

My philosophy.

By Gianni Mariani.

I consider myself lucky to have started learning electronics and doing experiments of all kinds since I was ten years old and for every year that followed, until now.

The knowledge acquired is scattered all inside my body and mind and sometimes I wonder how I could also carry a normal life as a married man and father.

It is a typical situation where the passion has to be controlled, otherwise you better move to the highest mountain in Nepal, and stay there. .

My way of thinking, obviously, has developed in such a surrounding : observation, experiments, tests, again observation, improvements, more improvements, tests and so on.

It would take a long time to describe all the devices I have built since I started reversing the role of a bicycle dynamo and use it as a fan or assemble a crystal receiving set, a transmitter powerful enough to reduce the loud volume of a neighbour's radio to a decent level, plus several signal generators, simple or complex, etc.

At some time (in the late fifties) I became a HI-Fidelity fan, designing novel circuits (so far unknown to me), such as the negative feed back and direct coupling.

In turn, I was involved in different companies, with friends as partners, building, selling and repairing hi-fi equipment. Before retiring I spend many beautiful years at the Graaf Company, specializing in OTL amplifiers that soon acquired a good reputation all over the world.

My need of knowing and understanding, included also loud speakers, speaker enclosures and many other items belonging to the field, forcing me to adjust my mentality to a wide range of different objects.

Half a century of such life cannot pass without leaving marks.

I have been asked to tell about my philosophy: the answer is extremely difficult.

A friend of mine who designs amplifiers showed me recently his latest schematic asking for my advice.

As usual, the first thing I did, was trying to understand what he had done, why and his expectations from the result. Most of the times, as in that case, I had already seen the layout before.

I looked quickly to the details to make sure that the choices made were sound and that the values of the components were suitable, with respect to the valves used.

I could feel that my friend was extremely tense, watching closely my expressions.

Finally I said : "It surely works, but let's see how the sound is".

I refrained from adding that it was one of my old circuits.

Giovanni (Gianni) Mariani.