

Chord Company

EpicX ARAY analogue interconnect

BUILDING ON THE design principles of Chord's Shawline, the upgraded EpicX ARAY has a similar design, but uses heavier gauge, silver-plated conductors with improved internal geometry. It features Chord's unique ARAY technology and also benefits from the use of the latest XLPE (Cross-linked Polyethylene) insulation. The cable retains the same shielding architecture as its predecessor.

The Chord offering has heavy gauge silver-plated, multi-strand, oxygen-free copper conductors. These are sheathed in a PVC jacket designed to minimise noise.

The EpicX ARAY cables are terminated with ChorAlloy-plated VEE 3 RCA plugs. The upgraded ChorAlloy multi-metal plating system is intended to provide

significant musical improvement over previous silver-plating techniques. Chord considers that any presence of silver sulphide (which is the only sulphide of silver) in standard silver-plating material can give rise to intermodulation effects at high frequencies, and its ChorAlloy can overcome these negative effects.

Versions of the interconnect fitted with DIN or XLR connectors are also available. It comes supplied in lengths of 0.5m and 1m as standard, with custom measurements or terminations available on special order.

Silence is golden

I connect the EpicX ARAY between my valve preamp and monoblocks, and play a copy-master tape of Mendelssohn's *Octet* performed by The Locrian Ensemble. The silences at



the start and between the movements are super-quiet and the instrument positioning and dynamic range when the ensemble plays are superb. The location and focus of all the instruments in my listening room are also spot on.

Turning to my record deck, I play *Easy Living* with Archie Shepp on the sax and Mal Waldron on piano. The top end of the saxophone is smooth and refined, and both are clear and have great presence. The EpicX ARAY is a top-quality interconnect that really delivers elegant and sophisticated performances. **NR**

▶ DETAILS

PRICE
£520 for a 1m pair
WEBSITE
chord.co.uk

OUR VERDICT

