

RHAPSODY ANALOG recordings

All you wanted to
know about...

Rhapsody Analog

Recordings (RAR) is a contemporary audiophile record label that produces analog recordings using the recording principles and techniques that produced the distinctive sound of the sensational recordings from the 1950's and 1960's.

Who are we?

Harry van Dalen has been professionally active in high-end audio for over 40 years, in consumer sales as well as in international trade. He has experienced all the important developments in the field of audio from up close.

Particularly the introduction of the CD and the shift to digital recording and playback in the 80's had a big impact. Together with **Michael van Polen** and others, Harry founded Turtle Records in the 1990's, which was the first label to record in high-resolution. Michael has always had a predilection for analog audio techniques, both as a recording engineer and as a musician. Together with Harry he runs Rhapsody, the store for audiophile high-end audio.

Frans de Rond has had years of experience as a recording engineer and specializes in recording acoustic music in high resolution. He knows how to create an almost tangible sound field and an organic, natural sound. Frans also has his own label: Sound Liaison, a download-only music shop that specializes in high-resolution recordings.

Raison d'être

Since the 1980's the recording studio

has undergone a transition from analog to digital recording. Despite the fact that the digital format continues to be improved, we have always felt that something has been lost when compared in particular to the analog recordings from the fifties and sixties. These recordings are still superior in timbre, dynamics and authenticity.

This is the idea that brought us together, and which has often been confirmed by our customers. Despite the technical limitations of that time, it is clear that every listener is more impressed by analog recordings than contemporary digital recordings.

Pure analog, pure music

That is why we've been doing analog recording with the use of state-of-the-art analog techniques since 2015. That was the beginning of Rhapsody Analog Recordings (RAR). Not simply using an analog tape-recorder but carrying out the entire process, from microphone to audio-format, in analog. After comparing and experimenting for a long time, we have arrived at the optimal analog recording configuration. We use:

- microphones by, among others, Josephson
- AudioQuest cabling
- power-conditioners from AudioQuest
- TAD monitor speakers
- Moon amplifiers

The color mixing of the musical instruments and the musical synergy is our guiding principle.

The recordings

Are the recordings produced by RAR the best out there? Not necessarily. However, we do feel that with our recordings we are able to capture the spontaneity of the music. Analog recording in this uncompromising way requires focus from the recording engineer but certainly also from the musicians. The musicians play 'in the moment' (often live-to-2track) without the option that everything can be repaired later ('We'll fix it in the mix').

Our recordings are available on the highest quality vinyl (180gr) or as a copy of the master tape. The master tape copies are made with recorders wired with the best cables from AudioQuest and powered by AudioQuest power-conditioners. There are plans to release a digital version in the future in the superior high-res MQA format.

Hilversum, The Netherlands

Frans, Michael en Harry

RHAPSODY
ANALOG
recordings

a RHAPSODY subsidiary company

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RHAPSODY Analog Recordings

Life itself is analog. So why have it any other way? After many years in the music and audio industry, we have come to the final conclusion that analog is the only reference to create a truly musical experience! It grabs the spirit of the moment the music was made and is closest to the essential quality, the magical realism, of live performance. Our mission is to create this coveted 'analog sound'.

RHAPSODY Analog Recordings specs:

- 100% analog
- live to 2-track
- 180 gram vinyl records
- direct mastertape copies
- hi-res digital downloads