EMC engineers pull off a good gig

Martin Rowe - August 26, 2009

Why was the 2009 IEEE EMC Symposium different from all other Symposia? Music.

At the 2009 IEEE EMC Symposium on Austin, TX, several EMC engineers took part in a live music set. Glen Watkins at ETS-Lindgren sent out a call for musicians to play onstage in the Austin Convention Center exhibition hall on Tuesday, August 18 and Wednesday, August 19. Glen hired a local band, Chadd Thomas and the Crazy Kings, to open and close the sets with their music and to accompany anyone who requested them.

The Crazy Kings–Chris Harrison (lead guitar), Dylan Cavaliere (upright bass) and Mike Mayin (drums)–accompanied T&MW Senior Technical Editor Martin Rowe on "The Measurement Blues."

Click to watch the video or to hear the audio (mp3) from Tuesday, August 18.

Jeff Silberberg from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration organized the musicians and the sets. He also played electric guitar and soprano sax. Jeff did a super job playing the lead to "Hotel California."
Jeff Silberberg pays soprano sax on "G-Bop."

The EMC band also consisted of:
• EMC consultant Ken Wyatt on drums.
• Brian Mullins of Panashield and Mike Caruso of Ingenium on electric bass.
• Harry Gaul of General Dynamics C4 Systems and Marco Klinger on acoustic guitar. Klinger and Silberberg also sang lead on "House of the Rising Sun."
• Leo Smale of Lionheart Northwest on electric guitar.
• Cindy Catlin of Lionheart Northwest on lead vocals. Cindy also sang with Chadd Thomas and the Crazy Kings on Johnny Cash's "Ring of Fire" and "Jackson."
• Louis Feudi of Thermo Fisher Scientific on lead vocals for "Turn the Page" by Bob Seger and "Can't You See" by the Marshall Tucker Band.

EMC Society president Elya Joffe belts out a tune on the sax with Jeff Silberberg on guitar.

Other performances included:
• EMC Society president Elya Joffe took the house down with his sax, playing a medley from "Fiddler on the Roof" and several Hebrew songs with Silberberg accompanying on electric guitar.
• Mike Violette of Washington Labs sang "El Paso" with the Crazy Kings.
• Carol Paul sang "The Wreck of the Old 97." Renowned EMC professor Clayton Paul sang backup vocals, Carol played fiddle, John Maas of IBM played Dobro, and University of Michigan professor Mark Steffka played spoons.
• Jeff Silberberg used an Palm PDA as the backup band for his guitar on an original composition, "The Talking on my Cellphone, Can Ya Hear Me Now, You're Breakin' Up Blues." He also played soprano sax on Kenny G’s "G-Bop." He and Cindy Catlin also sang lead on "Brown Sugar" with the EMC band.
• Ralph Hastings played 12-string guitar and sang "One Piece at a Time" and "Mood Ring."
• Jean Luc Darroman played bass guitar on "Hotel California."
• EMC consultant Dan Hoolihan and Jeff Silberberg sang "God Bless America" and "Deep in the
Heart of Texas."

After the performances, everyone wanted to play again at the 2010 EMC Symposium, which will take place on July 26-30.

Next year in Ft. Lauderdale.

Mike Caruso (bass) and Mike Violette (guitar) jam with the Crazy Kings. Photo by Jeff Silberberg.

Cindy Catlin hangs out with the Crazy Kings in the exhibition hall. Photo by Jeff Silberberg.