fidelity models. Anyway, have fun experimenting with this.



7EY1 together with Altec Lansing Sub Woofer



Sub woofer with tone, bass, and volume controls



Sub Woofer back with power switch, audio input, satellite speaker connections

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45J2 or 6JY1 Stereo Conversion



Modified 6JY1 with twin RCA jacks mounted

By Phil Vourtsis

The 45J2 or 6JY1 record playing attachment was designed to allow the user to listen to music through radios and televisions equipped with an RCA phono jack. Of course RCA Victor installed these on most of their equipment while most other manufacturers did not. This was a nice selling point for RCA Victor radios and televisions, which could be upgraded to play records. Since the introduction of the 45 system was in early 1949 and was abandoned in the late 1950s, (the player was abandoned not the record) the player was never updated to handle stereo which was introduced in the late 1950s.



Stereo ceramic cart and oversized rubber feet installed

If we fast-forward now to the present day, most of the 45 rpm records available are in stereo. Some stereo 45s were sold in the late 1950s but apparently they did not sell well, so all record companies dropped stereo 45s until the middle 1960s. So any 45s in your collection from the late 60s through the 1990s are stereo. Even today there are still some 45s released by popular artists in stereo, but the latest fad is to use the small hole. So unfortunately you can't play them on your RCA attachment. But it would be nice to be able to hear all those records you have in stereo on your 45J2 or 6JY1.

All you need to do is install a good quality stereo cartridge and run cartridge wire to handle the two stereo channels. You would also need two RCA jacks instead of the one you presently have. While you're at it you can make an improvement to the set by providing the RCA jacks under the chassis as shown in the 1st figure. This way you can plug in any size cables you want when you run it to your external amplifier. In this case I replaced the existing terminal strip with the RCA jacks. Earlier models provided a mute switch. You can either do away with the mute switch or modify it. (Refer to 45rpm Phono Gazette from Jan 2012, page 2 article by Jim Romano entitled 'Making Your Own Stereo Mute Switch')

Converting to stereo can cause the changer to be more susceptible to producing turntable rumble. This is especially true if you are connecting the attachment to a high fidelity amplifier with plenty of bass response. In order to reduce this tendency it is important to use the best quality motor mounts and rubber feet under the attachment. This situation is even more of a problem if you were to use a magnetic cartridge because of the wide frequency response. With magnetic cartridges you would also need to add a preamplifier because the output of the magnetic cartridge is much lower than your typical ceramic cartridge. This additional gain from the preamp tends to pick up more turntable noise. So whether you go with the easier ceramic cartridge or the more complicated magnetic upgrade, you will definitely enjoy the three-dimensional sound stereo provides.

*The 45 rpm Phono Gazette is a quarterly publication since 1995. \$6/\$8 for 4 issues, \$12/\$16 for 9 issues.(USA/Intl)
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Unknown factory cranking out 45 rpm records. The labels look like they could be Columbia.

The 45rpm Phono Gazette

WANTED	WANTED	SERVICES	SERVICES
<p>Bob Becker (201.391.2971) 7 Woodland Road Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677 rdbecker@aol.com Beige knob for 8EY4FK Large tuning or vol knob for 9Y510 6JM25 Ding Dong Slideomatic 7HF45 Oak or Maple preferred 8EY4DJ gray plastic front Decca blk/red portable 45 player</p> <p>Charles Cummins (817-732-4313) 3912 Calmont Ave Fort Worth, Texas 76107</p> <p>David Cox (937)484-3241 1407 Knight Road Urbana, OH 43078 dcc49@yahoo.com 45 spindle for Admiral 5W12N 2-speed record player Bakelite lid for Zenith twin 7 Outer concentric radio/phono knob for Emerson 635</p> <p>Dennis D'Amico 11892 Pine Street Los Alamitos, CA 90720-4163 lionelguy@yahoo.com</p> <p>Bill Gourd (989-832-2934) 1024 West Park Drive Midland, Michigan 48640 <u>In priority order:</u> 8EY4, 7HF45 (wood case) 8HF45P (portable) 4Y511 (radio/phono)</p> <p>Hank Granse (360-871-9014) 6751 View Dr. SE Port Orchard, WA 98367 hgranse@wavecable.com</p> <p>Bob Green (570-366-3949) 1711 Breezy Acres Rd Orwigsburg, PA 17961 For Sale- 15E Demonstrator rcgreen@schmobile.com</p>	<p>Doug Houston (248-627-4141) 3441 South Hadley Ortonville, Michigan 48462 HoustonD@tacom.army.mil</p> <p>Bob Kolba 480.203.2241 8676 East Woodley Way Scottsdale, AZ 85266 Rkolba0211@aol.com</p> <p>John Lee 314 East 11th St. Upland, CA 91786 Nipper45@verizon.net Can scan other character model decals in exchange for Snow White</p> <p>Paul Childress (804.271.7842) 6632 W. Denny Ct. Chesterfield, VA 23832 pchildress@prodigy.net</p> <p>Bob Reck (410)647-1849484 Botteford Court, <u>Severna Park, MD</u></p> <p>Doug Robinson 2609S. 800E. Salt Lake, Utah 84106 Doug45rpm@hotmail.com Need 5 scalloped volume control knobs (brown)</p> <p>Dan Saporito (732.513.5698) 1225 NW 21st ST Apt. 302 Stuart, FL 34994</p> <p>Ray Tyner (614-475-1697) 4709 Wendler Blvd Columbus Ohio 43230-1642 rcray45rpm@msn.com Birch 45 player, Steelman 45 player</p>	<p>Willie Bosco 707.923.3897 1588 Miller Creek Rd. Garberville, CA 95542 williamjbosco@gmail.com Cam kits, and Lowrider cartridges available again!</p> <p>Tom Paruta (716.264.4035) 127 Creekside Drive Amherst, NY 14228 TomTMP58@aol.com Looking for Zenith T545 Zenith Twin Seven I do 1940s thru 1960s phono restorations. Call for quotes.</p> <p>Retro-Tronics Custom radio backs and phono bottoms for 45EY2, 7EY series www.retro-tronics.com</p> <p>James Romano Phono_restoration_company 301 Haynes Run Medford, NJ 08055 (856-220-9588) Restoration of RCA 45rpm phonos & knock off models. Repair on any changer or turntable. JUKEBOXJUNKIE@aol.com Webpage: http://www.turntablefactory.com/romano.html</p>	<p>Vintage Electronics 128 Buccaneer Drive Hattiesburg, MS 39402 601.264.4755 phonoed@aol.com www.vintageelectronics.com Rebuilding Service - Idlers, cams. NOS cartridges & needles for almost every model and brand made.</p> <p>V-M Audio Enthusiasts (248-478-0990) eves/wkends 37530 E. Meadowhill Northville, MI 48167 info@thevoiceofmusic.com www.thevoiceofmusic.com Repair parts including both V-M and RCA 45 players.</p> <p>Phil Vourtsis (732-208-4284) 13 Cornell Place Manalapan, NJ 07726 philvourtsis@gmail.com Books signed by author The Fabulous Victrola '45', Schiffer Publishing LTD. \$25 plus \$4 shipping</p> <p>West Tech Services 615 Fairground Street Caldwell, Ohio 43724 TELE/FAX: 740-581-0945 westtechservices@yahoo.com Rebuilding Service Idlers, cams, cartridges</p>
<hr/> <h2>FOR SALE</h2> <hr/> <p>15E Demonstrator Both turntables restored Amplifier rebuilt Tweeters added to speaker system 45 Changer has 'see through' spindle cap And metal spindle. Featured in Oct 2009 Phono Gazette \$1500 856-220-9588</p>			
			