



# Black Rhodium

## Calypso power cable

**UTILISING SOME OF** Black Rhodium's latest 'supercharged' design and materials, the Calypso mains cable aims to offer much of the performance of its higher-end brethren but at a lower cost. In addition to being fitted with a standard UK 13A mains plug, it can also be supplied with European Schuko or US plugs. At the other end, it usually comes with C19 IEC sockets for hooking up to the audio equipment, but there is the option for it to be fitted with C19 (high current) or C7 (two-pin) connections. The Calypso is screened to reduce the effects of external interference and has a continuous current rating of 13A.

Connecting the cable to my valve preamp power supply in place of a standard mains 'kettle' lead, I start off by playing *That Old Black Magic* from *A Tribute To Ella Fitzgerald*,

sung by Clare Teal with the Syd Lawrence Orchestra. The opening trumpets really grab my attention with fantastic clarity and lead nicely into the swinging vocals from Teal, which display great energy.

### Refined performance

To try out the Calypso with some full orchestral music, I choose a rendition of Gershwin's *Rhapsody In Blue* by The Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Leonard Bernstein. The piano is reproduced particularly well and has a very real presence in my listening room. Overall, the performance is highly melodic and refined.

Next, I move on to my Studer A810 and select a copy-master tape of Tatsuki Narita on the violin and Yun-Yang Lee on piano performing Saint-Saëns' *Danse Macabre*. The sound is spectacular and image



placement of the two instruments is superbly accurate while Narita's opening violin almost makes me jump. Listening to the whole piece is exhilarating and the realism of the recording is astonishingly good.

The Calypso is not cheap, even though it's sold at a lower cost than most power cables from Black Rhodium, but it's certainly a high-end offering capable of great results. **NR**

### DETAILS

**PRICE**  
£360 for 1.7m cable

**TELEPHONE**  
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**WEBSITE**  
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### OUR VERDICT

