



KLEInnovations

KLEI gZero3 interconnects

THESE SLENDER AND visually unassuming cables employ Keith Louis Eichmann's gZero architecture, which is an evolution of his previous Ground nulling Circuitry (GnC).

The gZero architecture is intended to reduce and control the effects of the ground/return wire on the signal wire.

The design also allows the former to protect the latter from capacitive, inductive, EFI, EMF, RF, and static charges. This is to facilitate a smooth and uninterrupted signal flow from one component to another.

Unlike other designs where the ground/return and the signal conductors have identical characteristics, these cables are designed to have a calculated difference between the two.

Understandably, exactly what this difference is, KL keeps under wraps, but the maker does say that each cable is comprised of conductors that have been hand wound to enhance the electron flow in the signal conductor without using any active components.

As time goes by

KL states that the manufacturing process requires precise calculation, hours of hand fabrication and several days of run-in on a professional cable burner.

The latter point is very important since at least 350hrs of burn-in is recommended, so it was good that this is carried out at the factory, for me. A settling time of at least 2 hours and preferably 24 hours is also recommended before the cables perform at their best. According to KL, this settling time is required each time the cables are unplugged and plugged back in.

The conductors employ highly annealed, mil-spec OFHC (Oxygen Free High Conductivity) copper and pure silver wire. The cables are fitted with KLEI Silver Harmony RCA plugs, which feature the **KLEI™PureCopper** signal pin and the **KLEI™PureSilver** ground pin with single point connection.



I connect the gZero3s between my phono stage and preamp and start listening to see if I can discern any improvement during the settling period. The bass response seems to firm up a little and extend downwards. The instrument focus also slightly improves.

Once they have settled in, I subject the interconnects to a wide range of music. Vladimir Ashkenazy playing Prokofiev's *Piano Concerto No.1* is superb and breathtaking. The piano is always a challenging instrument to reproduce well, but it is completely believable and realistic, and the energy of Ashkenazy's playing is beautifully conveyed. There is excellent image placement and clarity not only of the piano, but also the entire orchestra. The crescendos are full and open and the trumpet blasts are bright without sounding harsh. The piano is perfectly positioned in front of the orchestra, which itself is spread evenly across the soundstage.

Getting a bit more intimate, John Williams' guitar performance playing the second movement of Rodrigo's *Concierto De Aranjuez* with the English Chamber

Orchestra is delicate and enchanting.

The gZero3s can certainly whisper when required to and right from the very start I am drawn deep into the stunning performance.

Feel the force

Thelma Houston singing *Got To Get You Into My Life* is forceful without being shouty in the slightest. The instrumental backing is rhythmic with a well controlled bass line and the timing is great.

I sometimes feel the bass is almost too tight and maybe a touch reigned in, but that could just be a case of getting used to the gZero3 ICs. As with the previous John Williams piece, the emotion in Houston's voice is quite splendidly conveyed.

Overall, the gZero3 ICs combine a very tight and well-textured bass response with a lively top end. Vocal performances are also clear and have a good presence in the room.

To summarise, these cables are a really good all-round performers and are well worth an audition. **NR**

Details

PRICE
£320 for 1m pair

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Our Verdict
★★★★☆