Graham Nash Finishes Up With Crystal Cable/Siltech

By Jon Iverson • Posted: Jan 15, 2016



[Note: click here for background on this project and here for how we set up the equipment.]

The day was getting long at this point and we'd already listened to a couple hour's worth of music, but we wanted a little variety from the floor-standing speakers we had heard so far. So we popped into the Crystal Cable/Siltech room to hear *This Path Tonight* on a dimensionally smaller system.

Crystal's Hungarian-born Gabi Rjinveld was a touring concert pianist in her youth (she started training at age 4) and she and Nash immediately fell into conversation about music. Perfect. But we were here to listen to Nash's album, so I hooked his computer up to the dCS DAC on hand and eventually Graham moved to the sweet spot.

His reaction: "I was expecting much less when I saw the speakers. I mean, they are only a foot or so square. So I wasn't prepared for the size of the sound coming out. I didn't realize you could get that kind of sound from that size."

To be fair, there was a subwoofer in the room, but Nash was right, the imaging sounded just as big as in the other rooms.

"And the music sounded very natural, very real. Of course being a smaller system, again I could see this in my own living room since they aren't gigantic things. The speakers were beautifully designed and did you see the inside of the [Siltech] amplifier? Beautiful! The Dutch—watch out!"



Gabi and Edwin Rjinveld with Graham Nash.

As we were talking in the back of the room, Graham's eye caught a glimpse of some in-ear-monitors wired with Crystal Cable (sold through Astell and Kern) in a display case. I knew that he has some Koss day-glo earbuds that he connects to his phone and computer, so suggested he give them a listen to see what he'd been missing. Even better, Gabi handed him the set and said "try them out on your own and let me know what you think."

Graham told me later that back at the hotel he had charged up the Chord Mojo headphone DAC he had been given earlier, and plugged in the new ear-buds, deciding right then and there he had to

have them. He and Gabi worked it out and Nash couldn't be happier. I'm hoping he spreads the word to all of his musician pals as well.