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## BRYSTON CASE STUDY.



### ACCOMMODATE THE CLIENT

Integrator answers the call for premium sound quality in a visually discreet central Texas whole-house entertainment system

### INTEGRATOR:

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## BRYSTON CASE STUDY (April, 2017)



*The on-wall speakers beside this Sony TV are powered by a Bryston 2B LP*

### **Case Study**

Austin Cinema and Sound was founded in 2013 by owner Jeremy Hudson, who had been in the A/V industry since 1999. Serving clients throughout central Texas, Hudson brings a wealth of experience in critical facets of residential A/V integration such as specification, project management, programming and calibration. As Hudson so eloquently says in his own

words, "I practice and insist upon a holistic approach to systems design and deployment. By constantly maintaining awareness of and consideration for the environment, users, aesthetics, existing assets and client goals, our finished product sets new standards in regard to user experience, reliability, performance, customer service and overall value."

## HIDE THIS FOR ME

Hudson got a call from a client who wanted sound throughout a new construction, modern home in Central Texas including outdoor entertainment for the pool, cabana and patio areas. The client's project goals were to achieve superb sound without visually compromising the décor. With the rapidly growing popularity of app-based distributed audio services

and the 100-million plus subscribers to streaming services, Hudson has seen an overall increase in the amount of use that distributed audio systems get as well as a demand for better sound quality—and he determined that this client was willing to spend more for premium performance in the most critical zones.



*The high-current Bryston 2B LP amplifier*

## PERFORMANCE AND RELIABILITY

Another important aspect of this system outside the realm of sound quality was ease of use—this homeowner wanted intuitive operation, high reliability and low maintenance. “I strongly advise my clients to very carefully select their amps and speakers, whereas once we have the required infrastructure in place, their choice of distributed audio platform, a market that is always evolving, can be based upon whichever features and/or user interface suits the client,” Hudson explained. Based on these parameters, Hudson outfitted the home with three zones of Sonos, feeding the digital output of each Sonos Connect into a Parasound 4-zone DAC with 12-volt triggers appropriate for activating the [Bryston 2B LP amplifiers](#). The Bryston 2B LP is a true high-current stereo/bridgeable amplifier design delivering 60-watts per channel into 8-ohms from a 19-inch rack-mountable form factor and either standard RCA or balanced inputs. Hudson presented his client with speaker options and based on the refined level of performance as the desired goal,



*Landscape speakers in the garden powered by Bryston*

the choice to go with Totem Acoustic architectural speakers inside and NEAR outdoor speakers for the pool, cabana and patio, the justification for the significantly better performance and 20-year warranty (a big selling point) of the Bryston amplifiers fit the bill. The system called for six Bryston 2B LP amplifiers in total.

**Soffit concealing architectural speakers**

The living room was outfitted with a 75-inch Sony 4K flat panel display, flanked on either side by on-wall speakers. Hudson concealed one of the Bryston 2B LP amps in an adjacent closet, designating the rest of the amps to a concealed equipment rack. Three of the Bryston amps in the rack were dedicated to concealed architectural speakers located in soffits, with the remaining two rack-mounted amps powering 8 outdoor loudspeakers.



## LASTING QUALITY

One of the key aspects of Hudson's presentation to his client was to emphasize that these audio components were being carefully selected for performance and longevity—that these were not disposable items or commodity products with marginal design and build quality. "If we as integrators are doing our job correctly, why would we be selling cheap, disposable speakers and amplifiers to our customers with premium homes who desire great performance?" asks Hudson. "I see all of these mansions loaded up with low grade audio components and I wonder—why even bother?" Another way that Austin Cinema and Sound ensures performance and reliability with distributed audio and other connected devices is by deploying a robust network platform from Access Networks,

which Hudson says is mandatory for the modern smart home. "Access Networks is our exclusive supplier of IT platforms, and there is nothing like having their unmatched quality, depth of knowledge and support behind us for each job."

Hudson's client is ecstatic about his audio system purchase, performance and user-friendliness. "With proper forethought, you can create a music system that is unseen and delivers an incredibly musical listening experience, and Bryston amplifiers are certainly a strong foundation, will drive just about any loudspeaker and offer that buy-it-for-life consumer experience so rare today," added Hudson. "My client spent a lot on this entertainment system but feels the cost was justified and well worth the investment."