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QED
Golden Anniversary XT speaker cable

Hi-Fi Choice RECOMMENDED

TO MARK ITS 50th anniversary, QED has introduced its Golden Anniversary XT speaker cable. This employs X-Tube technology, which places a cable's conductive material around a central hollow insulating rod. The cable is manufactured from a blend of 99.999 percent oxygen-free copper and Ultra-Pure Ohno Continuous Cast Copper to provide an improved signal path and better signal retention.

Terminator too

The conductors are insulated with a low-density polyethylene dielectric, which in unison with X-Tube Plus, results in high-efficiency and an extremely low dissipation factor. The cable is terminated with QED's Forté banana plugs, which are attached with a specially developed cold-weld system called 'Airloc' for maximum resistance to oxidation by effectively turning both cable and plug into a single, unified conductor.

Although very well made, the Golden Anniversary XT cable is a little stiff, which can make it difficult to bend round corners, but is not surprising given its high quality. Connecting the cable between my valve monoblocks and transmission line speakers, I kick off proceedings with a copy-master tape of Schumann's *Cello Concerto* played by Mstislav Rostropovich and the Leningrad Philharmonic Orchestra. The refined recording has a huge dynamic range and Rostropovich's exceptional cello playing is superbly conveyed to my speakers by the Golden Anniversary XT.

Switching to an LP of Barbra Streisand singing *You Don't Bring Me Flowers*, vocals are well positioned in front of the orchestral backing, which is sparkling and clear throughout the performance. The sensitive emotions are brilliantly conveyed in the opening section and when Streisand winds up the volume as the song progresses, the overall sound is quite spectacular. In conclusion then, the Golden Anniversary XT cable delivers outstanding performances at a very reasonable cost. ***NR***

DETAILS

PRICE
£187.20 for a 2m pair terminated in Airloc metal 4mm plugs, or £27 per metre

WEBSITE
qed.co.uk

OUR VERDICT
★★★★★

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