

Black Rhodium

Intro XLR stereo interconnect



BLACK RHODIUM'S INTRO range has been created very much with affordability in mind and the hand-built XLR stereo interconnect is designed to offer a high-quality sound at a competitive price.

Braiders of the lost art

Available in a choice of seven different coloured braids to assist in differentiating between different sources, it is screened and contains two cores – thus providing the three connections that are required for the balanced XLR connectors. A large ferrite core is placed close to one end to attenuate radio frequency interference and offer a clearer and more detailed sound across the audio frequency spectrum. The interconnect is supplied as a pair of 1m cables as

standard, but other lengths can be available to order.

Connecting the Intro XLR between my Studer A810 pro tape machine and unity-gain balanced-to-unbalanced preamp, I play a 15IPS copy-master tape of Bert Kaempfert's classic *Bye Bye Blues* album from 1965. The title track starts off with the trademark crackling bass and snare drum played with brushes to set the beat and sounds phenomenal. The bass response is tight and well controlled and the top end is bright without being harsh and edgy. In particular, the dynamic range is much more realistic than that of the LP, which I also have. Given that the Intro is a budget interconnect, I am

most impressed. Listening to Rimsky Korsakov's *Capriccio Espagnol* performed by the National Symphony Orchestra, the clarity of each instrument is very evident and the imaging and focus is superb. The music is highly involving and sounds very realistic in my room. The finale is delivered with plenty of power and energy.

With an UltraAnalogue Recording of Grieg's *Cello Sonata*, the dynamic range is spot on and the imaging of the cello and piano clear and well focussed. It's difficult to criticise the Intro XLR as it offers a performance well above its price tag. As such, it comes highly recommended. **NR**

DETAILS

PRICE
£75 for a 1m
XLR cable

WEBSITE
introbyblackrhodium.co.uk

OUR VERDICT

