

To Ted and everyone at Synergistic Research,

I now have had my new PowerCell 12 UEF SE in my system for 3 weeks. 3 weeks of open mouth, speechless astonishment, 3 weeks of audio bliss. Let me give you the play by play.

The space my system occupies is tight, so it took a while to figure out how to accommodate the PowerCell but once I figured it out and moved everything around to open up the optimum spot, we started installation. After I installed the Black UEF duplex, my friend Graham Thomas from Music Lovers Audio in Berkeley came over to give me a hand and make sure we did everything right. With everything connected and in place it was time for a listen.

Right out of the box, from the first note of the first track we played I thought I had purchased a new system. I have achieved audio nirvana I thought to myself. Boy was I wrong, because after about 100 hours of burn-in I was listening to a system that to my mind had to of cost 2 or 3 times what I had paid for these components. As I said before, I had a hunch that power conditioning would have a major impact on the performance of my system, but this is beyond anything I could have possibly imagined. What I am hearing now belies common sense, What I'm hearing now is almost terrifyingly beautiful. How did all of these musicians get into my listening room? It's not big enough to accommodate all these people!

It took me about 2 weeks of extremely critical listening to analyze what I was hearing and find the words to describe the almost miraculous transformation that had occurred, (and I know this process will continue for a long time because every recording I throw at my system now sounds completely brand new to me). I am hearing nuanced inflections by musicians playing both acoustic and electric instruments that 3 weeks ago I would have sworn could only be heard in live performance. If I try to describe every detail of my new listening experience, it will take me another 3 weeks to write this, but I'll try to boil it down to it's essence.

I am no longer hearing music, I am feeling music, it's palpable. Why? I think it's the juxtaposition of delicacy and weight, it's the juxtaposition of transparency and body. The word holographic does not adequately describe this phenomena, because this has meat on the bone, I am literally feeling the presence of instruments in the room. Every aspect of the presentation brings me closer to the thoughts and feelings of the artists I'm listening to, as well as the creative processes of the producers and engineers. The PowerCell 12 UEF SE has brought me closer to the humanity of the music, and that's what it's all about. Like everyone who loves audio, I often find myself listening to the system rather than the music. Now however, that is becoming almost impossible to do because the intelligence and the emotion of great artists are being presented so beautifully that nothing can distract me from their messages. THAT is exactly what I want from great audio equipment.

I want you to know that I am fully aware that the PowerCell is impacting all of the other SR products I am already employing in my system and listening room, the synergy is amazing and UEF technology is something every audiophile needs to experience.

So once again I want to say thank you for offering this most generous contest, but what I really want to thank you for is your love of music and your dedication to bringing amazing science to the service of the most meaningful form of communication and artistic expression human beings have yet devised, music.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Vax', with a horizontal line extending to the left.

Joe Vax

May 1, 2017