

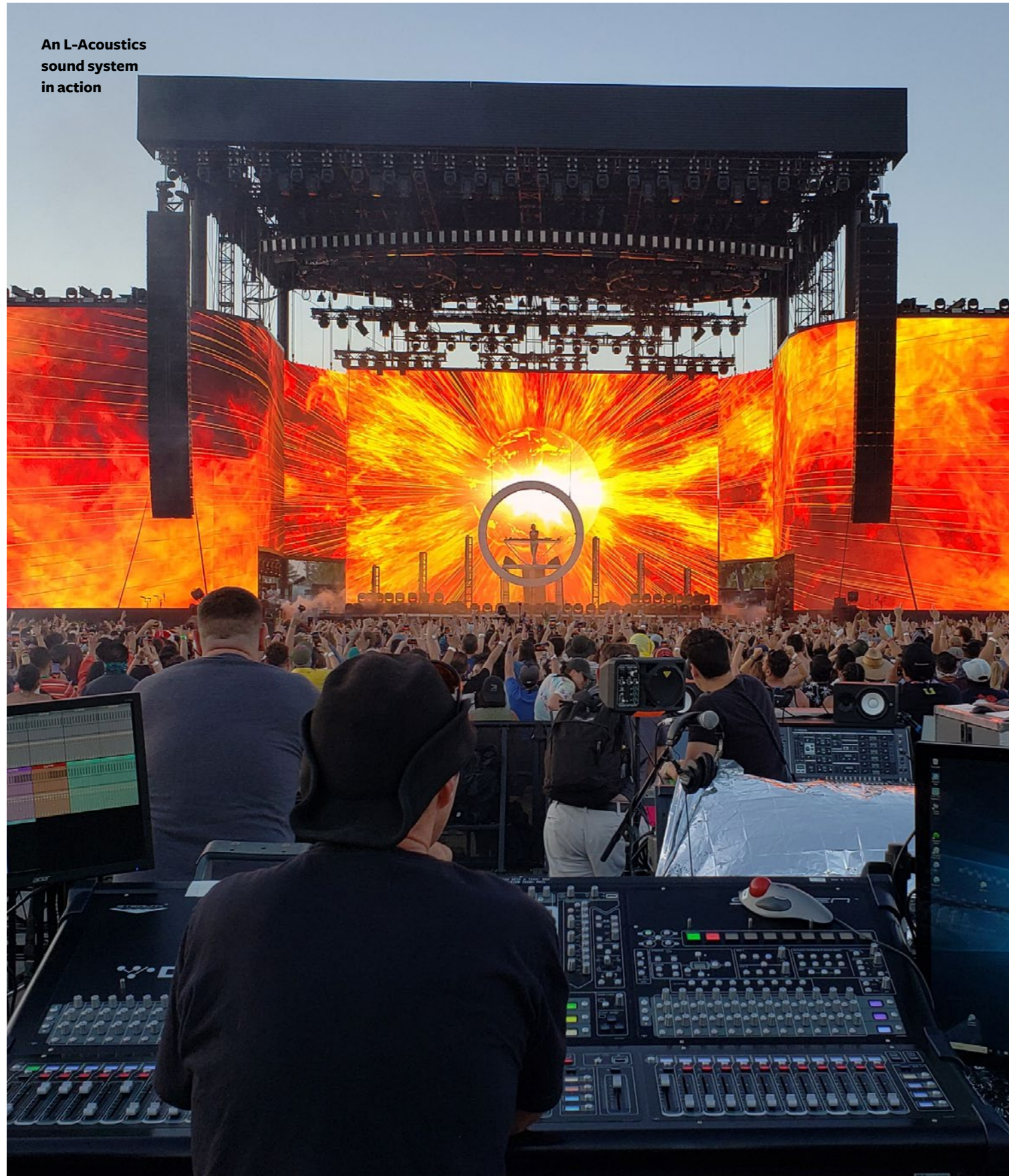
Sounds GOOD

Dr. Christian Heil, founder of L-Acoustics, has made it his mission to develop the perfect sound.

CHRISTIAN HEIL
FOUNDER @ L-ACOUSTICS



An L-Acoustics sound system in action



At festivals such as Coachella, famous soloists, bands, and DJs soak up the adulation of hundreds of thousands of fans, but spare a moment for the unsung hero at such gatherings – the hardware, like advanced speakers made by L-Acoustics. Christian Heil’s company is ubiquitous at premium events worldwide including the BBC Proms, Hollywood Bowl, Olympic Games, Tomorrowland Festival, Philharmonie de Paris, or on tour with famous artists including Mark Knopfler, Lorde, Aerosmith, and P!NK. “You may not have heard of us – but you have heard us.” Christian says.

As a young man with a PhD in particle physics, Frenchman Christian’s journey to elevate the listener experience began with a chance encounter. He met an audio engineer at a party in the early 80s and says the conversation triggered something inside him; he was fascinated by the technician’s expertise and drive to improve sound quality at concerts and, over time, believed he could help by applying his scientific knowledge. Buoyed by this new quest, he dived headfirst into the industry and set up his own company, L-Acoustics, in 1984. From humble beginnings and two employees, it now employs 500 people with offices in London, Paris, Los Angeles, and Singapore and a network of certified partners in 80 countries

“There’s a misconception” Christian explains, “that sound is very subjective. In fact,

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We have barely begun to explore the vast possibilities of sound

sound and audio performance are characterized by very objective and measurable criteria if the goal is to achieve sound that is genuine.”

L-Acoustics has pioneered a series of leading audio innovations, culminating in the 2016 launch of L-ISA Immersive Hyperreal Sound, a technology providing ultra-high resolution spatial audio which fuses naturally with any visual presentation. L-ISA has greatly improved the experience for over 12 million spectators at more than 6,000 live productions worldwide. The product’s success is built on the belief that sound quality and authenticity is fundamental to enjoyment.

“Sound is invisible and quite easy to forget,” explains Christian, “because we are constantly exposed to mediocre audio. But the future of sound, or perfect sound, already exists at L-Acoustics.”

Like any company working in the live events space, the coronavirus pandemic has been a serious challenge for Christian and his em-

ployees, but he speaks of their reaction to the crisis with pride: “Our teams responded with inspiring solidarity, courage, resilience, and resourcefulness.”

With 25% of its workforce devoted to research, development, and application, L-Acoustics immediately focused on solutions rather than problems. Among other initiatives, the pandemic has seen the acceleration of the new L-Acoustics Creations division, aiming to enable people to “bring the concert home.”

By partnering with American in-ear headphone specialists JH Audio, L-Acoustics has developed Contour XO, the first in-ear devices to replicate the vibrant L-Acoustics sound. This has made the company more agile and competitive in alternate marketplaces. L-Acoustics sound systems are now just as much an integral part of socially distanced entertainment as they are for huge live events. The company’s influence can be found in everything from livestreaming studios to drive-in concerts, to immersive virtual crowd noise systems for professional sporting events.

L-Acoustics has weathered the coronavirus storm and now finds itself in a healthy position as it looks to the future. Of course, with Christian at the helm of a passionate team of sonic experts, imagination and origination lie at the heart of its plans. In particular, these will revolve around what he refers to as “sound architecture,” so watch – or better yet – listen for this space. [🔗](#)



Pitch perfect: the Philharmonie de Paris



Island Prestige

BY L-ACOUSTICS CREATIONS

The ultimate sonic experience for music,
home cinema & more

If you've been to a live concert or music festival in the last three decades, chances are you've heard an **L-Acoustics** sound system. Founded in 1984 near Paris, **L-Acoustics** excels in research and development, leading innovation to shape the future of sound in the premium professional audio industry. From the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles to BBC Proms in London, performing arts centres and festivals worldwide rely upon **L-Acoustics** to provide unforgettable sonic experiences.

In addition to working with the world's premiere venues and touring artists, **L-Acoustics** has launched a new division and product line, **L-Acoustics Creations**, for adventurous audiophiles and luxury home theatre aficionados. **L-Acoustics Creations** enables listeners to "bring the concert home," and with the release of a revolutionary immersive sound space, **Island Prestige**, they have made this a reality.

Island Prestige is designed to be the ultimate and uncompromised personal audio experience, bringing concert-grade immersive audio technology and visionary interior design into the heart of your home. This sleek 360° listening lounge, handcrafted in the L-Acoustics ateliers in France, delivers up to 24,000 watts in 23.1 sound built discreetly into a modular seating area for perfect comfort and enjoyment.

Island integrates seamlessly with standard home entertainment systems and media. Mu-

sic lovers can choose between high-definition formats and streaming services or enhanced spatial audio for thrilling immersion. Paired with a screen, Island offers a hyperreal movie or gaming hub in formats such as surround sound, DTS or Dolby Atmos.

For a listening experience which elevates music into the realm of museum-worthy works of art, L-Acoustics proposes a futuristic concept: Bubbles. Bubbles are a playback medium unlike anything you've ever heard before. Refusing to accept the commoditization of musical content through streaming platforms and mass consumption, with Bubbles, L-Acoustics Creations places science and technology in the service of art, offering a welcome view of music as original creation, an exclusive and emotional connection to the senses.



A Bubble is a crystalline orb which stores limited edition works in the highest original master-quality audio files presented in a spatial audio resolution beyond human perception. A Bubble provides both a surreal personal experience and an elegant conversation piece. The **Bubble Deck**, the dedicated host for Bubbles, is designed for simplicity of use thanks to an iPad player app or an elegant controller with basic functions to play or pause favourite recordings. Place a Bubble on the Bubble Deck and a magical journey begins. The sensation is one of proximity and detail so natural and realistic that it feels like being there, as if teleporting to the recording studio mixing console or the conductor's podium in your favorite theatre or concert hall.

"I like to think of sound as time travel," explains Dr. Christian Heil, a quantum physicist who followed his passion for sound and music to found L-Acoustics. "When sound is true and credible, it speaks to the mind, memory and the senses like nothing else. With Island, I can enter another time and place. I can bring a classical pianist—or the Amazon rainforest—into my living room."

Island Prestige can be experienced in L-Acoustics Creations immersive sound spaces in Paris, London, or Los Angeles, with additional locations in Moscow (Russia) and Guangzhou (China) coming soon.

To learn more about L-Acoustics Creations cutting-edge sound technologies, visit l-acoustics-creations.com

