



MAINS CABLE OF THE YEAR Tellurium Q Silver/Silver Diamond

Famously gnomic on the subject of what goes on inside any of its cables, Tellurium Q develops cables through observational listening, and those who do the same observational listening in demonstration will come to the same conclusions.

So, from a materials science perspective, the Silver uses conductors made of 'metal', surrounded by a dielectric made of 'stuff' and wrapped in a black braid made of 'material'. Meanwhile, Silver Diamond is made of similar things and is slightly thicker. Both are terminated in robust Furutech connectors at both ends and have a white heat-shrink identifier telling you what the brand is at one end and what type of cable you are using at the other. In a way, this makes a refreshing change from sci-fi psychobabble.

In our test, Alan Sircom felt that, "While frequency extension – particularly in the bass

– is excellent, the first aspect you notice when listening with Silver is the clarity of voices, the expressiveness of midrange detail and a more pronounced 'in the room' energy to the sound." Meanwhile, "Silver Diamond takes this midrange clarity and energy and builds significantly on it. There's more than a touch of Tellurium Q's 'Statement' cable to Silver Diamond, and that means more space around the instruments, more frequency extension (top and bottom, but with that, yet more of that energy and clarity of Silver), and more dynamic range let through."

Alan felt that, of the two, Silver is the less revealing but less demanding choice; "Suppose your component isn't quite as open-sounding at the top-end or as dynamic as its contemporaries. In that case, the Silver will be more accommodating" He concluded by saying, "These are top-flight power cords that are resolving and 'get out of the way' enough to let the music sound really good. Silver is perhaps the more universal of the two, but in places where Silver Diamond can shine. While this is dangerously close saying 'silver conductors sound shiny' – something Tellurium Q is abjectly trying not to do – it's hard not to make 'diamond' analogies when Silver Diamond makes a system sparkle. +

Reviewed in Issue **193**

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