



All That's News for Gretsch
Drums

GRETSCH News

Vol. 1 Jan. 2005

- **NEW CLASSIC SNARES**
2005 LIMITED EDITIONS

- **FROM THE VINYARD**
CLASSIC KITS FROM THE PAST

- **INSIDE GRETSCH**
FROM THE PAGES OF
MODERN DRUMMER MAGAZINE

- **RENOWN PUREWOOD**
100% PURE WALNUT & CHERRY

- **CATALINA CLUB**
ROCK'N AND ROLL'N IN 2005

- **BLACKHAWK EX**
MORE POWER FOR THE PLAYER

- **AMERICAN CUSTOM**
NEW FINISHES, NEW SIZES, NEW OPTIONS, NEW SHELL BANK



What's New?



NEW Sizes

NEW Options

NEW Colors

NEW Classics



See what's NEW in Gretsch Custom Drums at www.gretschdrums.com

Life is too short to spend it on anything other than the best.

I play what I love, I play Gretsch.

Cindy Blackman loves to play Gretsch Drums -
14 X 24 bass, 9 X 13 and 10 X 14 mounted toms,
14 X 14, 16 X 16 and 16 X 18 floor toms,
6 X 14 snare in Custom Vanilla Flake Finish.



play what you love



that great gretsch sound

American Custom Series



Sun Amber Gloss (SAG)

Sizes

18" x 22" Bass
7" x 8" Tom w/GTS
8" x 10" Tom w/GTS
9" x 12" Tom w/GTS
11" x 14" Tom w/GTS
13" x 16" Tom w/GTS
5" x 14" 8-lug Snare

Azure Blue Gloss (ABG)

Sizes

18" x 20" Bass
7" x 10" Tom w/GTS
8" x 12" Tom w/GTS
12" x 14" Tom w/GTS
5" x 14" 8-lug Snare



Silver Glass Glitter Nitron (SGG)

Sizes

14" x 22" Bass
14" x 22" Bass
7" x 8" Tom w/GTS
8" x 10" Tom w/GTS
9" x 12" Tom w/GTS
14" x 14" Floor Tom w/Legs
16" x 16" Floor Tom w/Legs
6 1/2" x 14" 20-lug Snare



Available Nitron Finishes:

NEW FOR 2005 Gold Glass, Blue Glass, Red Glass, Green Glass, Silver Glass, Black Glass, Turquoise Glass, Tangerine Glass, Purple Glass

White Marine, Blue Sparkle, Red Sparkle, Silver Sparkle, Vintage Marine, Black Marine, Sky Blue, Gold Sparkle, Green Sparkle, Black Sparkle, Turquoise Sparkle, Tangerine Sparkle, Solid Black, Solid White, Champagne Sparkle

New Colors for 2005



Jellybean Glass Glitter Nitron

Sizes

- 18" x 22" Bass
- 16" x 18" Bass
- 5" x 8" Tom w/GTS
- 6" x 10" Tom w/GTS
- 7" x 12" Tom w/GTS
- 8" x 13" Tom w/GTS
- 9" x 14" Tom w/GTS
- 7" x 10" Tom w/GTS
- 6 1/2" x 14" 20-lug Snare

Purple Satin (PRS)

Sizes

- 18" x 22" Bass
- 8" x 10" Tom w/GTS
- 9" x 12" Tom w/GTS
- 11" x 14" Tom w/GTS
- 13" x 16" Tom w/GTS
- 5" x 14" 8-lug Snare



Dark Walnut Satin (DKWS)

Sizes

- 16" x 20" Bass
- 8" x 10" Tom w/GTS
- 9" x 12" Tom w/GTS
- 14" x 14" Floor Tom w/Legs
- 5" x 14" 8-lug Snare



Available SATIN LACQUER finishes:

NEW FOR 2005 Satin Purple, Satin Dark Walnut
Satin Walnut, Satin Maple, Satin Ebony, Satin Burnt Orange,
Satin Rosewood, Satin Azure Blue, Satin Vintage Blond,
Satin Sun Amber

Available GLOSS LACQUER finishes:

NEW FOR 2005 Azure Blue Gloss, Sun Amber Gloss,
Silver Mist Gloss, Gold Mist Gloss
Millennium Maple, Burnt Orange, Walnut, Rosewood, An-
tique Maple, Dark Walnut, Ebony, Purple, Solid Yellow, Black
Duco, Blue Duco

The BEST Drums in the World. Bank on It!



The new Gretsch Shell Bank has been designed to offer quick delivery of our most popular colors and sizes from our American Custom series drums. The Shell Bank is available in four high gloss lacquer finishes and four Nitron covered finishes in over sixty different sizes along with a host of Custom drum options that will allow you to have your kit just the way you want it. The best part is that you'll have your kit in five weeks or less from the time you place your order with your authorized Gretsch dealer.** Gretsch American Custom . . . simply the best drums you'll ever own.



Blue Sparkle



White Marine



Red Sparkle



Silver Sparkle



Burnt Orange



Walnut



Millennium Maple



Rosewood

Available Shell Bank Finishes:

High Gloss Lacquer Finishes - (GMM) Millennium Maple, (WO) Burnt Orange, (WW) Walnut, (WR) Rosewood
Nitron Covered Finishes - (RSP) Red Sparkle, (BLSP) Blue Sparkle, (SSP) Silver Sparkle, (WMP) White Marine

** Outside the U.S.A. please contact your local distributor.

SPOTLIGHT

**Inside
Gretsch!!**
From the pages of Modern Drummer Magazine.



Gretsch Drums **All-American...And More**

by Rick Van Horn

“We’re dealing with an instrument that’s played by hand, and we’re making it by hand.”
—Fred Gretsch



The last time *MD* visited the Gretsch drum factory (in the May 1984 issue), it was located in DeQueen, Arkansas. It was owned by a man named Charlie Roy, who had just purchased it from the Baldwin Piano Company a couple of years before. No one actually named “Gretsch” had anything to do with it.

But a year later the company once again became the namesake of its owner, when it was purchased by Fred W. Gretsch. The current Mr. Gretsch is the son of William Gretsch and the nephew of Fred Gretsch Jr., who between them ran the operation from 1942 until its sale to Baldwin in 1967. Fred

Jr. and William were the sons of Fred Gretsch Sr., who presided over the developmental years of the company (1895-1942) and the creation of many of its innovations. Fred Sr. was the son of Friederich Gretsch, an immigrant from Germany who set up a music business in the US in 1883, and in so doing

established a musical dynasty.

In The Family Business

As a child in the early 1950s, Fred W. Gretsch worked part-time in the Gretsch factory at 60 Broadway in Brooklyn, New York. He helped to assemble drum parts, worked as an office boy, and eventually became involved with making drums. He went to work for the company full-time in 1965, and remained until 1968. He then struck out on his own and became a successful musical-instrument wholesaler.

Shortly after bringing the Gretsch company back into family ownership in 1985, Fred Gretsch moved manufacturing operations to Ridgeland, South Carolina. It's just across the river from Savannah, Georgia, where the offices of Fred Gretsch Enterprises are located. Fred operates that business with his wife, Dinah, and his daughter, Lena Thomas.

Fred takes the heritage of the company that bears his name very seriously. A portrait of his grandfather has a prominent place in the office. Photos of the Brooklyn factory, along with historic drum memorabilia, decorate the shelves. Fred is particularly proud of the fact that at 121 years old, the Gretsch company can lay claim to the title of "oldest continuously operating American drum maker." He enjoys displaying vintage catalogs and patent documents that record the company's historic innovations, including the multi-ply drumshell, double-tension drums, and the use of die-cast hoops.

Doing Things The Historic Way

Fred Gretsch glories in the fact that his company uses old methods, old machinery, and in some cases old materials in order to create its products. His personal take on it is, "You can buy a new car, which is very nice. Or you can buy a '55 Chevy, which is a classic. And the reason it's a classic is because of the way it was built. If someone made that same car today using 'modern' methods...well, it wouldn't *be* the same car. At our South Carolina factory, we make Gretsch custom drums the '55 Chevy way."

Building For Sound

Gretsch shells are cut, sanded, and given their edges on the same machinery that was used twenty years ago or more. "Of course, we've replaced parts that have worn out," Fred says, laughing. "We sand both the inside and outside surfaces of the shell. Even a 'smooth' shell has pores and veins

in the wood. Our sanding process minimizes that, and our finishing process will complement it. Our goal is to come out with a drum that's perfect to the ear...that sounds great. As far as appearance, we want it to be perfect to the naked eye. We're dealing with an instrument that's played by hand, and we're *making* it by hand."

Shell Questions

When one of Gretsch's largest shell providers ceased operations in 2003, people wondered how Gretsch would be affected by the change. Fred explains the situation with a little history lesson.

"When Elvis and other early rock artists helped ignite the drum business in the late 1950s," says Fred, "we needed to increase production at our Brooklyn factory. But there wasn't enough room. So we trained outside vendors to build shells to our specifications, using our molds. We've continued that system over the years, employing these outside partners to do various manufacturing processes at remote locations.

"We never advertised the partners we worked with," Fred continues, "because they didn't build their own brand of shells. They built *Gretsch* shells, using Gretsch molds and techniques. As our partners have changed or as we've needed more production, we've simply moved our molds around. The shell specs have remained unchanged for fifty years.

"It's also important to remember that the shell is just one ingredient of the full Gretsch process," Fred adds. "We could take the same shell and put a polyurethane finish on it, or eliminate the silver sealer, or use automated manufacturing—and we'd have a different drum."

Drum Finishing

In the Gretsch finishing area, technicians carefully mix stains to match a dozen master colors. Stains are wiped on the drumshells by hand, and are carefully built up to match the color of the master sample. Then each shell goes through an extensive sequence of sanding, first and second lacquering, level sanding, a third lacquering, more sanding, a fourth lacquering, more sanding, fifth and sixth lacquering, and wet sanding. (The famous Tony Williams opaque yellow finish involves a similar sequence, but includes white primer and yellow paint instead of stain.) After the final wet sanding, all shells are carefully buffed to create the depth and luster for which Gretsch finishes are noted.

The factory frequently gets orders for new drums to match existing kits that are twenty or more years old. This poses a unique problem. "The color of any drum is affected by how much ultra-violet light it's been exposed to over the years," Fred explains. "We may need to match a color that's no longer what it was when the drum was new. That's a challenge that we work hard at. We can't please all of the people all of the time, but we sure try."

While the industry standard for high-gloss drum finishes is polyurethane, Gretsch has used nitrocellulose lacquer for generations. Why the difference? "The cosmetic-conscious marketplace today wants everything flawless and shiny," Fred responds. "That may *look* good, but it just doesn't *sound* as good. Our six-coat nitrocellulose lacquer finish is a very slow process. The time in between each application of color or lacquer is as important as the application itself. The depth of the finish depends on the lacquer seeping into the shell—as opposed to polyurethane, which more or less sits on top of the shell's surface."

Drums are sprayed by hand in a small spray booth. In addition to paint and lacquer layers, the paint sprayers are involved in the creation of Duco finishes, whose 1940s "retro" look features black or blue horizontal stripes above and below a central stripe of silver. The finish is created by spraying the exterior of the shell with the silver sealer used on the insides of all Gretsch shells, after which the operator carefully lays in the color for the stripes a few centimeters at a time.

Gretsch also offers dozens of "Nitron" covered finishes. "Our Nitron sets," says Fred, "are made with sheets of material that are 54" long. A bass drum takes two pieces, so it has two seams toward the bottom. An 18" floor tom is done the same way. People today expect things to be seamless and flawless. They see something like this and say, 'There's something wrong! There are two seams on that drum.' But there's no way to make it with one seam unless you're using a continuous roll of covering material from some production house. We build drums the '55 Chevy way, with two seams."

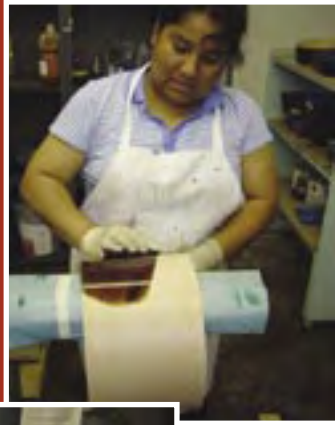
The Silver Sealer

The famous silver sealer used on the inside of Gretsch shells dates back to the Brooklyn factory days. Some drummers wonder whether it has a genuine acoustic purpose or is just there to cover imperfections in the

Drum Production



Gretsch USA Custom shells are carefully sanded inside and out.



Stains are applied by hand in order to match master samples.



Shells are drilled on machinery that's been in use for generations.



A final buffing step gives Gretsch shells their deep luster.



Each USA Custom drum is fitted with Gretsch's heavy die-cast lugs, and will later receive the manufacturer's signature die-cast hoops.

wood.

"The sealer is applied as the last step before the drum goes out of the finish room," Fred responds. "It's a very light formulation that doesn't hide anything. In fact, we can't put it on unless we carefully sand the inside of the shell first. Otherwise it will *enhance* any imperfections. As far as why we put it on and what it does acoustically, that's a secret we want to keep. But I will say that a Gretsch drum absolutely would not sound the same without it."

Drilling And Quality Control

After being lacquered or covered, shells are drilled on the same multiple-bit drill press that was used in Brooklyn in the 1950s. "I've thought about getting a computer to do it," says Fred, "but the system we use retains the human element, which we think is important. It's one more set of eyes to make an extra check of all the steps that have come before. A computer can't do that. If a technician notices any sort of flaw, that drum is sent back to the appropriate point to be reworked. No drums leave this building until we're sure they're up to our standards."

Historic Features

USA Maple drums get the standard internal label that has been used since the mid-1970s. But in 2002 the company switched over to the "Gretsch American" label for their other models, in tribute to Fred Gretsch Sr., who developed the ply drum shell in 1927. "That's a Gretsch first that became a standard of the industry," says grandson Fred W. Gretsch, proudly. "Another signature characteristic is die-cast hoops. We introduced them on drums in 1938, and we've used them ever since."

One historic feature that's no longer standard on Gretsch drums is the adjustable internal mufflers for the top and bottom heads of tom-toms. Modern tuning trends led Gretsch to stop installing these mufflers a few years ago. However, as Fred puts it, "If you want 'em, you can get 'em. That's something we're going to venture out with: historically accurate features that aren't in the current price list."

The Gretsch/Kaman Partnership

In 2000, Gretsch entered into an exclusive distribution partnership with Kaman Music Corporation. Kaman had been looking for

earlier. Meanwhile, Fred Gretsch was seeking better distribution and the opportunity to expand the Gretsch line to offer drums from entry level to high end. Kaman had the necessary distribution and marketing strength to make that happen. This partnership has led to expansion of the Gretsch drum line, which now includes a full range of kits made overseas in addition to those made in America.

Gretsch's effort to reach a wider market has been aided by the fact that along with legendary drummers like Vinnie Colaiuta, Harvey Mason, Phil Collins, and Charlie Watts, the company has many new, younger endorsers. These include Brad Wilk (Audioslave), Rob Bourdon (Linkin Park), Stan Frazier (Sugar Ray), Mike Marsh (Dashboard Confessional), and Stanton Moore (Galactic), as well as renowned jazz drummers Bill Stewart and Cindy Blackman.

Gretsch's partnership with Kaman also allows the company to offer its recording and custom level drums with Kaman's Gibraltar line of stands, mounts, and pedals. Says Fred, "Between Gretsch drums and Gibraltar hardware, we think our offerings are as good as you can get."

Improved Delivery

Few drum companies have enjoyed the fanatical drummer support that Gretsch has. However, over the years, delivery time for a Gretsch kit has been... well... lengthy. Kaman's reputation as a distributor, on the other hand, is based largely on rapid delivery. Kaman is in control of production of Gretsch models made overseas. But has their partnership with Gretsch had any influence on production at the Ridgeland plant?

"Absolutely," replies Tim O'Neal, who leads Kaman's Gretsch mktg. team. "But not in the sense of changing how the drums are constructed. That's the last thing we'd want to do. But there were some aspects of the production process that we could help to improve. For example, orders for kits used to come in to the factory one at a time, and the parts for those kits would be purchased at that point. When Kaman's sales force generated more orders, it allowed the factory to buy significant quantities of parts in one batch. That facilitated faster production.

"The next thing we went to," Tim continues, "was a 'shell bank' idea for the USA Custom line. We pull a certain selection of shell sizes in advance, and we put

a limited range of colors on them. We get them to the point where we can complete the finishing process in about five production days, as opposed to the twenty or thirty it would take from scratch. So by having parts in stock, and having certain sizes and colors available for quick finishing, we've gone from a delivery time of up to a year, to a point where we can deliver drums in maple, walnut, rosewood, and burnt orange finishes within eight weeks. We can deliver Nitron covered drums—in thirty-plus finishes and in all sizes—in six to eight weeks. Of course, totally custom drumkit orders still take longer. But even that time has been shortened by the ready availability of parts."

The Expanded Line

The new complete Gretsch line combines the high-end drums made in the Ridgeland plant with several new series made overseas. Detailed descriptions of the various series are included in the "Gretsch Gear" sidebar of this story. But Tim O'Neal offers some additional comments of particular interest to drummers.

"Our entry-level Blackhawk series is a starter kit," says Tim. "But it isn't generic. We took the familiar Gretsch lug and made it just a little smaller and rounder. We also put a Gretsch 30° bearing edge on a mahogany shell, which no one has ever done. And we use covered finishes that give the kits a young, fresh look.

"Our Catalina Club kit is a response to the popularity of small jazz-style setups," says Tim. "We use lightweight mahogany shells, a vintage design with single centered lugs, and white pearl and silver sparkle covered finishes. With their 16" bass drums, they make great compact gigging kits, second kits, hip-hop kits, or fusion kits. And they're great for smaller drummers who don't fit on a kit with a 22" bass drum.

"Our Catalina Birch kit features a UV gloss finish on 100% birch shells," Tim continues, "which is a first for Gretsch. The drums offer great projection, and they come with top-of-the-line Evans heads right out of the box. You don't have to buy the drumset and then spend an extra \$100 on heads before you're ready to play.

"Renown Maple is our top overseas-made line," Tim concludes. "It features all-maple shells, 30° bearing edges, the legendary silver sealer, and USA Custom-style lugs, die-cast

hoops, and suspension mounts. We offer it in a 10"/12"/14"/22" configuration, in several lacquer finishes. We gave it as much Gretsch flavor and flare as we possibly could in order to offer drummers their first taste of a professional Gretsch kit. The overall comment we get is that they sound like 'classic' Gretsch drums with the volume turned up a little."



Fred Gretsch displays a drum in the retro-style Duco finish. Gretsch's famous silver sealer is visible inside the shell, and in the center of the outside.

Boosting The American-Made Drums

In addition to expanding the total range with offshore-made models, Kaman's association with Gretsch has helped to generate additional demand for the high-end American-made drums—whose reputation has already been long established.

"The Gretsch USA Custom formula, which Fred Gretsch refers to as the 'performance and recording quality' product, is still what's demanded in the studios," says Tim O'Neal. "There are thousands of artists out there who are closet Gretsch drummers, even if they're officially associated with other manufacturers. If you ask the top ten cartage agencies in the world what their most in-demand kits are, they'll say Gretsch.

"A company can do a whole lot of marketing and make drums that are really pretty," Tim offers. "But drummers who are putting their sound on a recording expect Gretsch quality, and the only way they can get that is by playing on Gretsch drums. It's all about the sound, and that sound is the most important thing to us."

Gretsch Gear

USA Custom

USA Custom drums feature the 6-ply maple shell design that has been a major component of Gretsch drums for over fifty years. All drums are given a 30° bearing edge said to maximize the warmth of the maple and focus the tone and projection of the shell. All shells are sealed on their interiors with the specially formulated silver sealer used since the 1960s.

Metal parts are die-cast from heavy-duty zinc alloy. After casting, the parts are plated with copper, nickel, and chrome, then polished. Toms and snare drums are fitted with die-cast hoops. All mounted toms include GTS suspension systems, and 8", 10", and 12" toms feature Gretsch's unique five-lug configuration.

Drums are available in nitrocellulose lacquer finish in a wide variety of standard and custom colors, or with Nitron covered finishes. All drums are fitted with Permatone heads manufactured to Gretsch's specifications.



USA Custom Signature



USA Custom Signature kits feature unique configurations and finishes. The Harvey Mason Signature kit shown here features a 22x22 bass drum, 8x10, 8x12, and 8x13 rack toms, and 14x14 and 14x15 suspended floor toms, and a 5x14 eight-lug snare drum. Drums feature a Satin Ebony finish complemented with gunmetal plated hardware. Additional sizes and configurations are available for both signature series.

The Vinnie Colaiuta Signature kit features an 18x22 bass drum, 7x10 and 8x12 rack toms, 14x14 and 16x16 floor toms with legs, and a 5x14 eight-lug snare. Drums are finished in a White Wash gloss lacquer accented with black powder-coated hardware.

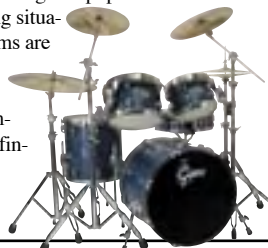
USA Custom Historic Re-Creation Sets

Gretsch first offered modern re-creations of their historic kits in 2003, with the 120th Anniversary LTD round-badged '60s jazz kit. For 2004 they have re-created the kit that was so prevalent in the recording studios during the 1970s. The '70s LTD kit offers a 12"/16"/22" configuration. Its walnut finish differs from the one offered on today's USA Custom drums, but matches exactly the finish of original '70s kits.



USA Maple

The most affordable of Gretsch's American-made line offers a focused range of popular sizes suitable for any type of playing situation. USA Maple drums are available in pre-configured setups and as individual components, in five satin finishes.



Renown Maple



Gretsch drum series made overseas begin at the top with Renown Maple. They're fitted with many features from the USA Custom series, including five-lug tuning on 8", 10", and 12" toms, 30° bearing edges on toms and bass drums, die-cast hoops and GTS suspension mounts on mounted toms, and Gretsch's internal silver sealer. All drums feature 100% American rock maple shells. Bass drums and toms are 6-ply; snare drums are 10-ply with 45° bearing edges. Kits are available in eight high-gloss finishes, as well as Yellow Oyster and Turquoise Oyster Nitron covered finishes. They come fitted with professional Evans drumheads.

Catalina Birch

Catalina Birch drums are designed to set a new standard for semi-professional sets. They feature 6-ply birch shells with 45° bearing edges, five-lug tuning on 8", 10", and 12" toms, GTS suspension rack on toms, matching-finish birch bass drum hoops, single-ply clear heads on toms, coated snare heads, and pre-muffled bass drum heads. Kits are available in three configurations and four high-gloss wood-grain colors.



Catalina Club

With two small configurations (including 16x16 and 16x18 bass drums) and classic-styled features, the Catalina Club can serve as a backup kit, a portable performance kit, or a kit for a younger, smaller player. Drums feature 6-ply mahogany shells, 30° bearing edges, five-lug tuning on 8", 10", and 12" toms, GTS suspension mounts on rack toms, and retro center-mounted lugs. Three vintage Nitron finishes are available.



Blackhawk

The Blackhawk entry-level series offers features found on more expensive drums. Standard Blackhawk drums feature 6-ply mahogany shells with 30° bearing edges, five-lug tuning on 8", 10", and 12" toms, 12.7-mm mounts on all toms, and low-mass die-cast lugs. Kits are offered in two standard configurations and three Nitron covered finishes. A full range of add-ons is available.



Blackhawk EX with Ebony Swirl Nitron covered finish

Recently introduced Blackhawk EX kits feature modern Nitron finishes and a mini suspension system on all mounted toms.

Snare Drums

New Classic snares (shown here) feature a classic tube lug design with three different shell materials to choose from. Drums are available in 4x14 and 5x14 thin-shell models, 5½x14 and 6½x14 thick-shell



maple models featuring the classic Gretsch maple shell, and 5x14 and 6½x14 Black Brass models with gold accented hardware. The drums feature Nickel Drumworks throw-offs, Gretsch Permatone heads, and embossed New Classic logo badges that note the year of production.

The 4160 Chrome Over Brass snare drum features a 5x14 Chrome Over Brass shell with original center ridge, eight double-ended lugs, die-cast hoops, and Gretsch's Lighting throw-off and Stop Sign badge design.



Chrome Over Brass snare drum

USA Custom snares are available with Gretsch maple and Black Brass shells. Signature models include Vinnie Colaiuta snares in wood and brass, and a Harvey Mason wood snare.

Other snare models include USA Maple, Free-Floating Maple (all wood), Free Floating Maple-Brass-Maple (maple with brass center insert), 10-ply Maple, 10-ply Exotix Maple, Hammered Brass, Black Chrome Steel, Mighty Mini Wood (8" to 13", basswood), and Mighty Mini Steel (8" to 13", steel).

Hardware

Gretsch offers Gibraltar hardware and drum-rack packages in conjunction with their kits. These include a wide variety of cymbal and tom stands, hi-hats, and bass drum pedals.

Also available are various Gretsch tom holders, tom arms, and tom stands, all of which feature 12.7-mm knurled arms with memory locks to fit the tom brackets that come standard on all levels of Gretsch drums.

Accessories

Accessories from Gretsch include a selection of Vintage drumsticks "based on the classic original designs of yesteryear." All feature wood tips and are hand-dipped in a protective lacquer.

Also available are heavy-duty drum bags in black with classic orange trim and embroidered Gretsch logos.

Here are some of the Gretsch Artists that simply love . . .



Rob Bourdon
Linkin Park



Charlie Watts
The Rolling Stones



Paul "Phinkky" John, Jr.
Alicia Keys



Mike Marsh
Dashboard Confessional



Alvino Bennett
Bryan Ferry/Robin Trower



Brad Wilk
Audioslave



Jack Gavin
Nashville Touring Pro



Van Romaine
Steve Morse



Stanton Moore
Galactic



Scott Underwood
Train



David Derge
Independent



Harvey Mason
Fourplay/Studio



Duane Norman
Independent



Pat McDonald
Charlie Daniels Band



Joe LaBarbera
Joe LaBarbera Quintet



Bill Stewart
John Scofield/Pat Metheny



Terry Silverlight
Independent/Studio



Kent Ross
Josh Todd Band



Jarred Wrennell
Stereogram



Scott Savage
Jaci Velasquez/Chris Rice



Tommy Wells
Independent/Studio



Paul Goldberg
Independent/Studio



Paul Alexander Gonzalez
Paulina Rubio

Artists not pictured: Raymond Boyd - Michael W. Smith, **Debbi Peterson** - The Bangles, **Johnny Friday** - Natalie Cole, **Eric Micali** - Val Emmich, **Jimmie Fadden** - Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, **D.J. Fontana** - Studio/Elvis Presley, **Jesse Labovitz** - No Warning, **Pierre Belleville** - Lofofora (France), **Dean Koba** - Independent, **Stephane Galland** - Independent (Belgium)

"That Great Gretsch Sound"



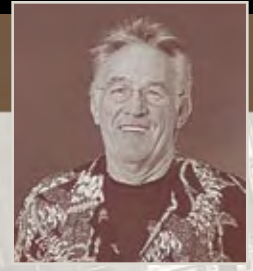
Cindy Blackman
Independent/Lenny Kravitz



Phil Collins
Solo Artist/Genesis



Stan Frazier
Sugar Ray



Denny Seiwell
Paul McCartney & Wings



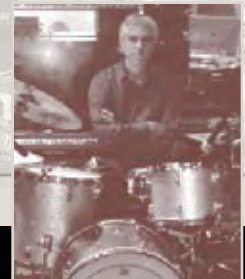
Bruce Gary
The Knack/Studio



Vinnie Colaiuta
Independent/Studio Legend



Mark Schulman
Cher/Stevie Nicks



Bill Rieflin
R.E.M.



Jay Bellerose
Beck/Paula Cole



Nate Wood
Independent



Wesley Pryor
Mark Chesnutt



Brett Clark
SheDaisy



Lucrezio de Seta
Independent (Italy)



David Northrup
Travis Tritt



John Kamoosi
Reach 454



Ian Browne
Mathew Good Band



Gregg Stocki
Marty Stuart



Makoto Izumitani
Gwen Stefani



David Huff
Independent/Producer



Forrest Robinson
India.Arie



Brandon Young
Noise Ratchet



Casey Trafton
Throne



Oscar D'Auria
Independent/Studio

Artists not pictured: Karl Brazil - Session/Independent (UK), Billy Estes - Independent, Martin Flores - Joan Sebastian, Beaver - D4, Claus Andre Larsen - Briskeby, Tommy Rickard - Studio, Scott Churilla - Rev. Horton Heat, Will Cruise - Les Brown, Paul Deakin - The Mavericks, Paul Eckberg - Owsley/Amy Grant, Ralph Salmins - Studio/Independent (UK), Rees Bridges - Dirty Vegas (UK), Aaron "Break Beat" Fagan - UKSP/Independent (UK)

*A great sounding and feeling instrument
can free your inner voice.
Finding it is like falling in love.*

The Gretsch Vinnie Colaiuta Signature Drum Kit:
18 X 22 bass, 7 X 10 and 8 X 12 mounted toms,
14 X 14 and 16 X 16 floor toms, and 5 X 14 matching snare
in Vinnie's Custom White Wash Lacquer finish.



play what you love



that great gretsch sound

From the Factory Vinyard

HISTORY COMING SOON TO A DRUM SHOP NEAR YOU. Beginning April 2nd, 2005, Gretsch USA will offer drummers access to the its "Drum Vinyard." A treasure chest of New Old Stock, prototypes, and limited edition drums, some of which date back over 30 years, will be available in very small quantities through select Gretsch "Pro Showroom" dealers throughout the USA. For more information, visit www.gretschdrums.com Here's a "sneak peek" of what's to come:



Vinyard 26" Rock Set

Sizes

70's ERA Vinyard WHITE NITRON

14" x 26" Bass

9" x 13" Tom

14" x 16" Floor Tom w/Legs

Shown with:

6 1/2" x 14" 20-lug Prototype Snare
in Bird's-Eye Maple w/ Gold Hardware



Vinyard 16" Jazzette Set

Sizes

70's ERA Vinyard

WHITE NITRON

14" x 16" Bass

6 1/2" x 10" Tom

9" x 13" Tom

Shown with: 5" x 13" 6-lug Natural Satin Snare

New Old Stock 5 x 14 8-lug Carpathian Elm Exotic Snare

from the 100th Anniversary production in 1983



NEW CLASSIC 2005 *Limited Edition SNARE DRUMS*

NEW CLASSIC Chrome over Brass models are based on the vintage 4160 model snare with New Classic features. A total of 200 drums will be produced worldwide of these drums and only 30 pieces will be produced with all gold accented hardware.

NC-4160CC
Chrome Accent Hardware

NC-4160CG
Gold Accent Hardware



NEW CLASSIC Curly Maple models feature the legendary 6-ply Gretsch Maple shell with a specially selected outside veneer of exotic figured Curly Maple and New Classic features. Each drum will be numbered with production date and these drums will only be produced in 2005.

NC-5514-CMM
Curly Millennium Maple finish

NC-5514-CSD
Curly Stardust Maple finish

Size	Model	Lugs	Throw-Off	Hoops	Hardware	Shell
5 x 14	NC-4160CC	8 Double	Nickelworks	Die-Cast	Chrome	Chrome over Brass
5 x 14	NC-4160CG	8 Double	Nickelworks	Die-Cast	Gold	Chrome over Brass
5-1/2 x 14	NC-5514-CMM	10 Double	Nickelworks	Die-Cast	Chrome	6-ply Gretsch Maple
5-1/2 x 14	NC-5514-CSD	10 Double	Nickelworks	Die-Cast	Chrome	6-ply Gretsch Maple

*Instantly identifiable sound...
Undeniable tone... What's not to
love about Gretsch Drums?*



Stanton Moore loves to play Gretsch Drums -
14 X 20 and 12 X 26 basses, 8 X 12 mounted tom,
16 X 16 floor tom, 4 X 14 and 5 X 10 snares
in Champagne Sparkle Nitron Finish.

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Renown PUREWOOD



Based on our successful Renown Maple series, the new Renown Purewood sets feature 6-ply 100% Walnut or 100% Cherry drum shells in gloss UV finishes. Only 100 sets will be produced in each configuration. Due to the exclusive nature of these sets, no add-on drums will be available.

Model: RP-F826-WL

100% Walnut wood shells in natural gloss finish

Sizes

- 18" x 22" Bass - NO TOM MOUNT
- 8" x 10" Tom w/GTS
- 9" x 12" Tom w/GTS
- 11" x 14" Tom w/GTS
- 13" x 16" Tom w/GTS
- 5" x 14" 10-lug Snare

Purewood Features:

- GTS suspension system on all mounted toms
- Gretsches Silver Sealer inside all shells
- New 9025 hinged tom brackets
- Matching bass drum hoops
- 30-degree bearing edges
- Evans drums heads
- Die-Cast hoops

Model: RP-E826-CH

100% Cherry wood shells in
amber gold gloss finish

Sizes

- 18" x 22" Bass
- 7" x 10" Tom w/GTS
- 8" x 12" Tom w/GTS
- 12" x 14" Floor Tom w/Legs
- 14" x 16" Floor Tom w/Legs
- 6 1/2" x 14" 10-lug Snare



Purewood sets shown with Gibraltar V-Racks and additional hardware.

Catalina Birch



Gretsch's Catalina Birch series takes the Gretsch Drums philosophy in a new direction and sets the standard for semi-professional sets. In 2005, we add a new 5-piece "Euro" configuration with 14" floor tom, along with our new Chestnut Fade gloss UV finish. And, all of our Catalina Birch sets have been upgraded to EVANS coated G1 drumheads on all toms and the snare along with the EQ-3 bass drum batter head for a great sounding kit right out of the box.

CA-E825 **Chestnut Fade (CF)**

Sizes

18" x 22" Bass
8" x 10" Tom w/GTS
9" x 12" Tom w/GTS
14" x 14" Floor Tom w/Legs
5" x 14" 8-lug Snare
Double Tom Holder

Shown with Gibraltar 5600PK hardware pack

CA-S825 **Red Cherry (RC)**

Sizes

18" x 22" Bass
9" x 12" Tom w/GTS
10" x 13" Tom w/GTS
16" x 16" Floor Tom w/Legs
5" x 14" 8-lug Snare
Double Tom Holder

Shown with Gibraltar 9600PK hardware pack



NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE DAY,
NOTHING CAN BEAT PLAYING A LIVE SHOW
IN FRONT OF THE BEST FANS IN THE WORLD,
ON THE BEST DRUMS IN THE WORLD.

Linkin Park's Rob Bourdon loves to play live on Gretsch Drums -
18 X 22 bass, 8 X 10 and 9 X 12 mounted toms,
16 X 16 and 16 X 18 floor toms,
5 X 14 snare in Custom Graphic Finish.



play what you love



that great gretsch sound

Catalina Club *When Rock meets Roll.*

The Catalina **CLUB ROCK**

Features big drums for the big rock sound. A 26" bass drum with 14", 16" and 18" toms and a 20-lug 6 1/2 x 14 snare will let them know you've arrived. Available in a special covered Nitron or gloss UV finish, these drums feature 100% Mahogany shells, low mass lugs, EVANS G1 coated batter tom and snare heads, telescopic spurs and matching bass drum hoops.



GCE-R665
Black Metallic Flake Lacquer (BF)



GCE-R665
White Swirl Nitron (WS)

GCE-R665

Sizes

16" x 26" Bass Drum
10" x 14" Tom w/GTS
16" x 16" Floor w/Legs
16" x 18" Floor w/Legs
6 1/2" x 14" 20-Lug Snare
SLLRM Single Tom Clamp

(BF) Shown with Gibraltar 5600PK hardware pack and additional components

(WS) Shown with Gibraltar 9600PK hardware pack and additional components

The Catalina **CLUB ROLL** is just about as mobile a kit as you'll ever need. This compact Mahogany shell kit comes with a specially designed rolling Gibraltar Road Series rack. The rack includes locking casters, three boom cymbal arms, legless hi-hat stand, suspended snare stand, Intruder strap-drive bass drum pedal and all the all necessary drum mounting hardware.

GCE-G485
Ruby Red Lacquer (RR)

Sizes

14" x 18" Bass Drum
7" x 8" Tom - NO GTS
8" x 10" Tom - NO GTS
11" x 13" Tom - NO GTS
5" x 13" 8-Lug Snare

Complete Gibraltar Rolling Rack system.



BlackHawk EX Series



BH-S825EX Shell Pack Blue Diamond (BD)

Sizes

18" x 22" Bass Drum
9" x 12" Tom w/Mini GTS
10" x 13" Tom w/Mini GTS
16" x 16" Floor w/Legs
5" x 14" 8-Lug Snare
Double Tom Holder

Shown with Gibraltar 5600PK hardware pack

New to the Blackhawk range is the EX Series. Designed with power in mind, this kit sounds as good as it looks. Features include a Mini GTS suspension system, 100% Mahogany shells with 30 degree bearing edges, wood snare drum, 18" deep bass drums with matching inlaid wood bass hoops. Available in three retro-styled covered Nitron finishes and two power configurations.

BH-E825EX Shell Pack Ebony Diamond (ED)

Sizes

18" x 22" Bass Drum
8" x 10" Tom w/Mini GTS
9" x 12" Tom w/Mini GTS
14" x 14" Floor w/Legs
5" x 14" 8-Lug Snare
Double Tom Holder

Shown with Gibraltar 5600PK hardware pack



BH-E825EX Shell Pack White Diamond (WD)

Sizes

18" x 22" Bass Drum
8" x 10" Tom w/Mini GTS
9" x 12" Tom w/Mini GTS
14" x 14" Floor w/Legs
5" x 14" 8-Lug Snare
Double Tom Holder

Shown with Gibraltar 5600PK hardware pack

ADDITIONAL DRUMS:

7" x 8" Tom w/Mini GTS
16" x 16" Floor w/Legs



Blackhawk SX and Nighthawk



Blackhawk SX series drums simply look and sound great. They have many of the same features found on much more expensive sets, are available in multiple configurations and with a full range of add-ons so that you can expand your kit as you develop your talent.

BH-S625 Blackhawk Shell Pack Liquid Black (LB)

Sizes

16" x 22" Bass Drum
9" x 12" Tom
10" x 13" Tom
16" x 16" Floor w/Legs
5" x 14" 8-Lug Snare
Double Tom Holder

Shown with Gibraltar 4600PK hardware pack

Just because you're getting started doesn't mean that you have to sacrifice quality. The Nighthawk Series is designed for the beginning drummer that wants to have great sound and quality without the big price tag. Nighthawk drums feature 100% Mahogany shells, low-mass Gretsch lugs, gull wing spurs, matching wood snare drum, ball adjustment tom arms, and a solid double-braced hardware pack. Available in two popular configurations.

NH-S505 Nighthawk Set Wine Red Metallic (WR)

Sizes

15" x 20" Bass Drum
8" x 10" Tom
9" x 12" Tom
14" x 14" Floor w/Legs
5" x 14" 8-Lug Snare
Double Tom Arms

Shown with complete double braced hardware pack



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