ICON Crystal Cable Arabesque £45,000 | www.absolutesounds.com Nice vases. What do you put in them? Gigantic monster daisies? The only thing that'll be planted in these is your idiotic gurning face if you're not careful. Although at £45,000 per pair, it'd be a terrible waste of one of hi-fi's most mindboggling achievements. You see, when you sculpt speakers from 100kg of 19mm glass you can't just fill the insides with wires and acoustic damping and forget about it. You have to hide it all away somehow without spoiling the sound. Going transparent raises a whole new set of questions. Such as, "Could they be turned into fully functioning fish tanks?" They'd be some home for a pair of goldfish. To prevent distortion, none of the sides are parallel, so the fish would never see exactly the same scenery twice. Although with a three-second memory, it's not like they'd be any the wiser. They'd probably be too busy enjoying the sweet sounds created by their fancy new abode anyway. However, brimming them with H2O is likely to have a pretty detrimental effect on the sound, so we don't really advise sticking any fish inside. Going transparent raises new questions Ah, so that's why they look so wonky... Wonky? Do you know what a colossal philistine you're being? The engineering and design nous behind these speakers comes direct from the drawer labelled "awesome". Each panel has been invisibly glued to the next, and the drivers appear to float in space. CC even reckon each aluminium diaphragm is lighter than the air it pushes. They're a technical and aesthetic achievement beyond anything else out there right now.