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## Evidence Audio Lyric HG Instrument cables

**Date:** 10th February 2003  
**Type:** Audio  
**Manufacturer:** [Evidence Audio](#)  
**Author:** Terry Kok

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### Introduction

Evidence Audio which was founded in 1997 by Tony Farinella, is a company specialising in musical instrument and studio cables which aims to deliver performance-based cables at reasonable prices. High quality cables are essential in getting the best out of your instruments and studio equipment and cables are perhaps one of the most overlooked components in any setup or studio. Evidence Audio's latest cable - the Lyric HG, is a high performance instrument cable designed for high gain amplifiers or guitars with passive pick-ups where microphonics can be a challenge but can also excel in many lower gain applications. Let's find out more!

### Specifications

- IGL™ Copper conductors  
Smooth midrange and highs
- Solid Core Conductors  
Preserve clarity and focus, revealing harmonic detail and articulation
- 20 awg Conductor Size  
Large enough to communicate punch and authority, small enough to preserve a sense of air and delicacy
- Enhanced Dielectric  
Additional air reduces dielectric involvement
- Conductive skins applied to positive and negative runs  
Reduced microphonics with high gain amps
- High Density Copper Braid Shield  
Nothing but signal gets to your amp
- Woven Cloth Jacket  
Increases flexibility and protection for stage use

enhanced dielectric over the Lyric with conductive skins applied to positive and negative runs and a copper braid shield. For those who are interested in knowing more, Evidence Audio has an [excellent page detailing their design philosophy](#) and is definitely a good read.

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### Test Setup

#### *Instruments*

Ibanez JS1000BTB Joe Satriani signature Electric guitar  
(DiMarzio PAF Pro & FRED passive pickups)  
Fender American Standard Stratocaster  
(Seymour Duncan Cool Rails passive pickups)

#### *Amplifiers*

Marshall JCM800 Head with cabinet  
Marshall AVT20 Combo

#### *Effects*

Robert Keeley modified BOSS DS-1 "Seeing eye mod" Distortion pedal  
Dunlop 535Q Wah-wah pedal

#### *Cables in comparison*

Evidence Audio Lyric HG Instrument cable  
Monster Performer Rock 500 Instrument cable  
George L's .225 Instrument cable

#### *Recording*

Echo Audio MONA Digital Studio Interface and preamp  
Rode NT1000 Studio condenser microphone

Pedals wired up

### In Use

Evidence Audio recommends approximately 10 hours of break in time for the Lyric HG cables to sound at their best. As the Lyric HG cables are directional, they must be hooked up in a fixed direction, indicated by the coloured ring around the plugs, the black plug going into the instrument source and the red end going to the destination. The cables are terminated with Neutrik straight or angled connectors and TRT Wonder Solder, very high quality solder common among audiophiles. The Neutrik plugs used here are in my opinion, some of the best 1/4" plugs I have ever used as they fit just right, are easy to insert and remove, solid and extremely durable.

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Neutrik connectors are excellent

The Lyric HG might be well built but how does it sound? As soon as I hooked up my rig with the Lyric HGs, I heard a marked difference in tone from the other cables I was previously using. The sound was noticeably larger, with more authority and weight but I felt that the cable sounded a little restrained in the high frequencies. Keeping the recommended break- in period in mind, I decided to let some signal run through the cable for a few hours before taking another listen. Sure enough, the tone opened up beautifully, the initial dull restrained top end

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Swissmemory Twist  
512MB USB Drive

AMD Athlon 64 3200+  
Processor

Kingston Elite Pro  
512MB CompactFlash

Razer Viper Optical  
gaming mouse

Ultimate Ears UE-10  
Pro In-ear monitors

RS Audio Cables The  
Duet Interconnects

Evidence Audio Lyric  
HG Instrument Cables

HIS Excalibur Radeon  
9600XT Turbo

replaced with one that had just the right amount of bite and attack. If you don't believe that cables make a difference, take a listen to your rig with the Lyric HGs and let them change your mind!

In comparison with the George L's cables, the Lyric HG sounded a lot bigger with better dynamics and a more balanced frequency spectrum. The George L's cables in my opinion, tend to sound slightly forward with a brittle top end and switching over to the Lyric HG brought a lot of body and definition back to the sound. Monster's Performer 500 on the other hand, had a better balance with a more prominent bottom end but comes at the expense of note definition and clarity. This was particularly noticeable at high gain where the sound got a little muddy and it became very difficult to distinguish one note from the other. Definition was not a problem with the Lyric HGs, even at high gain where they remained exceptionally quiet. A good test would be John Petrucci's appregiated chords in the intro of Overture 1928 (*DreamTheater - Scenes from a memory*) where he lets the notes ring throughout with a reasonable amount of distortion. The combination of the Lyric HGs and the DiMarzio FRED pickup (highly regarded for it's definition as well) produced some amazing results with superb definition and sceraming harmonics.

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### In Use

Besides high gain applications, the Lyric HGs also excellend in clean sounds, adding a wonderful chime to chords and licks. We've recorded two simple clean sound samples below, done the good old way using a small Marshall AVT20 combo miced with a Rode NT1000 studio condenser mic. Nothing beats hearing the entire rig in person but the clips give a good indication of the note definition and clarity that the Lyric HGs have.

Recording the clips

**Evidence Lyric HG - Clean 1**  
 204KB - MP3 File format

**Evidence Lyric HG - Clean 2**  
 142KB - MP3 File format

### Conclusion

The Evidence Audio Lyric HGs are fantastic instrument cables and anyone seeking to improve their tone should seriously consider auditioning these cables. The cables are very well built and their performance can easily match many other competitors many times it's price. Don't limit the performance of your instruments and setup by using cheap cables, give your signal the connectivity they deserve!

### Feature Report

Pros

- Excellent sound quality
- Excellent build quality
- Superb Neutrik connectors
- Good value

Cons

- Slightly stiff but manageable

### Report Card

#### EXHardware Rating

Evidence Audio Lyric HG Instrument cables

Features	<b>8/10</b>
Accessories	<b>N/A</b>
Build quality	<b>9/10</b>
Sound quality	<b>9/10</b>
Value	<b>8/10</b>
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>9/10</b>

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**Evidence Audio Lyric HG Instrument cables**  
 EXHardware Editor's Choice - Instrument cables