# SOME COMPONENTS FOR DOWNSIZERS TO CONSIDER (WE OWN OR KNOW THESE)

## Front ends

- Intel NUC (runs Roon ROCK)
- ASUS Chromebox (runs Ubuntu 18.04 with Roon bridge and several open source players)
- Toshiba Satellite U205 (runs Ubuntu Studio plus multiple DAWs)
- Gateway MS2274 15" laptop (runs Ubuntu 18.04 + multiple audio playback & production apps)
- Raspberry Pi 3b+ x 5 (running Raspbian, DietPi, Ubuntu, Moode, Volumio, Roon Bridge)

## NAS

- Buffalo LS220DE
- WD MyCloud Mirror (2x2TB)
- D-Link 320 x 2 (stopped using multiple failures)

## **USB HDD**

• Seagate (multiple units 500G to 2 TB)

## DAC

- Emotiva XDA-1 (still good basic DAC if you have one but outpaced by current DACs)
- Emotiva Stealth DC-1 (24/192, very flexible, analog & digital inputs, balanced I/O great)
- iFi nano DSD LE (excellent sound quality, easy to use, small, well built, DSD only to 128)
- SMSL SU-8 (flexible, sounds great, balanced out, remote, great buy at ~\$250)
- M-audio 2x2 (amazingly fine 24/192 DAC in solid, reliable package see at music stores)

# Powered speakers

- JBL LSR-305 (incredibly good, powerful, balanced inputs, bargains at ~\$150)
  - o later models of this speaker are also great, but the original wins for natural sound quality)
- Audioengine A2+ (excellent little speakers for nearfield, nowhere near as rich as JBLs)
- Klipsch ProMedia 2.1 (serious bass, a bit tubby, we use in kitchen bargain at current sale \$)
- Edifier models (various check out specs to find best ones for you several have BT)
- Mackie CR3 (tiny systems with 3" low/mid drivers good but need sub for any kick at all)
- Mackie CR5-BT (great little system, not quite as good as JBLs but has BT)
- KRK RP5G3 (similar to JBLs in SQ sound stage a bit less precise, but look less industrial)
- Vanatoo Transparent Zero and Transparent 1 (love 'em, versatile, haven't bought yet)

# **Amplifiers**

- NAD D3020 V2 (versatile, fine SQ, 40WPC, analog + digital inputs great price)
- Project MaiA S2 (low power but excellent unit with lots of inputs & flexibility)
- Yamaha WXA50 (solid little amp with enough inputs, fair DAC, well made)
- low power Chinese tube amps (e.g. AIQIN and BOYUU) are not bad
  - check Shenzen & other web vendors for more info they're dirt cheap and worth playing with
  - o do your homework: READ REVIEWS CAREFULLY
  - o models and makers come and go, so what you see today may not be there tomorrow
- PrimaLuna electronics are absolutely tops we love ours & recommend all models highly
- Emotiva (any A100 & A150 are great small amps! Great company & great service too)

# Passive speakers

- Definitive Technology D7 (very nice small speakers; -3db at 67Hz, excellent mid &high)
- Rogers LS3/5a + all authorized clones (fantastic in smaller rooms, deserve top electronics)
- Elac B6.2 (we love but do not own; consider buying PS Audio system with Sprout 100)

- Pioneer SP-BS22 (yes, Pioneer! Great little speakers for <\$100 each)
- Wharfdale Diamond series or Dentons (very good small speakers at a fair price)
- Emotiva Airmotiv B1 (at \$229/pair, you get more sound quality per \$ than anything we know)