



THE ABSOLUTE SOUND - APRIL/MAY 2006

CHRIS MARTENS' Best of Show

Best Sound At CES

The **Sound Lab** Millennium-1 full-range electrostats. Accuracy, neutrality, high resolution, and musicality converge right here.

JIM HANNON'S Best of Show

Best Sound at CES

Besides the \$750,000 Bosendorfer Grand Piano, the big **SoundLab** Millennium-1 PXs (Tascam DV-RA1000/Blowtorch Pre/Parasound JC1s) captured my heart with their seamless coherence from top to bottom, ultra-low distortion, transient speed, and truth of timbre.

Sound Lab

Sound Lab M1-PX full-range electrostatic
loudspeaker (\$22,770)

Parasound amp, preamp, and CD player
(\$, affordable)

Simply gorgeous-sounding, this latest, updated version of the Sound Lab M-1 was the best full-range 'stat at CES, with incomparably beautiful tone color and superb inner detail. Even the bass, which has been a touch overblown in past M-1s, sounded "right," though the M-1s are not the kinds of speakers that stage outside the "box." You need space for these babies and height, too. As in past demos, the affordable Parasound electronics the M-1s were paired with drove these 'stats extremely well, proving that you don't have to spend a fortune on amps, preamps, and CD players to get a world-class system. One of the **better sounds of the show.**