

Titan Power

Jon Myles plugs in Black Rhodium's Titan power lead.



company's Titan power cable which sits just below their flagship Hercules model and retails at £800 for a 1.5 metre length (other lengths can also be ordered).

Bernstein's trumpet on 'Sasa' was clearer and better separated from the instruments below.

The Naim is never short of rhythmic propulsion but throughout this collection the band seemed to be just that little bit tighter and faster.

In contrast, on Michael Tilson Thomas's interpretation of Mahler's 'No 6' (San Francisco Symphony) the soundstage to this epic work opened a shade more with the orchestra sounding larger and so more powerful. At the same time there seemed to be a lowering of the noise floor so there was better light and shade to the various passages, dramatic contrasts gained extra impact.

Switching back to the original power lead revealed just how much improvement the Titan was bringing to the sound. Yes, it was still enjoyable but the Black Rhodium was definitely getting more out of the Naim.

In that respect it's not that different to the Athena and Aria interconnects and loudspeaker cables in its ability to bring better definition, soundstage and instrumental coherence to a system.

CONCLUSION

The Black Rhodium Titan is an excellent power cable that can make a real difference. If you've got the rest of the cabling to your satisfaction (and that should be the first priority) then it could well be the final piece in the jigsaw.

Of all the elements that go into assembling a decent hi-fi system cables can often be the most difficult to get right. While different manufacturers' loudspeaker leads and interconnects can all make an appreciable difference, whether their effect suits your taste can vary depends not only on the make and level of equipment being used, but also exactly what sort of sound you prefer.

Which was why I was mightily impressed with Black Rhodium's Aria DCT++ RCA interconnects and Athena DCT++ loudspeaker cables earlier this year (see review Hi-Fi World February 2016). Not only did they have a superb level of definition and detail, they worked well in a variety of systems – from the relatively budget to ones costing north of £10,000.

But there was one link in the chain missing in the shape of the mains lead. So welcome to the

uses three separate layers of screening to prevent interference with other cables nearby while the live, neutral and earth conductors are silver-plated and continually twisted along their length to help reject RFI/EMI signals. In addition, two of designer Graham Nalty's vibration stabilisers are fitted – essentially metal clamps engineered to reduce microphonic effects in cables. This translates into a lead that is heavier and thicker than most and can take a bit of wrangling in tight spaces to get into place.

SOUND QUALITY

Replacing the stock lead of my resident Naim Supernait 2 integrated amplifier with the Titan, I was immediately struck by the difference in sound. On Madeski, Martin and Wood's 'End Of The World Party' CD the keyboard notes stopped and started slightly faster while Steve

BLACK RHODIUM TITAN £800 1.5 METRE TERMINATED



OUTSTANDING - amongst the best

VERDICT

An upgrade to standard power cables that brings better soundstaging, increased bass depth and improved definition.

FOR

- wide soundstage
- rhythmic drive
- instrumental separation

AGAINST

- slightly bulky

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