

25 Cool Signature guitars



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Introduction

Over the years many artists have had "signature" guitar models developed by a whole host of manufacturers.

Some have been at the cheaper end of the market, such as the Fender Squier Hank Marvin Stratocaster right up to the high priced models such as the Fender Andy Summers Telecaster and SRV Strat recreations or Gibson's recent Slash and Billy Gibbons Les Pauls.

This book is not a definitive guide of signature guitars, but a just a personal view of some guitars that we think are either well known, interesting in some way, or just cool!

If you visit our website, GuitarCollecting.co.uk you will find an ever growing collection of Signature guitars, as well as articles on many facets of the guitar collecting hobby, histories of various guitar makers and a host of other information about guitar collecting.

Flyssy and Connor F
Guitarcollecting.co.uk

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John Mayer Fender Stratocaster

Featuring an alder body; a satin urethane-finished maple neck with a slightly bigger "C"-shape, buffed headstock, vintage '50s decal, and an African rosewood fingerboard with a 9.5"-radius and Dunlop® 6105 frets.

The new Fender John Mayer Signature Model Stratocaster guitar is designed by Mayer himself. Known for playing a number of different Stratocaster guitar models throughout his career—some stock, some custom modified—John jumped at the chance to add his own preferences to a new Fender model. "What excites me the most about this guitar is that it's not a traditional 'artist signature' model, in that it's not meant to celebrate the past," said John Mayer. "It's designed to play the songs that haven't been thought of yet, and to take a fresh approach to the songs that have."

Added Mayer, "I hope anyone who holds it gets inspired to make their own connection with it. It's got my name on the back of the headstock, but the rest of the guitar is for putting someone else's name all over it."

Other features include:

- 3 NEW "Big Dipper" single-coil pickups with a special "scooped" mid-range voicing wound to John's exacting specifications,
- An American vintage synchronized tremolo with five tremolo springs and without an installed back plate (included in case),
- Fender/Gotoh vintage-style tuning keys,
- A string tree placed slightly closer to the nut
- Three-ply Brown shell pickguard.

The sound is amazing, there's not a lot else that has to be said. Something special was made in the new Big Dipper pickups. They are the most amazing and unique sounding pickups Fender has ever developed.

They allow for very powerful bass lines but keep plenty of room for the treble to truly Shine.

List price \$2199



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David Gilmour Fender Stratocaster

What's the difference between this and the Relic version? This NOS (New Old Stock) version has not been put through the Fender Custom Shop special ageing techniques. The guitar looks as the original did when it was brand new (but with David's modifications), hence the name New Old Stock.

David Gilmour and the Fender Custom Shop are extremely proud to release one of the most iconic and highly-anticipated musical instruments of the past 50 years, the Fender Custom Shop David Gilmour Signature Series Stratocaster, based on David's famous "Black Strat" guitar.



A cornerstone of Pink Floyd's revolutionary and incomparable sound, Gilmour's Black Strat is featured extensively on *The Dark Side of the Moon*, *Wish You Were Here*, *Animals*, *The Wall* and his critically-acclaimed 2006 solo effort, *On An Island*.

The Fender Custom Shop worked hand-in-hand with David and his long-standing guitar technician, Phil Taylor, to create his signature model, a reproduction of the Black Strat — complete with its unmistakable look, sound and feel.

Featuring a Black lacquer over Three-color Sunburst alder body with a black pickguard, one-piece maple neck, custom pickups, and David's now-famous electronics and shortened vintage tremolo arm, the David Gilmour Signature Series Stratocaster is as beautiful, powerful and idiosyncratic as David's playing

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David Gilmour Fender Stratocaster

Additionally, David's signature guitar comes with a custom case and extra limited edition accessories

- Evidence Audioguitar cable,
- [Live In Gdansk \(3CD & 2DVD\)](#)
- [Pink Floyd: the Black Strat: A History of David Gilmour's Black Fender Stratocaster](#)

Only the first 500 guitars in the world come with the limited edition accessories (Evidence Audio cable, Live in Dansk DVD and Black Strat Book).

Specifications:

- Series Custom Artist Series
- Model Name David Gilmour Stratocaster® NOS
- Model Number 015-0068-806
- Colors (806) Black,
- (Nitrocellulose Lacquer Finish)
- Body Comfort Contoured Select Alder
- Neck 1-Piece Maple, 1983 Thin-Shouldered "C" Shape, (.790" to .870" Taper),
- ("Thin-Skin" Dark Tint Nitrocellulose Lacquer Finish)
- Fingerboard Maple, 7.25" Radius (184mm)
- No. of Frets 21 Vintage Style Frets
- Pickups: 1 Custom Shop Fat '50s Single-Coil Strat® Pickup, (Neck), 1 Custom Shop '69 Single-Coil Strat® Pickup (Middle), 1 Seymour Duncan SSL-5 Single-Coil Strat® Pickup (Bridge)
- Controls: Master Volume, Tone 1. (Neck Pickup), Tone 2. (Middle Pickup)
- Pickup Switching: 5-Position Blade: Position 1. Bridge Pickup, Position 2. Bridge and Middle Pickup, Position 3. Middle Pickup, Position 4. Middle and Neck Pickup, Position 5. Neck Pickup,
- 1 Mini-Toggle (Adds Neck Pickup in Positions 1, 2 and 3.)
- Bridge: American Vintage Synchronized Tremolo with Custom Beveled Tremolo Block and Shortened Tremolo Arm
- Machine Heads Fender/Gotoh® Vintage Style Tuning Machines
- Hardware: Nickel/Chrome

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David Gilmour Fender Stratocaster

- Pickguard: 1-Ply .120" Beveled Black Acrylic, (11 Hole)
- Scale Length: 25.5" (648 mm)
- Width at Nut: 1.675" (42.5 mm)

Unique Features

- Thin-Shouldered "C" Neck Shape Duplicated from David's 1983 U.S. Vintage '57 Strat® Neck,
- Custom Shortened Tremolo Arm,
- Custom Beveled Tremolo Block,
- White Tremolo Back Cover,
- Black Dot Position Inlays (Narrow Spacing),
- Aged White Plastic Parts,
- Built as if bought new in its respective year and brought forward in time.
- The First 500 Sold in Either Finish Option will Include a Limited Edition, Signed Copy of "The Black Strat®" Book, Autographed by the Author, David's Long-Standing Guitar Tech, Phil Taylor.
- Strings GHS®, DG Boomers, Nickel Plated Steel,
- Gauges: (.010, .012, .016, .028, .038, .048)Accessories
- Deluxe Black Hardshell Case, Evidence Audio™ High-End Guitar Cable, Custom Leather Strap, GHS® DG Boomers Strings, DG Pick, David Gilmour's Three Disc "Live In Gdansk" CD and DVD Package, a Copy of Phil Taylor's "The Black Strat" Book, Polishing Cloth and the Certificate of Authenticity Case

Deluxe Black Hardshell Case with Green Crushed Velvet Lining and with "David Gilmour" and Custom Shop Logo Embroidered on the Lid Interior List.

Price £2349.99

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Eric Johnson Fender Stratocaster

The Fender Eric Johnson Stratocaster RW solidbody electric guitar brings you an instrument fit for a guitar tone master! Eric is also known for his perfectionism and dedicated search for an "ultimate" guitar.

The brainchild of Johnson himself, the Eric Johnson Stratocaster RW is designed with Eric's own personal features and preferences, and it is made possible because of his expressed desire to give something back to the collectors, players and, especially, the fans who have supported him throughout his career.

Made with the finest woods available

The Eric Johnson Stratocaster RW guitar is built from some of the finest materials available. The light 2-piece alder body is dressed in a very thin nitro cellulose lacquer finish; the quartersawn maple neck is paired with a rosewood fingerboard with a 12" radius and 21 highly polished frets.

Custom pickups wound to Eric's specifications

Additional features on the Eric Johnson Strat include staggered vintage style machine heads, thus eliminating the need for a string tree, custom pickups with countersink screws and wound to Eric's specifications, and highly contoured body and neck.

Vintage tremolo and '57-style features

The Eric Johnson Stratocaster RW comes with a parchment '57 style pickguard, 5-way pickup switch, master volume, neck tone and bridge tone controls, and a Vintage tremolo with a silver painted block and '57 style string recess with no paint between base plate and the block.



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Eric Johnson Fender Stratocaster

Fender Eric Johnson Stratocaster RW Features:

- Color: Tropical Turquoise
- Body: 2-piece, deep-contoured, '57-style alder
- Finish: Nitrocellulose
- Neck wood: Quartersawn maple
- Fingerboard: Bound rosewood, 12" radius
- Machine heads: Staggered vintage style
- No. of frets: 21 highly polished medium jumbo
- Pickguard: 3-ply parchment (8-hole)
- Scale length: 25.5"
- Pickups: Three special-design Custom Shop Eric Johnson single-coil
- Controls: Master Volume, Neck Tone, Bridge Tone
- Bridge/tailpiece: Vintage tremolo with '57-style string recess
- Pickup switching: 5-way switch
- Hardware: Nickel/chrome
- Case: Deluxe Blonde hardshell case with brown ends (gold interior)
- Accessories: strap, cable, and bridge cover

Price: around £1400



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Elvis Costello Fender Jazzmaster

The Elvis Costello Signature Jazzmaster guitar honours one of the most recognized and recognizable Jazzmaster players in pop music history. Costello's original instrument has gone through many changes in the past 30 years, and this new Jazzmaster faithfully replicates the guitar as it existed at the time he recorded his acclaimed 1977 debut album, "My Aim Is True".

Uniquely Costello-ish features include an early '70s neck design, walnut stain finish and a tremolo with easier and greater travel for that spine-tingling "Watching The Detectives" spy movie sound!

Features:

- Alder body
- Walnut stain with Nitrocellulose Lacquer finish
- Maple neck Rosewood fingerboard
- 21 Vintage Style frets
- 25.5" scale length
- Chrome hardware
- Fender/Gotoh Vintage Style tuning machines
- Vintage Style "Floating" Tremolo with Tremolo Lock Button
- 4-ply Brown Shell pickguard
- Special Design American Vintage Jazzmaster Single-coil neck pickup
- Special Design American Vintage Jazzmaster Single-coil bridge pickup
- 3-position pickup switching
- 2-position slide Lead/Rhythm switch
- "Lead" Circuit volume and tone control
- "Rhythm" Circuit volume and tone control
- Includes Deluxe Brown Hardshell Case, Vintage Style leather strap, 8' cable, bridge cover, special "Jag/Jazz" strings

List price: \$2149.99



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Dave Murray Signature Stratocaster

Guitarist Dave Murray of seminal U.K. metal heroes Iron Maiden has been banging his head with Fender since the mid '70s.

Murray recently joined forces with Fender to create a signature model based on his own '57 Stratocaster, previously owned by late, great Free guitarist Paul Kossoff.

The Dave Murray Stratocaster guitar boasts a supercharged HSH configuration — a DiMarzio® PAF® 36th Anniversary DP103 neck pickup, a DiMarzio® Super Distortion® DP100 bridge pickup and a Fender vintage-style middle pickup.

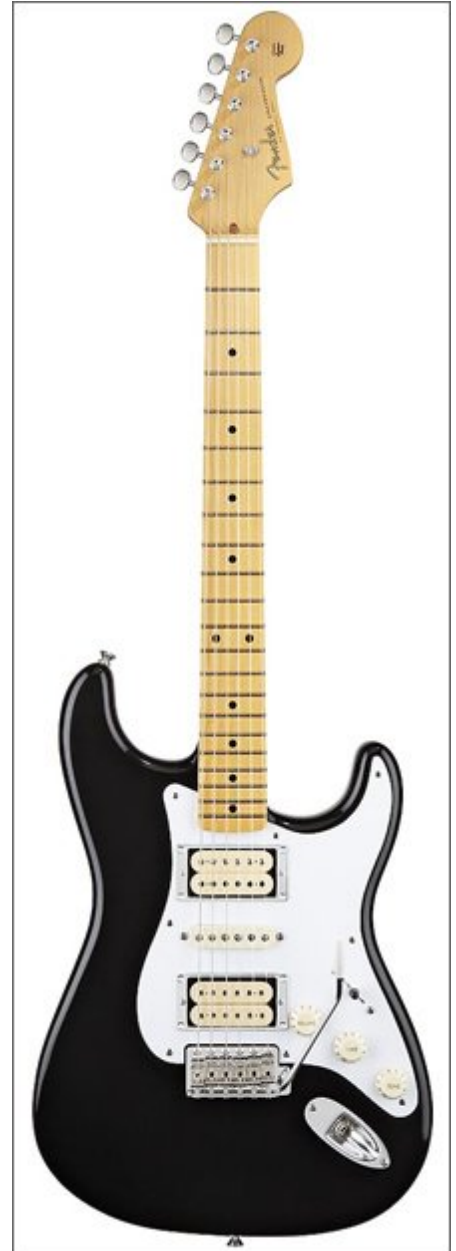
Other features include a lacquer finish, and a flatter soft V-shaped neck with satin back.

Vintage tweed hardshell case included.

Unique features:

- Chrome Pickup Bezels (Mounted by Pickup Mounting Screws Only,
- Corner Screw Holes Empty Per Dave Murray's Specifications),
- Modified Soft "V" Shape Maple Neck,
- Dave Murray Signature on Back of Headstock,
- Aged White Plastic Parts with Black Switch Tip,
- Black Dot Position Inlays,
- Vintage Styling,
- Synthetic Bone Nut

Price: Around £1400



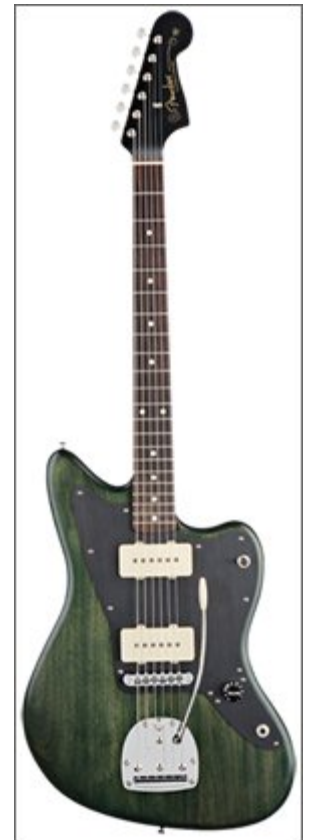
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Sonic Youth Fender Jazzmasters

"When Fender came to us with an offer to make signature models of our Jazzmaster guitars we jumped at the chance,"
Thurston Moore and Lee Ranaldo.

"These are the guitars that have defined the sound of Sonic Youth for more than 20 years. Although we love all guitars, Jazzmasters are the ones we've modified and perfected for our uses over the years. With massive input from our great road crew, we've come up with a Thurston Jazzmaster and Lee 'Jazzblaster' that fully reflect the current state of the guitars we play in 2009. In fact, we couldn't wait to get our hands on these axes—the prototypes of our Fender models have already been thrust into action during the recording of our latest album, *The Eternal*, and have already begun to acquire the scrapes and scars of live performance. These guitars rock Sonic style!"

Lee and Thurston have always heavily modified their Jazzmaster guitars – removing all extraneous controls – simplifying and stripping them back to their essence, leaving just a 3 way switch and a volume knob. In many ways these 2 instruments are similar, yet in almost every major way (pickups, bridges, frets, pickguard) they are totally different.



"After playing and slaying Fender Jazzmasters for the last 20+ years we are totally PSYCHED and HONORED to have our very own signature axes."

Both guitars have alder bodies, "C"-shape maple necks with rosewood fingerboards, American Vintage Jazzmaster tremolos and Black anodized aluminum pickguards.

Moore's Jazzmaster features Seymour Duncan Antiquity II for Jazzmaster pickups, an Adjusto-Matic™ bridge and 21 jumbo frets, and is available in Forest Green Transparent satin nitrocellulose lacquer finish with satin black painted headstock.

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Sonic Youth Fender Jazzmasters

Ranaldo's guitar features revoiced Wide Range humbucking pickups, Mustang-style bridge and 21 vintage frets, and is available in Sapphire Blue Transparent satin nitrocellulose lacquer finish with satin black painted headstock.

Each Sonic Youth Jazzmaster guitar comes with a custom sticker sheet and a full-color 24-page indie rock 'zine containing photos, set lists, tuning charts, illustrations, tech info and extensive interviews. Designed and laid out largely by Ranaldo himself, this is the definitive insider's guide to all things Jazzmaster in the world of Sonic Youth.

Thurston Moore Jazzmaster

- Forest Green Transparent with satin black headcap
- 2 Seymour Duncan Antiquity pickups with aged covers.
- Adjust -o-matic bridge
- Jumbo frets and 7.25" fretboard radius.
- Black Anodized Aluminum pickguard with split control assembly.
- Streamlined electronics- no rhythm circuit/one volume knob
- Vintage style nickel hardware
- Pickup selector switch 'side to side' instead of up/down.
- Signature on back of headstock.
- includes 'Sonic Jazzmaster/Jazzblaster' 'zine with SY crew interviews and sticker sheet with new artist-designed and vintage sonic gtr stickers.

Vintage style nickel hardware

- Pickup selector switch 'side to side' instead of up/down.
- Signature on back of headstock.

includes 'Sonic Jazzmaster/Jazzblaster' 'zine with SY?crew interviews and sticker sheet with new artist-designed and vintage sonic gtr stickers.

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Sonic Youth Fender Jazzmasters

Lee Ranaldo Jazzmaster

Based upon Lee's iconic 'Jazzblasters'

- Sapphire Blue transparent with satin black headcap
- 2 Newly revoiced and improved Fender wide range Humbucker reissue pickups (voiced to Lee's specs)
- Fender Mustang Bridge
- Vintage frets and 7.25" fretboard radius.
- Black Anodized Aluminum pickguard.
- Streamlined electronics- no rhythm circuit/one volume knob
- Vintage style nickel hardware
- Pickup selector switch 'side to side' instead of up/down.
- Signature on back of headstock.

includes 'Sonic Jazzmaster/Jazzblaster' 'zine with SY?crew interviews and sticker sheet with new artist-designed and vintage sonic gtr stickers.



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Joe Strummer Fender Telecaster

Forward-thinking cultural icon Joe Strummer (1952-2002) was co-founder, lyricist, rhythm guitarist and lead singer of seminal British punk rock band the Clash.

He later founded, recorded and toured with the Mescaleros. All his life, Strummer vigorously championed individuality, self-expression and change—tenets often reflected in the constantly altered look of his favorite and most recognizable instrument—his Telecaster (currently on display in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland). The Joe Strummer Telecaster is modeled after the '66 Telecaster Strummer played throughout most of his career. Although the guitar's appearance changed often, it was a fairly standard '60s-era Telecaster with all the original parts and specifications.

When Strummer bought it in 1975 for £120, the instrument had a three-color sunburst finish, but he soon had it sprayed with gray primer at a London auto shop, and then later added a coat of black paint. These new "finishes" deteriorated quickly, giving the guitar its distinctive look. Like Strummer's music, the battered guitar changed constantly—plastered as it was with stencils, stickers and new paint jobs through the many stages of Strummer's life and career.

To celebrate Strummer's fierce sense of individuality, Fender and acclaimed artist Shepard Fairey collaborated on the new guitar's special Joe Strummer Telecaster Customization kit, which includes stencils and stickers inspired by the custom designs Strummer decorated many of his instruments with. The kit comes in a classic 12" album cover featuring Shepard Fairey graphics and photography by Bob Gruen. This collectable album art set is a limited edition companion to the first 1,500 guitars.



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Joe Strummer Fender Telecaster

An avid Strummer fan and admirer, Fairey wrote a personal letter to Strummer in summer 2002, some of the text of which is reproduced in the customization kit. As Fairey reverently notes in his letter, "As a visual artist, I have fashioned my approach in many ways after the Clash. I try to be provocative but humorous with my art. Hopefully, people can get a kick out of my stuff and ponder some issues at the same time ... Thank you for your contribution to the world and my life."

Features:

- Model Number 013-3900-(750)
- Colors (750) Custom Road Worn, (Polyurethane Finish)
- Body Alder
- Neck Maple, "C" Shape, (Gloss Polyurethane Finish)
- Fingerboard Rosewood, 7.25" Radius (184mm)
- No. of Frets 21 Vintage Style Frets
- Pickups 2 Vintage Style Single-Coil Tele® Pickups with Alnico Magnets (Neck & Bridge)
- Controls Master Volume, Master Tone
- Pickup Switching 3-Position Blade:
- Bridge Vintage Style 3-Saddle Strings-Thru-Body Tele Bridge
- Machine Heads Fender®/Ping® Vintage Style Tuning Machines
- Hardware Distressed Chrome
- Pickguard 3-Ply Mint Green
- Scale Length 25.5" (648 mm)
- Width at Nut 1.650" (42 mm)
- Unique Features Revolution Rock Neckplate, Road Worn Finish,
- Art Customization Kit (First 1500 Units Only)
- Kit Contains: Joe Strummer 12" Album Cover, Art Print, Stencil Sheet, Sticker Sheet, Template, Instructions and Bio.
- p/n 073-0250-006
- Accessories Deluxe Black Hardshell Case

Price: around £700

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Joe Bonamassa Gibson Les Paul

Joe Bonamassa played his first guitar at the age of four and stepped up to a full-scale model by seven, mastering many of Stevie Ray Vaughan's signature licks. At ten he was playing regularly around the state of New York, garnering the attention of blues legend B.B. King. Two years later he was opening up for King, and eventually stars like Buddy Guy, Robert Cray, Stephen Stills, Joe Cocker, Greg Allman and George Thorogood.

Bonomassa has gone on to single-handedly transform blues rock with his own unique fusion of both old and new ideas and distinct interpretation of blues.

The Inspired By Joe Bonamassa Aged Les Paul Goldtop is a tribute to this extraordinary guitar virtuoso. The body features a carved maple top and 2-piece light mahogany back, while the neck is 1-piece mahogany with a 1959 profile and a 22 fret rosewood fingerboard.

The design also includes a Bonamassa Truss cover, Grover kidney tuners, BurstBucker 2 (R) and BurstBucker 3 (T) pickups, and CTS pots and bumble bee capacitors.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Joe Bonamassa Gibson Les Paul

Body & Hardware:

- Carved maple top
- 2-piece light mahogany back
- Single-ply cream binding on top
- Aged nickel hardware
- ABR-1 Bridge without retainer wire
- Dunlop Strap locks
- Aluminum stopbar tailpiece

Neck & Headstock:

- 1-piece mahogany neck
- 22 fret rosewood fingerboard
- Acrylic trapezoid inlays
- 1959 neck profile
- 24 3/4" scale length, 1 11/16" nut width
- Bonamassa Truss rod cover
- Grover kidney tuners

Electronics & Strings:

- BurstBucker 2 (R) and BurstBucker 3 (T) pickups
- CTS pots and bumble bee capacitors
- 2 volume, 2 tone, 3-way selector switch
- Amber Top Hat knobs (Rhythm vol. & tone)
- Gold Top Hat knobs (Treble vol. & tone)
- Vintage .011 strings

Approx Price: £3179

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Billy Joe Armstrong Les Paul Jr



The Billy Joe Armstrong Signature Les Paul Junior is an accurate reproduction of the Green Day front-man's original 1956 LP Junior affectionately known as "Floyd".

Designed in close co-operation with Billy Joe, it features a mahogany body and neck with nickel hardware. The Billy Joe Armstrong Les Paul Junior combines the best features of a vintage Junior with some modern twists.

With a new special design stacked double-coil H-90 and a vintage style non-compensated wraparound tailpiece, the Billy Joe Armstrong is a ferocious, resonant rock 'n' roll guitar, truly worthy of Billy Joe's name.

Features

- Body Material – Mahogany
- Neck Material – Mahogany
- Neck – 1960 Slim Taper
- Scale – 24-3/4 Inch
- Fingerboard – Rosewood
- Inlay – Pearloid Dots
- Hardware – Nickel

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Billy Joe Armstrong Les Paul Jr



- Nut – Molded Plastic
- Nut Width – 1.695 Inch
- Bridge- Vintage Style Non-Compensated Wraparound Bridge
- Pickup – H-90 Stacked Double Coil
- Controls – One Volume, One Tone
- Finish – Vintage Sunburst
- Features – Signature on Headstock
- Case – Billie Joe Armstrong Case

It's particularly notable that unlike Gibson's other dauntingly priced signature guitars, the Billie Joe Armstrong model isn't built by the Custom Shop (though it *is* built in the States,) and the guitar is expected to go for a street price of just under \$1500 – bringing it into the price range of many would – be *punk rockstars* the world over...

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Jeff Beck "Oxblood" 1954 Les Paul

There are as many modified electric guitars in the world as there are guitarists who play them, but rare is the modified "off-the-shelf" guitar that is elevated to iconic status by the artist who played it. Such is the case with Jeff Beck's "Oxblood" Les Paul, a guitar from the heart of tone history. Gibson has unveiled an accurate recreation of this legendary instrument: the Jeff Beck 1954 Les Paul Oxblood.



The guitar joins a range of signature Les Paul guitars from the likes of Jimmy Page, Slash and soon, Michael Bloomfield.

Beck made a big name for himself right from the start, stepping into very big shoes in The Yardbirds as Eric Clapton's replacement, then splitting off to form The Jeff Beck Group with Ron Wood and Rod Steward in 1967, all before the age of 25. Come the '70s, though, Beck was forging his reputation as a solo artist — and one of the hottest guitarists of his generation — and he was doing it on a Gibson Les Paul. And like so many legendary guitars, the Les Paul in question made its way into its artist's hands not through an endorsement deal, or a gift from the manufacturer, but through the lucky happenstance of some down-time being killed with a little browsing at a local music shop.

While recording in Memphis, Beck paid a visit to a popular music store called Strings and Things to check out the stock. The guitar that caught his attention was a '54 Gibson Les Paul that a customer had dropped in for some very specific modifications. One request was that its original Goldtop finish be stripped off in favor of a deep chocolate-brown finish, a colour that turned out to exhibit some oxblood tints in certain light.

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Jeff Beck "Oxblood" 1954 Les Paul

Other modifications included the installation of full-size humbucking pickups in place of the P-90s, altering the full and rounded early '50s neck shape to a slightly thinner profile and changing the original tuners for modern replacements. Legend has it that the customer didn't like the results ... but Jeff Beck did. He purchased the modified Les Paul from the store, and ended up playing it extensively on tour and in the studio. He even gave it pride of place on the cover shot of his milestone 1975 album, *Blow By Blow*. A tone legend was born.

The 1954 Jeff Beck Les Paul Oxblood is the most detail-precise reissue of this hallowed instrument ever produced by Gibson Custom. All of the intensively accurate Custom Shop craftsmanship is there. From the one-piece light mahogany back to the accurately-arched carved maple top to the light aluminum wrapover bridge to the one-piece Beck-profile mahogany neck with long-tenon neck joint. Beyond even these, however, the instrument exudes the vibe of the original, with a feel, sound and finish match that pay homage to Beck's own modified Les Paul.

Even the pickups, Gibson's Burstbucker 2 and Burstbucker 3 (neck and bridge respectively) are among the most accurate vintage PAF reproductions that Gibson has ever conceived, right down to the irregular windings from coil to coil and their lack of potting, two ingredients that contribute to an authentic late-'50s and early '60s humbucker tone.

This guitar spoke to Jeff Beck throughout the '70s, and it defined his throaty, emotive tone and encouraged his extreme use of sustain and harmonic feedback, all along the way helping to define the cornerstone sound of the Gibson Les Paul in the hands of a superlative artist.

Available in very limited numbers, the Jeff Beck 1954 Les Paul Oxblood from Gibson Custom will come in two different series. The first 50 of these historic guitars will be carefully aged by the master luthiers at Gibson Custom to look exactly like Beck's original, then personally hand-signed, numbered and played by Beck himself. The next 100 guitars will be prepared with Gibson Custom's pioneering V.O.S. finish, bringing the total run to just 150 rare instruments. Each one also comes with a specially produced Gibson Custom case with Beck's signature silkscreened on the top, a custom care kit and a certificate of authenticity.

Price is around £4000

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Dean Dimebag Darrell Razorback

The Dean Explosion Razorback Electric Guitar has high impact looks and puts out concussive licks. A super-snug set neck joint joins the mahogany neck and body for supreme resonance that works with the Dimebucker at the bridge to produce astounding sustain with knife-edge bite.

Killer graphics are complemented by a bound rosewood fretboard and black hardware, including a double-locking Floyd Rose-licensed trem.

Designed by Pantera's late guitarist "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott in 2003, it was released in 2005 as a tribute to the guitarist, who was murdered on December 8th 2004.

There are many Dimebag Tribute Razorback finishes, as well as versions of Dime's other favoured guitar, the Dean ML.

The guitars have Dimebag's stamp all over them, from his signature Seymour Duncan bridge pickup right down to his signature control knobs, with holes soldered in for extra grip!

Dean Razorback Electric Guitar Features:

- * Fully Bound Mahogany Body and Set Neck
- * Rosewood Fingerboard
- * Custom Graphics
- * Licensed Double-Locking Floyd Rose
- * Seymour Duncan Dimebucker Bridge Pickup
- * Dimebag Traction Knobs

Dean Explosion Razorback Electric Guitar Includes:

- * Dean hard-shell case



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Zakk Wylde Gibson Models

Zakk Wylde, Ozzy Osbourne guitarist and frontman of Black Label Society, is a faithful Gibson user and has a range of distinctive signature models.

Gibson Zakk Wylde Les Paul

- Top: Carved maple
- Body: Solid mahogany
- Multi-ply black/white binding on top & back
- Gold hardware
- Nashville Tune-O-Matic bridge, stopbar tailpiece
- 3-piece set maple neck, no finish
- 22-fret ebony fingerboard
- Pearl block inlays
- Multi-ply white/black binding
- Rounded neck profile
- 24.75" scale length
- Kidney bean tuners
- EMG-81 and EMG-85 humbucking pickups
- Controls: Two volume, Two tone, 3-way selector switch
- Includes Custom Shop case, certificate of authenticity, and custom care kit



Custom Zakk Wylde black and white Bulls-eye graphic There are other Zakk Wylde Les Pauls, one with a camouflage bulls-eye graphic, and one with a red and orange "Buzzsaw" graphic.

Gibson ZV Custom

This is Zakk's other signature model, with a body resembling a Flying V bottom half and an SG top half.

Even new the "Zakk-V" is hard to find, and with a price exceeding \$5000. However, for about 1/5 of that price there is an Epiphone version, which is much easier to get hold of.

Specs for the Gibson version are similar to those of the Les Pauls in Wylde's range.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Zakk Wylde Gibson Models

Gibson Inspired By Zakk Wylde Flying V

This is the third, ultra rare model in Zakk's signature range.

It is a 1958-style Flying V, with Zakk's favoured bulls-eye graphic and EMG pickups, as well as a Floyd Rose tremolo.

Prices are about the same as the Gibson ZV.

NB:

All the Zakk Wylde Les Pauls and the ZV Custom are available as Epiphone models, with similar specifications to the Gibson models, the fundamental difference being the Epiphone models' passive EMG-HZ pickups, as opposed to Zakk's EMG 81/85 active pickups.

The prices are around £600 for the Epiphone models.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Kerry King BC Rich "Beast" V.N.T.

Inspired by Kerry King the Beast V is an unholy alliance between B.C. Rich's famous Beast body shape and Speed V design.

This Beast V is equipped with B.C. Rich B.D.S.M. humbucking pickups and a fully adjustable bridge with a string-through body design for added sustain.

It has a rosewood fingerboard, Beast headstock and bolt-on construction.

Specifications

- **Construction:** bolt on
- **Body wood:** basswood
- **Top style:** bevel top
- **Tuners:** B.C. Rich® die-cast
- **Fretboard:** rosewood
- **Frets:** 24 jumbo
- **Scale:** 25 1/2"
- **Bridge:** Tune-o-Matic
- **Pickups:** B.C. Rich® B.S.D.M.™
- **Controls:** 1 volume, 1 tone and 1 three-way toggle
- **Colors:** grey



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Ibanez Herman Li E-Gen

This is the signature model for DragonForce's Herman Li.

When DragonForce guitarist Herman Li wanted a guitar that could handle his otherworldly technique and musicality, both he and Ibanez knew it would take time to get everything just right.

It took three years. But they did get it right. The Ibanez E-Gen is played by Li exactly as it is, live on stage, and in the studio, right off the shelf without any modifications.

The DiMarzio® HLM pickups were custom made for Herman Li for use on the new Ibanez E-Gen. Herman wanted a set of pickups designed specifically for E-Gen's slim mahogany body, 24 frets neck, different pickup mounting positions compare to his old Ibanez S guitars, along with the new Edge-Zero bridge. Here a description of how each pickup sounds:

Neck: Warm, clean, strong attack. Great for warm singing solos, clean sweep picking tone. Pull volume switch up to split coil for a more classic sound or go smooth and clean.

Middle: This pickup features a warm and punchy high-output design. The middle pickup has been designed to be mounted deeper into the guitar's body so it stays out of the way when picking, yet still remains perfectly in balance with the neck and bridge pickups.

Bridge: High output, screaming harmonics. Perfect for fast tight heavy rhythm, loud solos, responsive to speed finger tapping.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Ibanez Herman Li E-Gen

Guitar Specs:

- Made in Japan by Ibanez's most experienced luthiers
- 5-piece maple/walnut E-GEN 24-fret neck
- Mahogany body with flamed maple top
- Scalloped frets–21st-24th
- DiMarzio HLM Herman Li signature pickups
- Edge-Zero bridge with the stronger arm action preferred by Herman Li
- Special upper horn grip and deeper lower cutaway
- Low-profile middle pickup for extreme picking
- Gold Hardware

The price for the E-Gen starts at around £2100



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Washburn Paul Stanley "Preacher"

Washburn and Kiss' guitar player Paul Stanley have joined again to design new models of its signature series, the new models belong to the Washburn Paul Stanley Preacher Signature brand, have a single cut-away Les Paul-like shape design and there are 4 different models, PS9200, PS9000, PS7200 and PS7000.

The Washburn Paul Stanley Preacher Signature PS9200 and PS9000 have similar features, both of them feature mahogany body and neck, 18:1 Grover tuners, ebony/rosewood (PS92000 and PS9000, respectively) fingerboard, 22 jumbo frets, 24.75 scale length, Tone Pros bridge with stop tailpiece, 2 Seymour Duncan Pearly Gates humbucker pickups, 3-way pickup switch and 2 volume and 2 tone controls.

The PS9200 model, the one used by Paul Stanley, is available in black and white finishes and has a \$3,899.90 list price; while the PS9000 is available in gold top and honey-burst flame maple finishes but its list price is not announced yet.

The other models, Washburn Paul Stanley Preacher Signature PS7200 and PS7000, also share some features, mahogany body and neck, Buzz Feiten Tuning System, 18:1 Grover tuners, ebony/rosewood (PS72000 and PS7000, respectively) fingerboard, 22 jumbo frets, 24.75? scale length, Tune-o-matic bridge with stop tailpiece, 2 Egnater humbucker pickups, 3-way pickup switch and 2 volume and 2 tone controls.

The PS7200 model is only available in black finish and its list price is \$1,299.90; while the PS7000 model is available in honeyburst finish and its list price is \$1,249.90.

All the models of the Washburn Paul Stanley Preacher Signature series include a guitar case and will be soon available.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Washburn Paul Stanley "Preacher"

Specifications

Built in the USA Custom Shop

- * Maple cap
- * Mahogany body
- * Gloss finish
- * 8 ply binding
- * Tone Pros® tune-o-matic bridge
- * Stop Tailpiece
- * Seymour Duncan Custom Custom pickups
- * 3-way toggle switch
- * 2 volume, 2 tone controls
- * Mahogany set neck
- * Bound headstock
- * Art Deco headstock inlay
- * Ebony fingerboard with pearl block inlays
- * 22 jumbo frets
- * 24.75" scale
- * 14" fingerboard radius
- * Double action truss rod
- * Graph Tech nut
- * Gold hardware
- * 18:1 Grover® tuners
- * Buzz Feiten Tuning System™
- * Case: GC37 Included
- * Colors: Black, White

List Price: \$3899.90



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Steve Vai Ibanez Jem/Universe

Steve Vai is one of the few guitarists universally acknowledged as one who has changed the way musicians think about what a guitar can really do.

His signature Ibanez guitars are no different: iconic, sublime, awe-inspiring, and outrageous. The Ibanez JEM Series models are trailblazers in a world of imitators – there's nothing like them.

After the JEM series was launched at the 1987 NAMM show, Ibanez with Steve Vai began to design and produce the guitar actively. Rich Lasner of Hoshino explained that Vai used a "Chinese menu approach" to design the guitar (i.e. choosing from many different categories). The first design was by Vai, when he sent Hoshino his ideas from many different guitar features he liked and combined it into one guitar. The essential considerations were the weight, wood types and pickups. For the latter specification, Vai decided long before Ibanez contacted him, that he would use DiMarzio pickups for his guitars.



Later, Lasner asked Vai to explain the guitar specifications further: "The first thing he did" Lasner explains, "was disassemble them on the spot. Neck from body, pickguard off, tremolo out... took 'em apart. I was shocked, to say the least. But Steve looked at me nonchalantly and said, 'Relax, I do this all the time.' He wanted to check Mace's detail and craftsmanship." Mace Bailey, who was also involved in the production, later went to Japan to the Ibanez factory to really begin producing the guitar. He sat there with the craftsmen and made ten guitars for Vai.

There are four Ibanez JEM and Universe models.

The JEM is Vai's main guitar on stage, and comes with Vai's patented "Monkey Grip", and the Universe is a seven-string version with no Grip.

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Steve Vai Ibanez Jem/Universe

JEM 7V

- Neck Material: 5pc Maple/ Walnut
- Neck Type: JEM Prestige
- Body: Alder
- Fingerboard: Rosewood
- Inlay: Pearl/ Abalone Vine inlay
- Bridge: Edge Pro bridge
- Neck PU: DiMarzio® Evolution® DP158
- Middle PU: DiMarzio® Evolution® DPS1
- Bridge PU: DiMarzio® Evolution® DP159
- HW Color: Gold
- Finishes: White



UV777:

- Neck Material: 5pc Maple/ Wenge
- Neck Type: UV Prestige
- Body: Basswood body
- Fingerboard: Bound Rosewood
- Inlay: Disappearing Pyramid inlay
- Bridge: Edge Pro 7 bridge
- Neck PU: DiMarzio® Blaze™ II Neck
- Middle PU: DiMarzio® Blaze™ II Middle
- Bridge PU: DiMarzio® Blaze™ II Bridge
- HW Color: Chrome
- Finishes: Black



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Dean Eric Peterson "Old Skull V"

Eric Peterson, guitarist for thrash masters Testament, has a new guitar available starting June 2009 with Dean Guitars, the 'Old Skull V.'

"I'm very excited because I finally have a signature coming out," said Peterson. "It's a guitar I've been playing for a while, and I think people will enjoy the action."



It's got triple-binding, all-black EMG pick-ups, block inlay, and some really cool artwork. Not too much, but enough to keep it evil!"

Fans who purchase Testament's special VIP packages for their current North American headlining tour have a chance to win one of three Eric Peterson Signature 'Old Skull V' guitars.

The packages also include meet-and-greet opportunities, access to sound-check, a collectible laminate, an autographed poster, Testament music skins, a limited edition Testament messenger bag, and a chance to win a Testament Darkstar skateboard.

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Dean Eric Peterson "Old Skull V"

Guitar Specs:

- Mahogany Top / Body
- 24-3/4" Scale
- Set Mahogany Neck
- Rosewood Fingerboard
- Pearl Block Inlays
- Grover Tuners
- Black Hardware
- Tune-O-Matic Bridge
- EMG 81 Bridge Pickup
- EMG 85 Neck Pickup
- Hardshell Case Included
- Finishes: "Old Skull" Custom Graphic



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Valley Arts Brent Mason Custom Pro

Valley Arts Guitars Brent Mason Signature Custom Pro - Brent Mason collaborated with Valley Arts on this amazing-sounding guitar, which is based on the 1968 Fender Telecaster that Mason has used for years.

The Brent Mason Signature Custom Pro features a mini-humbucker in the neck slot, plus Duncans in the middle and bridge positions.

Signature features

The Brent Mason Signature Custom Pro is based on the Joe-Glaser-modified 1968 Fender Telecaster that Mason has used on countless sessions for the last 15-plus years. The Signature's most notable features are its Gibson mini-humbucker in the neck position, Duncan Hot Stack for Strat humbucker in the middle slot, and Duncan Classic Stack for Tele humbucker at the bridge. A separate volume control allows the middle pickup to be blended in with the other pickups. The Signature Custom Pro also has a push-pull function on the tone control that activates a coil tap on the middle pickup.



An eye-catching guitar

Cosmetically, the Brent Mason Signature Custom Pro is a unique blend of disparate elements. The silver body and black pickguard go great together, and the matching headstock is a nice touch. A mix of chrome, gold, and nickel-plated hardware, a "vintage" toned neck, and, of all things, a red pickup complete this eye-catching guitar. The Signature Custom's big neck feels great, the large frets are smoothly rendered, and the neck joint is ultra snug.

Great intonation, big neck

The Brent Mason Signature Custom Pro is intonated well, courtesy of its six-saddle bridge. Those who favor huge necks will absolutely flip over the girth of the Signature's gloss-finished model. You might want to try before you buy if your hands are really small, but average-sized hands will love the feel of this neck.

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Valley Arts Brent Mason Custom Pro

Amazing tonal range

The Signature Custom's passive electronics yield a fascinating range of tones. The basic idea of the pickup and wiring scheme is to deliver classic Tele spank, but with bigger neck-pickup tones and a whole lot of additional sounds in between. That's exactly what the Signature Custom does, and now players can benefit.

Valley Arts Brent Mason Signature Custom Pro Electric Guitar Features:

- Color: Matte Pewter
- Body Type: Full size
- Finish: Matte
- Neck Wood: Maple
- Body Wood: Swamp Ash
- Machine Heads: Satin chrome locking Sperzel
- Fingerboard: Maple
- No. of Frets: 22
- Scale Length: 25-1/2
- Position Markers: Dots
- Pickups: Gibson mini-humbucker (neck), Duncan Hot Stack (middle), Duncan vintage lead stack (bridge)
- Controls: Neck and bridge volume, middle volume, master tone/series-parallel for middle pickup
- Pickup Switching: 3-way
- Bridge/Tailpiece: Chrome hardtail
- Hardware: Chrome/gold/nickel
- Case: Hardshell

Price: \$2199

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Ibanez Pat Metheny PM120

The Ibanez PM120 Pat Metheny Signature Series extra slimline, semi-acoustic jazz guitar, delivers classic warm jazz tones.

"It took some time, several prototypes and perseverance from all corners, but the final results are excellent. I love playing all of the various Ibanez PM models and am quite proud to be associated with them." Said Pat.

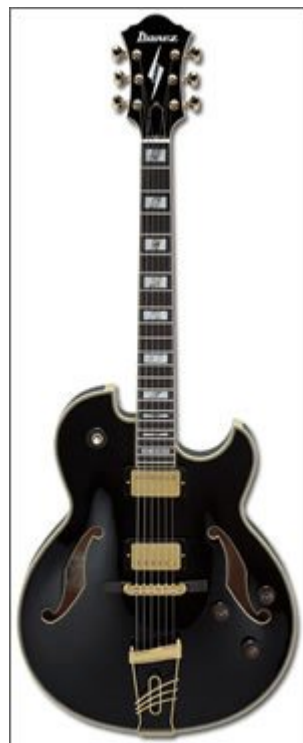
The PM-120 is the size of the traditional full acoustic jazz guitar but slimmer for better comfort, projection, and feedback rejection.

In fact, the PM120 has an even slimmer body than the PM100 (3 1/4 inch vs. 3 7/8 inch) for enhanced midrange punch. The Ibanez PM120-BK has an all maple body, a fast and comfortable PM Prestige set-in mahogany neck, an ebony fingerboard with pearl/abalone block inlays and 22 medium frets.

The Silent 58 pickups feature the classic, warm tone of Super 58's with an anti-feedback treatment. The professional Gotoh GB103B bridge has exceptional tuning stability and looks very high class. An Ibanez Deluxe hardshell case is included with the PM120.

A body joint at the 17th fret makes upper fret access easier than most traditional jazz guitars.

The Pat Metheny Signature PM120 features Super 58 pickups in bridge and neck positions.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Ibanez Pat Metheny PM120

Features:

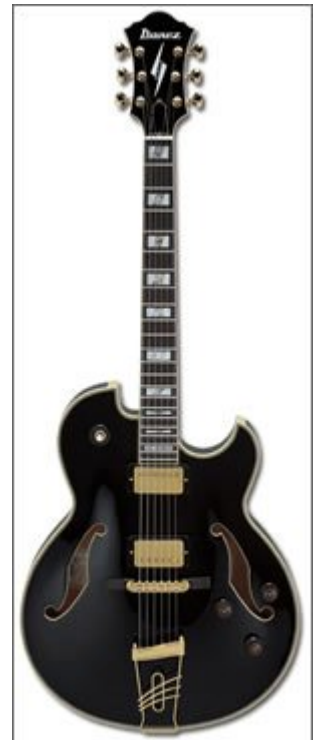
- Neck Material: Mahogany
- Neck Type: PM Prestige set-in
- Body: Maple top/back/sides
- Frets: 22 Medium frets
- Fingerboard: Bound Ebony
- Inlay: Pearl/ Abalone block inlay
- Bridge: Gotoh 103B bridge
- NeckPU: Silent 58
- BridgePU: Silent 58
- Hardware Colour: Gold
- Finishes: Black, Natural

Pickups:

- Name: SILENT 58
- Model No: SL58
- Construction: Humbucking
- Magnet: Alnico

Description:

Classic, warm and versatile. Handles both jazz and rock without feedback.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Adrian Belew Parker Fly Guitar

Designed from the ground up to the exacting standards of legendary guitarist Adrian Belew, the Adrian Belew Signature Fly is one of the most advanced and innovative guitars ever built.

The Adrian Belew Signature Fly features an exclusive Dimarzio bridge pickup along with a revolutionary Sustainiac Stealth PRO neck pickup which produces intense, predictable and infinite feedback sustain. With the Sustainiac, musicians can create amazing tones, from screaming feedback at any volume to upper harmonics using the unique harmonic mode control.

Onboard Line 6 Variax Modeling Components allow guitarists to select from 25 preset sounds including classic acoustic and electric tones.

For even more versatility, the Adrian Belew Signature Fly features computer connectivity that allows artists to customize and create their own tones and custom tunings.

Sound equalization is provided by six separate sensors within the RMC bridge saddle, which allows each string's volume to be processed separately, giving the player unsurpassable tonal control.

"From his early work with Frank Zappa, David Bowie and King Crimson to working with Talking Heads and Nine Inch Nails, Adrian Belew has always been a pioneer who pushes the limits on what is possible with the electric guitar," said Jody Dankberg, Director of Marketing and Artist Relations at Parker Guitars.



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

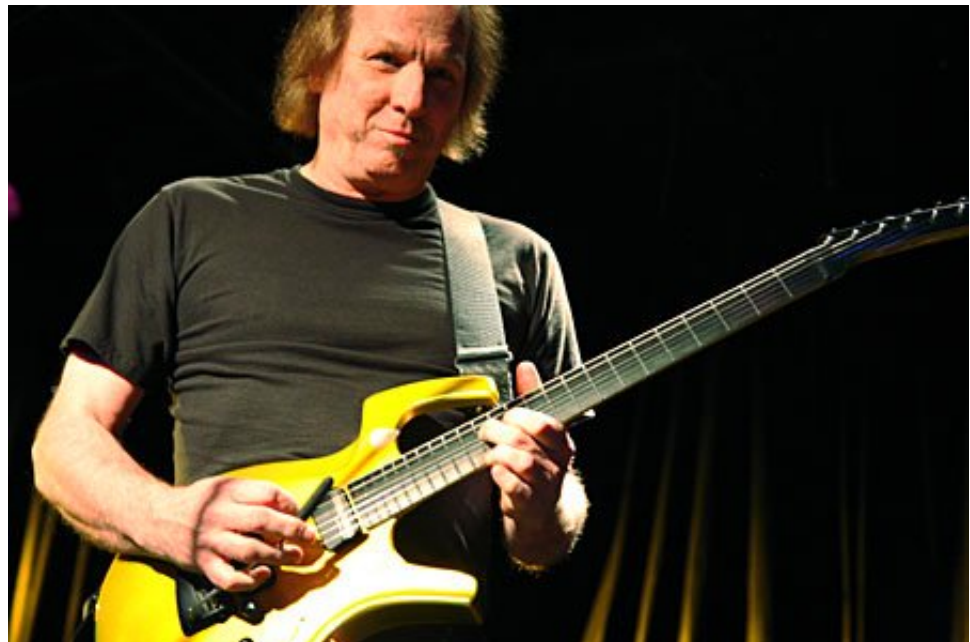
Adrian Belew Parker Fly Guitar

"The Adrian Belew Signature Fly combines the easy playability and perfect fretboard of Parker Guitars with 'out of this world,' cutting-edge components to offer the most technologically advanced electric guitar available today."

Features

- -Exclusive Dimarzio bridge pickup
- -Revolutionary Sustainiac Stealth PRO neck pickup
- -Onboard Line 6 Variax Modeling Components with 25 instrument models
- -Computer connectivity
- -MIDI capable – 13 pin out
- -RMC Pow'r Bridge 'PF' Saddles and RMC Poly-Drive 1 Preamp
- -Sperzel Trim-lock Tuners

Price approx \$12,000



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Robert Smith Schecter "Ultracure"

"I think this guitar sounds fantastic. Some people will be put off by its size, but it has a very big sound."

These are the words of the Cure's Robert Smith, who spoke with us recently about his new signature guitar, which is indeed a big deal in more ways than one. Safe to say, Smith is not exaggerating when describing the UltraCure's sound. Even unplugged, this guitar is girthy and sustaining. You can literally feel the string vibrations radiate outward across its massive mahogany plank like ripples in a pond.



The idea for the Korean-made UltraCure sprang from Smith's desire for a guitar that could replace the hollowbody Gibsons and Gretsches he had been using.

"There was a limited-edition Gibson Chet Atkins that I'd gotten in the '80s, which served as a benchmark for this guitar, because I love the way it sounds and plays," he explains.

Smith was also a fan of Schecter guitars, so it was natural for him to have the Hollywood, California, company take a shot at building his dream axe.

"I've always liked the Schecter Ultra," Smith reports. "In fact, my tech was always getting frustrated because he wanted me to use one of my vintage guitars, but I always preferred to play the Schecter.

The neck shape on the UltraCure is the standard Ultra style, which I love because it's not too deep. I wanted a 24-fret neck because it looked right to me.

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Robert Smith Schecter “Ultracure”

I know about how the neck pickup doesn't line up with the harmonic node when you've got 24 frets, but because I mostly use the bridge pickup or both pickups together, that's not really a concern. The guys at Schecter were worried that the 24-fret neck might not look right in proportion to the body, so I simply enlarged the shape until everything was in proportion. I had a cardboard cutout of the guitar, and I drew the controls, pickups, and strings on it. That's how I worked out the shape I wanted."

The UltraCure's slim, 14"-radius neck plays superbly, and the neck joint flows into the body like molten glass. The frets are well finished, with no high spots or prickly ends, and buzzing is minimal on the low-action setup. The pearl fretboard inlays are cleanly set, and they reflect Smith's desire to create a distinctive appearance.

"I designed the inlays to make the guitar look a bit more cosmic," Smith explains. "The first guitars Schecter made for me had block and dot inlays, which I thought looked too strong. Stars have been a Cure theme for some time now, and the crescent moons add a nice cosmic touch. I like big inlays because I need to be able to glance down quickly when I'm performing and know exactly where I am on the neck. I still wanted the white dots on the edge of neck, however, because it can be hard sometimes to see the dark pearl inlays."

The huge 3-ply pickguard is carefully beveled, and it fits tightly against the top's slightly raised center section. The controls are conveniently placed, too, with the layout of the knobs and pickup selector plotted by Smith.

"If you notice, all the controls are arranged in a linear manner to form triangles," Smith states. "It was something that was very important to me. In fact, had I not been so busy in the studio while working on this guitar, I might have spent even more time trying different placements for the knobs. But I'm happy with how it worked out. It's also important to me to have a master volume, because I like to set the level and not have to touch while I'm singing. I can't be fussing with the controls when I'm performing."

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Robert Smith Schecter “Ultracure”

Asked about his choice of pickups for the UltraCure, Smith replied: “I’d tried some different pickups, but, in the end, I found I really liked the sound of the Duncan ’59s. And since that’s also the year I was born, I thought it appropriate to have them on this guitar.”

Part of the credit for the UltraCure’s massive, sustaining sound goes to its TonePros bridge and stop tailpiece. “I originally wanted the guitar to have a vibrato,” Smith recalls. “Schecter even made me one with a Bigsby. But then I realized that I only used it on two of our songs, so, in the end, it seemed better to go with the solid tailpiece.”

Ultra Sounds

Playing the UltraCure is an interesting experience, as it sounds sort of like a semi-hollow thinline ax, but feels like a shred-friendly solid—thanks to its svelte neck and speedy setup. The guitar sounded cool though a ’64 Fender Super Reverb and a

mid-’70s 50-watt Marshall, delivering gobs of low-end and midrange content, along with well presented, sparkling highs. The Duncan ’59 humbuckers pack plenty of output to easily drive these two non-high-gain amps into thick distortion, and when pumped through distortion pedals at much higher gain settings, the tones were even and articulate.

The bridge pickup is where the action is on the UltraCure, as it provides the slice needed to reveal the inner zing in that huge mass of mahogany. Because the bridge-pickup Volume knob is the one closest to the strings, it can initially be a little confusing as to which pickup you’re controlling, but this arrangement makes sense if, like Smith, you tend to romp mostly on the bridge setting.

The UltraCure has no Tone control, but the individual Volume knobs are equipped with a push-pull function that taps the pickup coils for a brighter response. This makes it easy to get lots of sonic textures in the dual-pickup mode. And depending on how the levels are set and whether you’re tapping one or both pickups, there are myriad shades at your fingertips—from dark jazz vibes to round, sweet R&B colors to prismatic clean tones to a full-bodied grind that really roars when pushing some amp volume. And once you’ve established the sound you want, you can conveniently bring it up or down via the Master Volume.

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Robert Smith Schecter "Ultracure"

Specifications

- 1-5/8" nut width
- 25-1/2"-scale rosewood-on-mahogany neck
- Neck-through design
- Three-piece mahogany body
- Seymour Duncan '59 humbuckers
- TonePros bridge and stop tailpiece
- Grover tuners
- Factory strings: Dean Markley .010-.046
- 9.6 lbs

Price

\$999 retail

\$549 street



25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Further Reading

Here is a list of great guitar books we have come across over the years. Each title is linked back to our Library, where you can view and purchase each book through Amazon if you have any interest in investigating further.

[Beauty of the 'Burst: Gibson Sunburst Les Pauls from 1958 to 1960](#)

This is hands down the best book on 58'-60' 'Bursts there is. Tons of info, gobs of gorgeous photos...you name it...its' all here and then some.

[Ted McCarty's Golden Era 1948-1966](#)

Gibson Guitars: Ted McCarty's Golden Era is a long overdue book that covers the world's greatest period of guitar manufacturing. As CEO of Gibson Guitars from 1948 to 1966, Ted McCarty presided over the production of nearly one million instruments and amplifiers.

[50 Years of Gretsch Electrics: Half a Century of White Falcons, Gents, Jets and Other Great Guitars](#)

Introduced in 1954 as one of Gretsch's Guitars of the Future, the White Falcon was an overwhelmingly impressive instrument. The influence of this spectacular new guitar spread to other models and guitar manufacturers.

[Moderne Guitar: Holy Grail of Vintage Guitars](#)

A long awaited, thoroughly researched, fascinating and detailed study of the most elusive vintage electric guitar ever, the Gibson Moderne, covering it's origins and many imitators.

[Gibson 335: Its History and Its Players](#)

The book seems comprehensive and an enjoyable read if you are a Gibson 335 fan. Certainly, it is comprehensive.

[The Gibson Electric Guitar Book](#)

"Gibson Electrics" is a comprehensive, richly illustrated guide to Gibson electrics past and present.

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Further Reading

[Classic Electrics: A Visual History of Great Guitars](#)

This book is a great little pictorial guide. "Classic Electrics" is a richly illustrated exploration of the best solid-body and semi-acoustic electric guitars of the past 50 or so years.

[Million Dollar Les Paul: In Search of the Most Valuable Guitar in the World](#)

In the light of Les Paul's sad death this week, exactly how did a batch of about 1,500 guitars produced at the end of the 1950s become for many players and collectors the most desirable electric guitars ever made?

[Billy F Gibbons: Rock + Roll Gearhead](#)

A friend lent me this book a while ago, and I'm now getting my own copy. It's a great pictorial record of the guitars and custom cars of ZZ Top guitar maestro, Billy Gibbons. Billy is well known as both a guitar and car collector, being very knowledgeable in both arenas.

[The Electric Guitar](#)

Despised as an aberration when it appeared in the 1930s, the electric guitar won credibility by the 40s – and in the 50s it started to change the musical world. This is the story of how it was invented, how it developed and how it electrified popular music.

[The Story of Paul A. Bigsby: Father of the Modern Electric Solid Body Guitar](#)

A friend lent me this book recently, and I must say, it is a great read. Telling the story of a group of engineers and musicians in Southern California in the late 40's, it evolves into the early history of the electric guitar.

[Neptune Bound: The Ultimate Danelectro Guitar Guide](#)

You may have never heard of a [Danelectro guitar](#), but Jimmy Page and Eric Clapton certainly have.

The unorthodox instruments — known for their unique design and prized for their clear, bell-like tone — belong in the arsenal of every rock guitarist from Aerosmith to ZZ Top.

25 COOL SIGNATURE GUITARS

Further Reading

SUPER SWEDE- Hagström Guitars 50 Yrs

Great new hardbound 193 page book about the collectable Swedish Guitars, Hagström Guitars. Hagström guitars hold a place in musicians' hearts. Many of the world's greatest played Hagström instruments, from ABBA to Zappa. Other international star users are Jimi Hendrix and Elvis Presley.

Pink Floyd: the Black Strat: A History of David Gilmour's Black Fender Stratocaster

"The Black Strat" is the first and only accurate and knowledgeable account of David Gilmour's favourite Stratocaster guitar. Written by Phil Taylor – David's personal guitar technician since 1974 – to coincide with the release of the long awaited and much requested Fender 'David Gilmour Signature Strat': an instrument replicating the look, set-up, sound and feel of David's famous guitar as it is today.

Totally Guitar

This book has a wealth of great guitar information. Over 600 pages of guitar history, playing styles, pictures, and some information on rarely seen makes and models of guitars from all eras. As the Amazon reviews quite rightly say: This book is a real bargain...not only is it excellent value at (rrp £20 – cheaper if bought on Amazon), it is also full of fascinating and useful information.