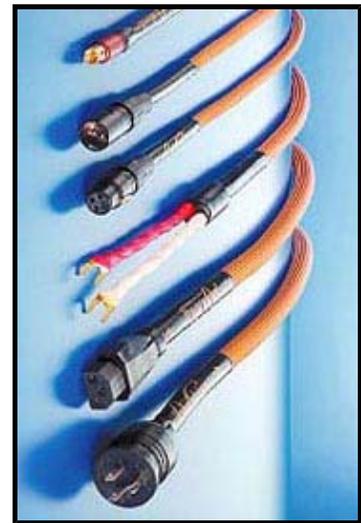




From Canadian contributor Phil Gold, we present you with **Soundstring cables**, the **Perreaux R200i integrated amplifier** and the **TEAC/Esoteric DV-50 universal player**.



Soundstring Cables are new to the audiophile market, but their makers have many years of cable manufacturing experience behind them. I'm impressed with these products and will investigate them extensively in the new year. I find these cables effortless and extended - and that applies to the power, interconnects and speaker models. Best of all, these wires live up to their name. They are as flexible as string, a very big consideration in my setup. I predict that you'll be hearing a lot more from Soundstring. Their creations compete with the best, but at a relatively modest price - 6' power cord \$575, 1 meter RCA interconnects \$419, 8' speaker cables \$532.



The \$3,995 **Perreaux R200i integrated amplifier** from New Zealand makes a big impression out of all proportion to its size. The sheer grip which this beautifully crafted amplifier exerts over woofers creates strong rhythmic drive for music of all kinds and projects a wide and clearly defined soundstage. The chassis is constructed of non-magnetic materials and contains a true dual-mono layout with sophisticated electronic control circuitry. You may choose between silver or black finish, and you'll have a lot of fun with the unusually flexible remote.

With just three selections, one can hardly build a full system - but the heart of *any* system must be the source. Until we know who'll win the format wars, why not hedge your bets and buy a universal digital player? You can hardly do better than the \$5,500 **Esoteric DV-50 from TEAC**. Not only can it play all the latest high-resolution DVD-A/SACD releases and extract the most from RedBook CD; you can make this machine the center of a combined music/video system. While you may get a hernia moving