



Sam Cooke
Remastered Collection



ABKCO RECORDS FINDS ATC MONITORS CRITICAL

ATC (Acoustic Transducer Company) SCM50 monitors used by ABKCO Records for the Sam Cooke Remastered Series.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK: Recently in the news with their landmark reissue of 22 early Rolling Stones and five Sam Cooke albums on hybrid Super Audio Compact Disc, ABKCO Records has installed a stereo pair of ATC SCM50ASL Pro active three-way monitor speakers in the company's pre-production listening environment. Ideally suited to medium-sized rooms, the ATC SCM50 reference monitors are primarily used for such critical tasks as archive research, track sequencing, and quality control of digitally re-mastered material at ABKCO's Manhattan facility.

"They're very musical and have great mid-range, and they're so accurate," says chief audio engineer and tape archive researcher Teri Landi of the ATC monitors. ATC manufactures all of its monitor system component parts in-house, including the company's unique SM75-150S mid-range soft dome driver, which is combined with an ATC 234mm (9-inch) Super Linear bass driver in the SCM50. The ATC Super Linear woofer is the best woofer in production anywhere. The active design of the SCM50 ensures optimum matching of six MOS-FET amp blocks to the drivers. In addition to a flat reference response, an LF contour control offers five bass boost settings.

"The facility that I have here is a pre-production studio which contains vintage and state-of-the-art equipment," she explains. One of Landi's tasks is to research the company's archive of original analog recordings. "I go through the tapes and listen, A/B-ing them to figure out what is a source master and what is a copy."

ABKCO Records offers a burgeoning catalog of painstakingly re-mastered British and American classics from the Fifties, Sixties, and beyond. Mining the tape vaults of such artists as the Rolling Stones, Sam Cooke, the Kinks, Marianne Faithfull, the Animals, and Herman's Hermits, as well as the production work of Phil Spector and the prodigious "teen-beat" output of the Cameo-Parkway label, Landi spends hours listening to original master tapes almost every day.

Yet despite the many hours spent critically examining archive material, Landi reports that the task is not at all tiring, thanks to the ATC monitors. "I don't suffer from any kind of ear fatigue when I've listened to these for a couple of hours. I don't get at all fatigued from the high-end. And I find them to be very true and very revealing. I can listen more critically for longer with these speakers."

With the lowest distortion figures of any studio monitor system in production, the speakers are so accurate and revealing, notes Landi, that she was able to detect a problem that had been overlooked during transfer to the high-resolution DSD format and remixing at another facility. "They detailed a problem that was in the mix that I hadn't heard elsewhere," she reports. "I heard something on these speakers that I did not hear on the speakers at the studio."

"I've found the ATCs to be an incredible pair of speakers. I really love them. Now I want a set for 5.1 listening!" Landi concludes.

ATC's drivers are manufactured in-house to exacting tolerances and are legendary for their many design innovations, such as the company's renowned Soft Dome mid-range driver, which achieves exceptionally broad and even dispersion to produce a flat response anywhere in the room. Situated in Aston Down in rural Gloucestershire, England, ATC was established in London in 1974 by acoustics engineer and musician Bill Woodman.

NOTE: The yet to be released "Sam Cooke Re-Mastered Collection" is being previewed in New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, London and Tokyo using the same ATC loudspeakers.