

# Atlas Cables

## Hyper Symmetrical (£210/1m)

Despite appearances, this cable is not the asymmetrical Hyper design reviewed in an earlier issue [HFN Jan '10]. This symmetrical version employs a pair of 1mm signal and return cores, each comprising 80 very fine strands of 5N (99.9997% pure) OCC copper insulated in a polyethylene foam.

The cores are twisted and screened by an OFC braid and copper/mylar foil that boasts 100% RFI coverage and reduces the 1m loop resistance to just 66mohm. A gloss black PVC jacket clamps the signal and screen firmly in place. The cables are terminated with solder-free

RCA plugs from Atlas that, with their four asymmetrical leaves, are intended to 'clean' the sockets when inserted.

### **VIVID EXPOSURE**

Where details in the sonic picture are all too easily subsumed in its dense production, the dream-like sound picture of Madonna's 'Frozen' was tremendously vivid with the Atlas Hyper, its electronic production processes ruthlessly exposed. Our listeners were instantly impressed by the clarity.

The sense of musical occasion was readily obvious when hearing the Vivaldi concerto track, the rasp of bow on strings depicted

with commendable realism. Where some cables might be accused of adding pleasing warmth to the presentation, the Atlas could be described as 'getting out of the way' and, rather like the Townshend, lacking any character. This made recordings rewarding to observe: for example, the ebb and flow of Bantok's *Celtic Symphony* was considerably more obvious than with some of the other cables.

The Hyper's open delivery helped serve up a wonderful image with 'Trampled Rose', the plucking of strings and dynamically vibrant percussion sounding fast and truly hitting home.



Sound Quality: 88%

