Choice EXTRAS

Chord Company RumourX speaker cable

CHORD'S RUMOURX FEATURES

silver-plated oxygen-free copper conductors insulated with XLPE (Cross-Linked Polyethylene), which the company considers superior to using the PTFE dielectric material used on previous versions of the cable. It has a 6mm diameter and is flexible enough to fit easily around the back of my hi-fi. The conductors are arranged in a twisted pair configuration inside the PVC jacket.

Flexible friend

The RumourX is very flexible and I have no problem routing it around my listening room hooking it up to my speakers. After fixing the cable between my valve monoblocks and my transmission line loudspeakers, I start off my listening tests with a lovely Yarlung Records LP called *Yuko Mabuchi Plays Miles Davis*. This is a Bernie Grundman LP mastered at 45rpm and Mabuchi's excellent rendition of *So What* in particular is splendidly conveyed to my speakers with the RumourX cable connected. The performance by Mabuchi has a real sense of energy and freshness to it while still remaining true to the Miles Davis original. The openness and spaciousness of the Cammilleri Hall in Los Angeles where the recording took place is also extremely well reproduced.

Another Bernie Grundman 45rpm LP – this time of Lyn Stanley singing *Moonlight In Vermont* from her *Novel Noel* album – is smooth, effortless and detailed throughout, resulting in a performance that is scarily realistic in my listening room. The soundstage extends beyond the width of my speaker cabinets with great depth and superb instrument focus.

Turning to a CD of some Gluck Italian Arias, singer Cecilia Bartolithe's



vocal gymnastics grab my attention from the outset. The soundstage is superbly three-dimensional in its presentation. Bartoli is clearly located right in front of the orchestra which, as with the Yarlung Records recording before it, fills the entire width of my listening room behind her. In short, as a speaker cable, the RumourX delivers well-balanced performances across a wide range of different music. **NR**

DETAILS PRICE £228 for a 3m pair WEBSITE chord.co.uk

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