

Kimber Hero Interconnect

Paul Seydor

Not surprisingly, this is a near-twin to my longstanding reference, Kimber Select KS-1021, yielding by direct comparison only a tiny bit to the latter in ultimate control, top-end transparency, and detailing. To my ears, this has the most accurate-sounding tonal balance of the group, and ties with the Synergistic as the most detailed and transparent. On the Mary Chapin Carpenter, the male background vocal is heard far more clearly and distinctly than on any of the others except the Synergistic, while the Hero's bass is the best in the survey: truly prodigious in amplitude and definition (rather better even than the reference). On the Hahn/Stravinsky, the presentation is exceptionally bold and vivid, with quite ear-opening clarification of textures and rendering of soundstage. Compared to the Integration and the Paris, the Hero is either dead neutral or tilts a notch to the Yang, with dynamics at once powerful yet finely resolved in a grain-free presentation. Add to this clarity and definition an overall sound that is exceptionally natural (especially throughout the midrange), and it's obvious that Ray Kimber once again demonstrates his leadership in designing a superior performer at a reasonable price. tas



SPECS & PRICING

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Price: \$150

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