"I am proud of the fact that I never invented weapons to kill" - Thomas Edison Fifteen percent of all Americans spend an average of ten minutes each day searching for their television remote controls. - Eli the Mule, CEM

ilder Application Hints Prom Gilderfluke & Co.

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250 Year Old Clock Upgrade:

A awardwinning project to restore the 'voice' to two longsilenced clocks

In 2011, Theatre sound designer John Leonard started work on a project for The Wallace Collection Museum in London's M a nchester Square, to replicate

the sound of the delicate carillon music-box movements in two 18th Century clocks. The movements had been disconnected to prevent

museum had been auditioning various playback systems for a number of years with , unsatisfactory results, but through a chance remark to one of the museum's specialist sṫaff, John became involved in meeting the demands of designing suitable system.

it right.

"I knew from day one that Gilderfluke's SD-10 repeater would be at the heart of the system as its combination of small size, high quality audio reproduction and programmability meant that it could be easily placed inside the



the two hundred and fifty year-old mechanisms from excessive wear, but visitors missed the sound of the hourly musical chimes. The clock and meet the realistic playback challenge that the museum's director had posed; that of not being able to tell that a recording was being used. Starting with making the high definition recordings, the project took about eighteen months to come to completion, as conservation requirements meant that the whole system, including the 12v battery, had to fit inside the clock and be triggered by the clock mechanism, but not be physically attached in any way.

Senior Wallace Collection furniture conservator Jürgen Huber and I worked on the project together and we displayed the first version to a room full of museum visitors, none of whom realized that they were listening to a

recording. That was when we knew we'd got

From that early prototype, custom-built brass platforms have now been fabricated to hold all the components in place inside the two clocks and further systems using the SD-10 are in the pipeline for two more museums. The original project was shortlisted for one prestigious conservation award and won a 'highly commended' certification in a second.

You can see and hear the clocks in London at The Wallace Collection, Hertford House, Manchester Square, London W1U 3BN. For full details of the conservation project go to http://www.wallacecollecti on.org/news/44

Photos: Jürgen Huber

