



BASIS AUDIO, INC.

WORK OF ART TURNTABLE

USER'S GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the **BASIS AUDIO WORK OF ART TURNTABLE**. This is the highest performance record player ever built. Additionally, the fit, finish, and design are recognized as one of the finest examples of audio engineering art to have ever been offered to the consumer. We are confident that you will come to view your decision to invest in a **Work of Art** turntable as one of the most musically rewarding equipment choices in your audio experience, as well as one of the finest precision machines of any type that you will ever own.

To realize the potential of your **Work of Art** and to prevent any damage which would delay your enjoyment please carefully read these instructions before attempting to assemble your turntable. The **Work of Art** is very heavy, complex, and has many very precisely machined and perfectly finished parts. It is therefore very easy to damage if the instructions are not carefully followed.

UNPACKING YOUR WORK OF ART

Your new **Work of Art** turntable main assembly is in the plywood crate on the wood pallet, with a total weight of approximately 275 pounds.

The other **Work of Art** turntable parts are packed in 10 boxes on a plastic pallet:

- Turntable Accessories with instructions
- Acrylic Base Plate
- Machined Components
- Super Platter
- Motor Assembly
- SuperArm 9 with instructions
- Vacuum System Accessories with instructions
- Vacuum Control Unit
- Vacuum Pump Unit
- Synchro-Wave Power Supply with instructions

You should save the shipping material for future use, should you ever wish to transport your turntable.

The Acrylic Base Plate can be removed by opening the ends of the large box and sliding it out. Carefully unwrap the plastic and white foam which protects the acrylic from being scratched. The side with the thicker disks and felt pads goes down. The thinner disks on top are where the four Work of Art turntable feet will rest. The hole towards the rear is for the cable isolation system. The four counterbores are for the motor feet.

UNCRATING/ASSEMBLING YOUR WORK OF ART TURNTABLE

At some point in this process you will require multiple people to handle the **Work of Art Turntable**. 3 pairs of white cotton gloves are packed in the **Accessories Box**. To prevent fingerprinting the perfectly polished acrylic surfaces you are advised to have all helpers who are handling the turntable wear gloves.

CAUTION: DURING THE FOLLOWING PROCESS AND FOR THE LIFE OF THE WOA TURNTABLE, IT MUST NEVER BE TILTED TO A GREATER ANGLE THAN 20 DEGREES.

- 1) Locate the **WOA Turntable Crate**, which is a plywood box on a wood pallet.
- 2) Obtain an electric drill (or electric screwdriver) fitted with the proper Phillips blade to fit the screws used on the crate.
- 3) Remove all screws in the metal brackets. Cut the straps holding the box to the pallet.
- 4) Remove all screws in the top cover, followed by all screws in the side panels.
- 5) **NOTE:** There are many screws in the **WOA** packing. It is not necessary to remove all screws. Read the instructions carefully and **only remove the indicated screws**.
- 6) The plywood base directly beneath the **WOA** is not screwed to the pallet, but is resting on a foam cushion which is loosely placed on the pallet top. This assembly weighs about 150 pounds, so with multiple people you can lift the **WOA** with its plywood base and rest it on a sturdy workbench, or you can continue to work down low on the pallet.
- 7) Remove the soft white foam wrapped around the turntable assembly.
- 8) Note the plywood plate on the top of the **WOA**. You will remove the long screws holding this plate to the large wood blocks below it. Loosen the screws with silver washers evenly: **do not remove the screws completely until evenly, progressively loosening the tension on each screw.**
- 9) After the screws have been loosened so that the plywood top plate is flat and untensioned you may completely remove the screws, one by one, alternating from one side of the turntable to the other after each screw, and remove the top plate and corresponding black foam piece.
- 10) Note the 4 large wood blocks wrapped in white foam, one on each side of the **WOA** turntable, holding the acrylic subchassis in place. Remove the screws circled in black ink which hold the wood blocks down to the plywood base, and remove the wood blocks.

CAUTION: AT THIS POINT THE WOA SUBCHASSIS CAN SLIDE, IF PUSHED, RELATIVE TO THE TURNTABLE FRAME. DO NOT PUSH SIDEWAYS ON THE SUBCHASSIS OR IT CAN COME IN CONTACT WITH THE METAL FRAME AND CAUSE

DAMAGE TO THE SUBCHASSIS. HANDLE AS IF YOU WOULD HANDLE ANY DELICATE INSTRUMENT. SHIPPING AND UNPACKING DAMAGE ARE NOT COVERED BY WARRANTY.

- 11) Carefully slide the **WOA** and plywood base such that one side of the plywood base is hanging over the edge of the workbench or pallet so that the large bolt heads are visible and accessible from underneath. **NEVER DO THIS ALONE, THERE WILL BE DANGER OF DROPPING THE WORK OF ART.**
- 12) Positioning and moving the turntable and plywood as needed, remove the 4 large bolts from the bottom side of the plywood plate using a large adjustable wrench, or a ¾-inch or 19mm socket or wrench. These large bolts secure the metal turntable frame to the plywood base.

CAUTION: AT THIS POINT THE WOA TURNTABLE WILL BE ABLE TO SLIDE ON THE PLYWOOD BASE.

- 13) Remove the soft white foam from the acrylic subchassis of the **WOA** turntable.
- 14) Using multiple people lifting the metal arms in each corner of the **WOA** lift it off the plywood base. This assembly weighs about 100 pounds. Being very careful not to tip the turntable, place the **WOA** on a clean, non-abrasive workbench, or continue working down low on the pallet.
- 15) In the **Machined Components Box** find the 4 **WOA** Feet in the lower layer of black foam and screw them into the bottom of the turntable in each corner. You will need to have helpers lift the corner of the **WOA** just enough to allow the foot to fit under. This degree of tilt of the **WOA** is acceptable for a short period of time. The correct aesthetic alignment of the foot is achieved when the clearance between the bottom of the suspension support arm and the top of the foot is approximately 3/16 inch. Achieve a gap approximate to this distance and then turn each foot so that it aligns with the suspension support arm above it.
- 16) Have multiple people lift the **WOA** Turntable and place it on the **Acrylic Base Plate**. Note that the 4 rectangular feet of the **WOA** turntable fit in the center of the four aluminum receptacle disks on the acrylic.
- 17) In the **Accessories Box** find the bags with the 4 silver colored suspension retaining discs and 8 screws. Also find the Phillips screwdriver.
- 18) Note that each round corner-head of the **WOA** has a large hole in the top. Looking into that hole you will note the top of the suspension cartridge below the corner-head. A threaded rod protrudes from the top of the suspension cartridge. Note that just below the threaded rod there are 2 small threaded holes in the top surface of the suspension cartridge. The suspension retaining discs will be held to the top of the suspension cartridges with screws which will thread into these holes. Follow the subsequent steps to install the retaining discs.
- 19) Note that at a certain point on the outside diameter of the suspension cartridge top you will find a .125 inch diameter pin pointing radially outward. When the

suspension cartridge is lifted into place into the head the pin must fit into the mating slot in the hole in the corner-head. Rotate the suspension cartridge by holding the large tube just above the clear subchassis and turning it. **DO NOT TURN THE SUSPENSION CARTRIDGE BY ROTATING THE VERY TOP PART, THE SPRING WILL BE DAMAGED. You must turn the suspension cartridge by turning the lower part of its body.**

- 20) Using multiple people lift the subchassis and suspension cartridge (if you lift only subchassis the suspension cartridge can drop out of position) until the suspension cartridge top moves into position within the corner-head, with the above-mentioned pin sliding up into the slot. Place the retaining disc, with the side on which the holes are beveled facing upward, over the threaded rod and onto the suspension cartridge top. Rotate the disc until the holes in the disc align with the holes in the suspension cartridge top. Screw in the 2 screws. You may now lower the subchassis.
- 21) Repeat the above step for the next 3 corners.
- 22) In the **Machined Components Box** find the 4 Adjuster Knobs and Tool.
- 23) Place one adjuster knob into one corner, with the threaded hole facing down. Locate the black adjuster knob tool. Place the tool into the knob such that the 2 pins protruding from the face of the tool engage the 2 holes in the top of the adjuster knob. It will be necessary to raise the suspension cartridge slightly so that the threads in the cartridge engage the threads in the hole in the bottom of the knob. Using multiple people lift one corner of the subchassis and suspension cartridge and turn the knob clockwise with the black tool. Turn the knob 2 turns after the threads engage.

NEVER FORCE THIS KNOB: IF IT DOES NOT TURN FREELY IT IS EITHER NOT ENGAGED PROPERLY OR TURNED TO THE END OF THE ENGAGEMENT. ANY DAMAGE CAUSED BY TURNING WILL NOT BE COVERED BY WARRANTY.

- 24) Repeat the above step for the other corners. Then you may remove the protective black rubber pieces from under the suspension cartridges.
- 25) Before placing the platter on the bearing note that the bearing spindle has a round piece of foam and a thin black rubber seal on top. Leave this in place as it is necessary for correct operation of the vacuum system. If you ever remove the platter you may find that the seal sticks to the underside of the platter. Be sure to find it and replace the foam and rubber, with the rubber on top, back onto the spindle if it does become separated from the bearing.
- 26) Locate the platter in the **Super Platter Box**. Note that the rear of the platter has an arrow. Note that the bearing has a notch in the lower part of the rotating flange (this notch in the flange allows access to the bearing mount screws as you rotate it). When placing the platter on the bearing align the arrow and notch. This orientation results in the most accurate rotating assembly, resulting in the lowest possible wow and flutter. **CAUTION: WHEN PLACING THE PLATTER ON THE BEARING, IT MUST BE SLOWLY LOWERED. ANY SHOCK OR IMPACT CAN RUIN THE BEARING.**

- 27) The fit of the platter to the bearing is so precise on the Basis **Work of Art** that there is no clearance, yet no interference, between the two parts. Due to this perfect fit, alignment is critical and the platter may not fully seat on the bearing from its own weight. When the platter is fully seated on the bearing you will note that the 4 small vacuum holes in the spindle are visible within the small depressed area of the platter that surrounds the spindle. To fully seat the platter you may need to push the platter straight down with a steady force to achieve a complete engagement with the bearing. Perform this operation whether you feel the platter is seated or not. **CAUTION: DO NOT STRIKE OR BANG THE PLATTER, THIS COULD DAMAGE THE BEARING.**
- 28) Locate the **Motor Assembly Box**. Remove the layers of foam packing, being careful to never apply any side force to the motor pulley. **ANY SIDE FORCE OR SHOCK ON THE PULLEY CAN RUIN THE MOTOR BEARINGS.** Carefully lift the motor out of the box.
- 29) Place the motor on the Acrylic Base Plate, behind the platter. Note that there are 4 holes in the acrylic plate which correspond to the 4 rubber feet of the motor box. Note that the 4 feet can screw in and out to allow the motor position to be precisely adjusted. Level the motor with its feet so that the front of the motor box is parallel to the rear surface of the subchassis. **CAUTION: AT NO TIME SHOULD THE MOTOR BOX BE ALLOWED TO CONTACT THE SUBCHASSIS. IT WILL SCRATCH AND DAMAGE THE SUBCHASSIS, AND THERE MUST ALWAYS BE CLEARANCE BETWEEN THE MOTOR BOX AND SUBCHASSIS OR THE SOUND WILL BE RUINED BY MOTOR VIBRATION REACHING THE SUBCHASSIS.**

When the motor is placed in its position firmly push the motor housing downward to fully seat the rubber isolators in the locating holes. The fit is precise with little excess clearance so you may need to slightly “wobble” the motor assembly while pushing down to fully seat the motor housing feet.

- 30) Locate the belt in the **Accessories Box** and run the belt around the pulley and platter. Rotating the platter by hand a few times while guiding the belt on the pulley can help ensure that the belt centers itself.
- 31) Locate the ground wire coming from the bottom of the bearing and running out to the rear of the turntable. Connect the bearing ground wire to the ground on your preamplifier or to a true ground. This wire drains static electricity from the platter/bearing assembly and is not critical sonically except for performing this task.
- 32) Locate the Tonearm Mount in the **Machined Components Box**. Fit the mount into the mating hole in the top of the **WOA** subchassis, inserting the mount until it contacts the top of the subchassis. Note that there is a lockscrew hole in the upper part of the mount: this lockscrew faces directly toward the back of the turntable when the Tonearm Mount is properly oriented. Lightly tighten the lockscrew in the back of **WOA** subchassis to retain the Tonearm Mount. The precision fit of the shaft into the specially shaped hole in the subchassis makes it unnecessary to heavily tighten, and excessive force could damage the threads.

- 33) The SuperArm 9 tonearm will fit into the mount in the same manner as it fits into other Basis turntables. The lockscrew in the back of the Tonearm Mount is used to secure the tonearm damping cup at the desired height to set VTA. Refer to the SuperArm instructions and Vector tonearm setup video for further information.
- 34) Locate the Cable Isolation System in the **Machined Components Box**. Mount the system into the mating hole in the clear acrylic base plate of the **WOA**. Lightly tighten the lockscrew to secure the 1 inch diameter post in the hole, with the cable isolation rod extending upward to support the tonearm cable block. Note that the lock screw in the larger diameter, lower receptacle part of the Cable Isolation System may be loosened to allow you to adjust the overall height of the upper rod, and therefore the cable support block, which can also be adjusted on the rod.
- 35) Final leveling of the turntable is only done at this point, after the platter and tonearm are mounted. First, the surface supporting the Acrylic Base Plate should be level. Then level the turntable subchassis by placing the level on the subchassis and turning the 4 rectangular feet at the bottom of the **WOA** turntable. Note that the feet may be turned in 180 degree (one-half turn) increments to properly line up with the **WOA** corner suspension support arms. Adjustments can also be made by rotating the four adjuster knobs with the black tool. Do not unscrew the adjuster knobs causing them to disengage with the threaded rod at the top of suspension cartridge.
- 36) Locate the **Synchro-Wave Power Supply Box**. Remove the Power Supply from the double box. Connect the AC cord to the Power Supply and the mains. Connect the special connector on the end of the motor cord to the mating connector on the rear panel of the Synchro-Wave Power Supply.
- 37) The ON/OFF switch on the Power Supply will start and stop the turntable motor. The 33 or 45 speed should be selected when the ON/OFF light is not illuminated (and the motor is not running). The switches should be pressed momentarily, not held down, and there should be a brief pause between each action when changing speeds. Refer to the Synchro-Wave instructions and strobe disk for more information.
- 38) Connect the vacuum system, following the instructions and schematic found in the **Vacuum Accessories Box**.
- 39) You are now ready to set up your cartridge in the SuperArm 9 tonearm if you have not already done so. You will then be able to play your incomparable Basis Audio **Work of Art** turntable. Our best wishes are extended to you for a lifetime of enjoyment and satisfaction from your **Work of Art**.

**BASIS AUDIO, INC.
LIMITED TEN (10) YEAR WARRANTY**

BASIS AUDIO, INC. warrants the **Work of Art** to be free of defects in workmanship and materials for a period of ten years from date of purchase.

Purchaser must submit to **BASIS** within 30 days of purchase the completed, signed, and dated warranty registration form for this warranty to become valid. Failure to provide the warranty registration form to **BASIS** within the 30 day period following purchase shall render this limited warranty void and inapplicable.

This warranty is subject to the following conditions: This warranty applies only to the original purchaser/owner. Warranty is void and not applicable if this product is or has been operated or handled in any way not consistent with the guidelines set forth in the owner's manual.

Warranty is void and inapplicable if the product has been abused/damaged as a result of negligence, or damaged in shipping/handling.

Warranty is void and inapplicable if this product has been modified, repaired or otherwise tampered with by anyone other than **BASIS** or an authorized service representative.

Should this product fail to meet the above warranty, purchaser assumes obligations to re-package said unit and return it to the dealer, **BASIS AUDIO, INC.** or designated service representative at his/her sole expense.

Where the above conditions have been complied with, **BASIS AUDIO, INC.** shall without charges for parts and/or labor repair the defect and return the unit to purchaser **FREIGHT COLLECT.**

Implied warranties related to the above are limited to the duration of this warranty.

Warranty is not extended to cover ANY incidental or consequential costs or damages to the purchaser.

Certain states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, or an exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the aforementioned limitations and exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which may vary from state to state.