



# Heaven's in the Front Seat of my Porsche

**B**rian Parton has owned his Porsche 911 "964" for five years now. He has recently had an "Audio Heaven" system fitted, Driving Sounds spoke with him to find out more;

"I originally bought the car to celebrate some modest success I had with a business enterprise. I had always liked this particular model and eventually found mine, which had been on the fleet of watch manufacturer, Rolex. It had been well cared for and had few miles on the clock, but had stood still for quite a while and various things required replacement. My original intention was to use the vehicle as Sunday best, however, I so enjoyed driving it that it quickly became my favoured form of transport."

So, why fit an audio system to his pride and joy we ask? "I have been involved in the Car Hi-fi Business for 23 years and always enjoyed music, and because of this, had to explore the possibility that the car stereo could be upgraded to compete with the engine and road noise typical with this sort of car. As a member of the Porsche Owner's club I was particularly keen that the car remained in stock condition and was

confident that my local FOUR MASTER could live with this demand."

Brian could not be better placed to lay down his requirements for a system install as FOUR MASTERS was his brain child (see foreword). FOUR MASTERS offer three quality levels of system called Audio Joy, Audio Heaven and Audio Expert - They do this to avoid customers from having to learn all there is to know about products and install techniques. "I thought the system names were helpful in defining the level of system without requiring customers to research heavily themselves. - I try never to purchase "bottom of the range" and so plumped for an Audio Heaven system but made it clear that the car had to look as stock as possible and have the ability to be returned to stock condition for resale. We agreed a price and I booked the vehicle in."

We asked Brian what he felt on hearing his new install for the first time and he was extremely enthusiastic in his response; "I took some of my favourite discs with me when I collected the car so I could give the system a good work out. Firstly, I was shown around the install, the work was to the highest standard as expected with great attention to detail, even the door speaker builds were covered in original



## Top Five Tracks on the Move

- 1 **Angel - Massive Attack**  
Mezzanine
- 2 **Real Life - Joan as Police Woman**  
Real Life
- 3 **Whole Lotta Rosie - AC/DC**  
Let There Be Rock
- 4 **Suddenly - XTC**  
English Settlement
- 5 **Jeff Buckley - Dream Brother**  
Grace





**"I listened to Massive Attack's Angel, from Mezzanine and was totally blown away!"**

Porsche material. I was extremely pleased with how well integrated the system was and although I could easily see the changes, many people I have shown the car to since have failed to spot where factory finish ends and aftermarket work begins.

I knew that the speakers would improve with a good few hours "playing in" as with most good car Hi-fi products and I was not too concerned that I would have to live with something less than great to begin with. I listened to Massive Attack's Angel, from Mezzanine and was totally blown away! To this day, the thought of that first experience puts a huge grin on my face, I was completely overwhelmed. We listened to a couple of other tracks which I had taken along and then the installer got some of his discs out and started playing tunes that I have subsequently had to go out and buy, because they sounded so good."

We wanted to know what Brian thought after living with the system for a while, he is still enthusiastic "I use the car as often as I can now. OK, for the purist, it has been modified, for me it has more than doubled the joy I get from driving the car. I did return to my FOUR MASTER and have a larger subwoofer put in. The initial 6" was completely hidden under the dash, but I wanted more bass particularly when

listening to acoustic and orchestral music. I have been telling people for over 20 years how rewarding car hi-fi can be, now my own install leaves them with no doubt!" <<

*Top: Amp up front - The Audison unit nestles neatly under the bonnet*

*Above Left: Even the door speaker builds were covered in original Porsche material*

*Above Right: Good quality after market head unit slots straight into factory position*

*Below: Five-channel Audison amp ensures a rich, powerful and natural sound*

*Opposite: Feels like Heaven - The front seat of Brian's Porsche is a good place for 'Angel'*

*Opposite Bottom: Subwoofer level control is mounted nearby, providing extra bass when required*



#### Subwoofer – Hertz HSK 200

A weighty 8" sub replaced a discretely installed 6". The sub is built into a hand crafted, sealed box for optimal performance. A sub woofer level control is mounted nearby, providing extra bass when required.

#### Door Speakers – Hertz MLK 2

This two-way system is mounted in the stock locations, although the door pockets have now been filled with boxes which house the mid-frequency speakers. The door panels were stripped and treated with Skinz sound deadening material, Wave diffuser and Moisture guard to ensure that as much of the sound as possible ends up in the cabin and not resonating in the door panels. Treating the panels also reduces road noise which eats bass frequencies! Despite the relatively low tweeter position, the sound stage sits at ear height, exactly where it should.

#### Amplifier – Audison LRx 5.1K

This five-channel amplifier is powerful enough to offer good dynamic control of the two-way component speakers and sub woofer. It has loads of beneficial technical features which you don't have to find out about if you don't want to, but which ensure a rich, powerful and natural sound across the whole audio spectrum. All connections are made with good quality Audison Connections cables and accessories.