

Chord Company

Clearway RCA digital cable



THERE ARE MANY people who will argue that using a digital cable doesn't make that much of a difference. After all, it is essentially a 75ohm coax wire. However, the Clearway RCA uses the same tuned conductor geometry as found in the company's original Sarum Digital interconnect, designed to improve musical coherence. It is all about timing and providing as accurate a digital signal as possible. A poor-quality digital cable, or one with an incorrect impedance, will generate reflections of the signal, which can result in jitter and ultimately degrade the audio signal.

Silver screen

In addition to its silver-plated VEE 3 RCA plugs, the Clearway can be fitted with silver-plated BNC and/or mono mini-jacks to suit portable DACs. The standard length is 1m, but custom lengths are available to order.

I use the Clearway to connect a PrimaLuna ProLogue Eight Mk.2 CD player as a source to a Furutech ADL Stratos, acting as an external DAC. I then spin a CD of Saint-Saens' *Organ Symphony No.3* played by The Montreal Symphony Orchestra. It displays a full, deep and refined first movement with a very powerful organ evident while the drum rolls at the beginning make me really sit up and listen. The violins in the sprightly second movement are bright and cheerful and all the sections of the orchestra are perfectly positioned within the soundstage throughout the performance.

A CD version of *That Old Black Magic* sung by Clare Teal with the Syd Lawrence Orchestra from the Chasing



The Dragon album *A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald* serves as a great big band demo album. The power of the opening trumpets that precede the vocals is superb and Teal's vocals have a great energy and excitement to them. The timing and pace of this swinging piece is excellent, while the energy is splendidly conveyed. In conclusion, the Clearway does a brilliant job of transmitting the digital signal beautifully and effortlessly at a great price. **NR**

▶ DETAILS

PRICE
£110 for a 1m cable
WEBSITE
chord.co.uk

OUR VERDICT

