



7 QED QUNEX 3 £50/1m

★★★★★

This aspires to an open, detailed and very grown-up sound – and gets most of the way there. It's lacking some weight and warmth to accompany the speed and insight, though: partner with care.

8 QED QUNEX SILVER SPIRAL £100/1m

★★★★★

Establishes a large soundstage, has enjoyable low-end presence and is pacy and forceful – but its slightly over-clinical style means you can buy more fluent cables at this price.

9 SUPRA DUAL £40/0.75m

★★★★★

This Supra sounds so cohesive, well-balanced, and freighted with drive, the only question you'll be asking is if a 75cm run is long enough. If not, it's well worth rearranging your kit for.

10 SUPRA EFF-IX £72.50/0.75m

★★★★★

Boasts all its above-sibling's plus points (such as focus, integration and separation), plus added authority and dynamism. Its timing and expressive midrange are among the best here.

11 TCI TIGER £30/1m

★★★★★

This TCI handles timing well and offers an enjoyable midrange, but some top-end hardness, and an overall sonic signature that's irretrievably bland, make this more tabby than tiger.

12 TCI VIPER SE £70/1m

★★★★★

This TCI is more appropriately named: a real bite and reach to bass notes, and strong vocal delivery make this a generally engaging listen. A little looseness at the top end, though, stops it being the most fluent buy.

13 VAN DEN HUL THE ORCHID £325/1m

★★★★★

The slender Orchid offers a brilliantly effortless grasp of integration, timing and detail – across all frequency ranges. If your system justifies the outlay, this cable's mix of refinement and vitality will reward like little else.

14 WIREWORLD SOLSTICE 5 £50/1m

★★★★★

If you've an overstuffed system needing a blast of urgency, give this detailed-sounding Solstice wire a whirl. It's not suited for those who like solidity, body or punch, though.

15 WYREWIZARD ENCHANTRESS £115/1m

★★★★★

Enchantress? Sorry, but this cable's unlikely to taken back to our place at the end of the night. It manages a clear, clean and uncluttered sound but is lightweight and undynamic, so it robs music of much of its anima.