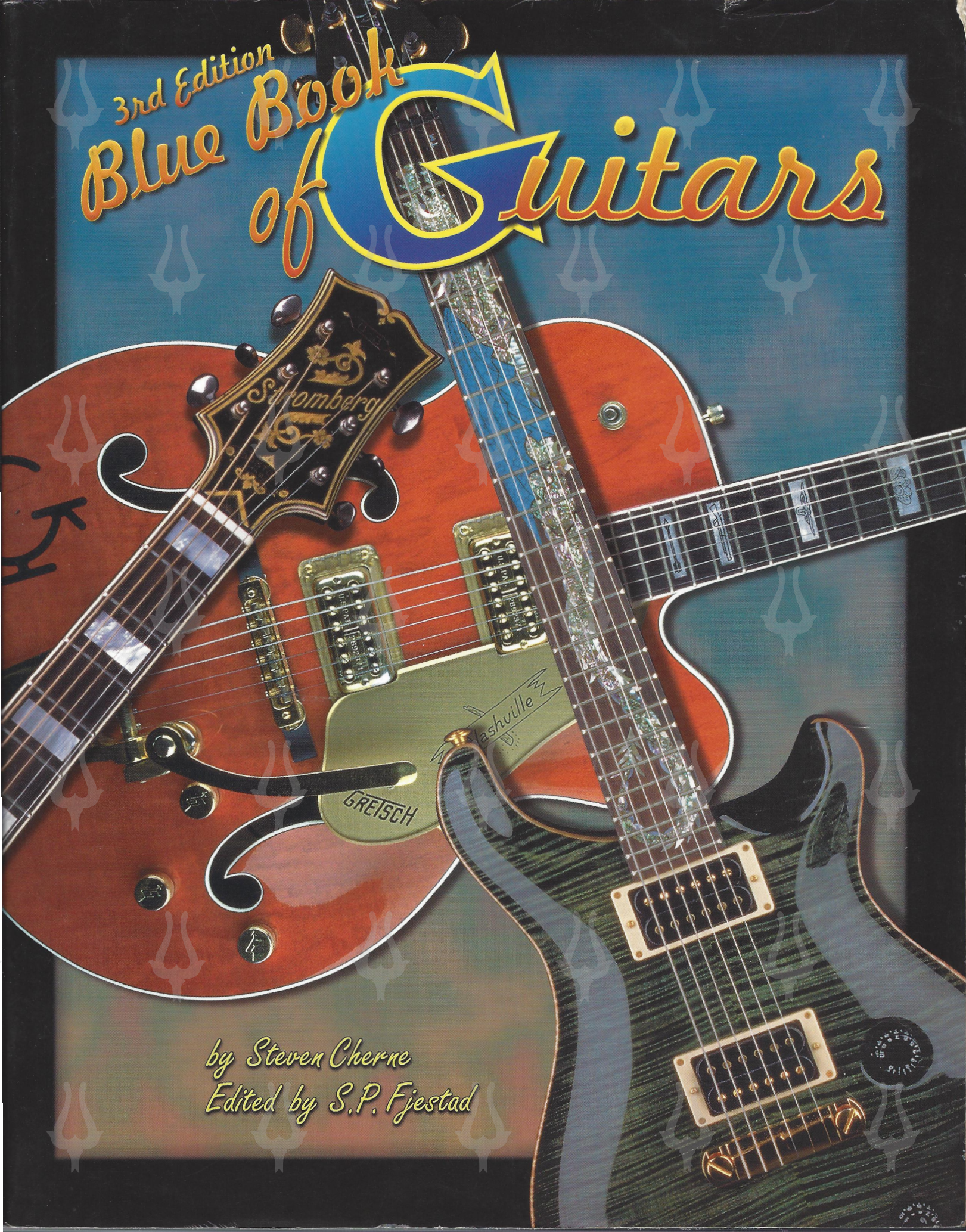


3rd Edition  
*Blue Book*  
of **Guitars**



*by Steven Cherne*  
*Edited by S.P. Fjestad*

D

## DAIMARU

### Instruments produced in Japan.

Daimaru guitars were distributed in the U.S. by the Daimaru New York Corporation of New York, New York.

(Source: *Michael Wright, Guitar Stories Volume One, pg. 76*)

## DAION

### Instruments were built in Japan in the late 1970s through the 1980s.

### Some guitars may also carry the trademark of JOODEE or YAMAKI.

These high quality guitars copied popular designs in the 1970s, but turned to original designs like the 'Power Series' solid bodies or 'Headhunter Series' semi-hollowbodies in the 1980s.

(Source: *Tony Bacon and Paul Day, The Guru's Guitar Guide*)

## DALLAS

### Instruments were made in England, West Germany, and Japan during the early to mid 1960s.

### Some guitars may also carry the trademark of TUXEDO.

The DALLAS and TUXEDO trademarks are the brandnames used by a UK importer/distributor. Early solid body guitars were supplied by either FENTON-WEILL or VOX in Britain, with entry level German and Japanese original design guitars imported in.

(Source: *Tony Bacon and Paul Day, The Guru's Guitar Guide*)

## DANELECTRO

### Instruments originally manufactured in Red Bank, New Jersey from 1956 to 1959. Production was then moved to Neptune, New Jersey from 1960 through company's demise in 1968.

While distribution was handled by the Danelectro Corporation of Neptune, New Jersey, the majority of instruments were sold/distributed by Sears & Roebuck from roughly 1956 to 1967. Finally, distribution was handled by the MCA Corporation in the last year (1967-1968) after purchasing Danelectro.

Nathan I. Daniels (1912-1994) was a New York electronics buff who began assembling amplifiers at home in 1934. In the mid 1930s, he was contracted by Epiphone (NYC) to build Electar amps, and successfully created a reputation and finances to start the Danelectro Corporation in 1948. Daniels' new company had offices and a factory in Red Bank, New Jersey.

By 1953, the first guitar was designed, and introduced in 1954. It has been indicated that Daniels had consulted his long time friend John D'Angelico for assistance in the fret spacing and bridge placement. While most people believe the body frame under the masonite is pine, Paul Bechtoldt confirmed that the body is poplar (and his source was Vinnie Bell!). In 1959 or 1960 the company moved to 207 West Sylvania Avenue in Neptune City, New Jersey, where it remained until its demise in 1968.

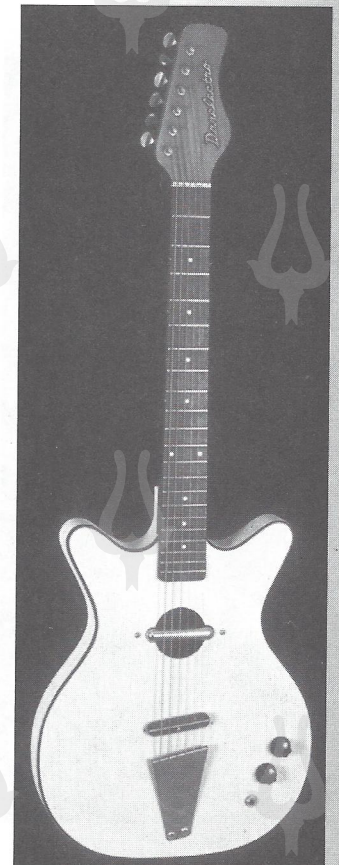
All models were assembled in the Neptune City factory, and the majority were sold to Sears, Roebuck under their **Silvertone** trademark. Many of the popular designs should be considered "semi-hollowbodies", for they have a masonite top and back mounted on a pine frame. The renowned "Lipstick Tube" pickups are exactly that: Danelectro bought the lipstick casings from a manufacturer who serviced the cosmetics industry, and then sent them to another contractor for plating before the pickup was installed inside.

The company grew during the 1960s guitar boom from under 100 employees to a peak of 503. George Wooster, Danelectro's production manager, estimated that the company produced 150 to 200 guitars a day during peak periods.

In late 1967 MCA (the entertainment conglomerate) bought Danelectro. In the same year, they introduced the Coral line. While 85% of Danelectro's output (guitars and amps) was for Sears, the Coral line was Danelectro's catalog line. The bodies for the Coral series were built in Japan, but the parts and assembly were done in the New Jersey plant. After MCA purchased the company, they began to do business with individual music shops instead of the big distributors - which brought them into competition with Fender and Gibson. Rather than point out the problem with that corporate thinking, let History do the talking: MCA folded Danelectro in 1968.

William C. Herring bought Danelectro's factory from MCA for \$20,000 in late 1968 or 1969. Herring met Dan Armstrong (ex-Ampeg) and the pair visited the empty facilities and found numerous partially completed guitars and machinery. Armstrong contracted to build Danelectros for Ampeg, but by then

Danelectro 6/4 Doubleneck  
courtesy Elliot Rubinson



Danelectro Convertible  
courtesy Steve Burgess

## JOHN BIRCH

Instruments built in England from early to late 1970s.

While luthier John Birch did build some high quality solid body guitars based on Fender/Gibson designs, he is more renown for his custom guitar building. In the 1980s he teamed up with Barry Kirby to build the Cobra models, including the highly imaginative Cobra "Rook" for Rook Music.

(Source: Tony Bacon, *The Ultimate Guitar Book*)

## JOLANA

Instruments produced in Czechoslovakia (date unknown).

Entry level production solid bodies, but the two examples viewed have been original designs with headstocks that seem to echo the Fender "Swinger". If they play as cool as they are pointy, then these designs rule!

(Source: Tony Bacon, *The Ultimate Guitar Book*)

## JONATHAN ROSE GUITARS

Instruments built in Nashville, Tennessee since 1981.

These high quality handcrafted guitars feature American made hardware and pickups, as well as highly figured tops. Rose's custom guitars have been played by a number of Nashville's better-known guitar players and session players. Rose, originally an Oregon native, moved to Nashville in the late 1970s. In 1981 he launched both the Rose Guitar Center in Henderson (right outside Nashville) and Jonathan Rose custom guitars. The Rose Guitar Center has been in the same location for the past fifteen years, and features both new and used instrument sales as well as repair and custom work. Jonathan is ably assisted by his wife Angela, and both can be found either at the shop, or at vintage shows displaying their guitars.

(Biography courtesy Jonathan and Angela Rose, June 1996)

Since 1981, Rose has built 200 custom guitars. Of the 200, 25 were basses. The serialization began in 1981 with #1, and Rose maintains a list of the original specifications, colors, woods, and original owners for each and every one.

### ELECTRIC

The following models are all available in Translucent, Emerald Green, Amber, Burgundy, Deep Water Blue, Two-tone Heritage Cherry Burst, and Two-tone Tobacco Burst finishes. Additional custom options include:

Add \$595 for a Parsons-White String Bender.

Add \$200 for a marbelized finish.

Add \$700 for a Tree of Life neck inlay.

Add \$375 for a mini Tree of Life inlay.

Add \$400 for a Horse and Horseshoe inlay.

Add \$100 for top binding.

Add \$250 for top binding with Abalone.

Add \$250 for a Floyd Rose Tremolo.

Add \$200 for a Wilkerson Convertible Bridge.

**CUSTOM** — single cutaway hollow swamp ash body, flamed maple top, two Van Zantz humbucking pickups, one single coil pickup, birdseye maple neck with birdseye fingerboard, and gold hardware. Current mfg.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,695

**ELITE** — double cutaway alder or mahogany body, quilted or flamed maple top, two Seymour Duncan pickups, and chrome or gold hardware. Current mfg.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$2,495

**F-HOLE HOLLOWBODY** — hollow swamp ash body, two Van Zantz single coil pickups, birdseye maple neck with Brazilian rosewood fingerboard, and chrome hardware. Current mfg.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,295

**STANDARD** — single cutaway alder body, flame or quilted maple top, contoured back, three Seymour Duncan Anico pro II single coil pickups, birdseye maple neck with ebony fingerboard, and gold hardware. Current mfg.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,595

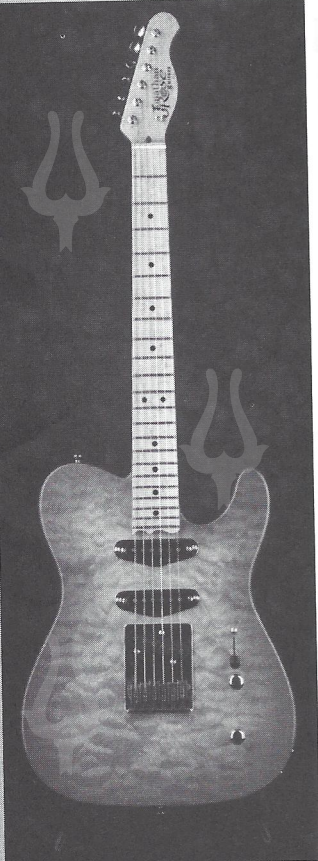
**7/8 STRAT STYLE** — offset double cutaway swamp ash body, birdseye maple neck, ebony fingerboard, three Seymour Duncan single coil pickups, and chrome hardware. Current mfg.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,295

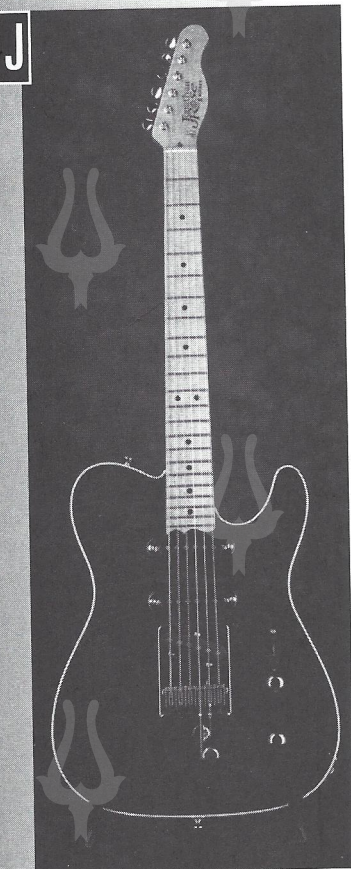
## JOODEE

See DAION.

Instruments produced in Japan from the late 1970 through the 1980s.



Jonathan Rose Custom  
courtesy Rick Kindrel



Jonathan Rose Custom  
courtesy Jonathan & Angela Rose

Grading	100%	98%	95%	90%	80%	70%	60%
	MINT	EXC+	EXC	VG+	VG	G	

**RBX1000** — offset double cutaway sculpted ash body, bolt-on maple neck, 24 fret rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlay, fixed brass bridge, 4 on one side tuners, chrome hardware, P-style/J-style pickups, volume/treble/bass/mix controls, active electronics. Available in Natural, Translucent Black and Translucent Violet finishes. Curr. mfr.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,100      \$825      \$550      \$510      \$410      \$370      \$340      \$310

In 1994, Blue Stain and Brown Stain finishes were introduced; Translucent Violet finish was discontinued.

### TRB Series

**TRB4** — offset double cutaway carved ash body, bolt-on maple neck, 24 fret rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlay, brass fixed bridge, 2 per side brass tuners, gold hardware, 2 stacked humbucker pickups, volume/treble/mid/bass/mix controls, active electronics. Available in Blue Stain, Brown Stain, Cherry Sunburst and Natural finishes. New 1994.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,500      \$1,200      \$900      \$750      \$600      \$540      \$495      \$450

**TRB4P** — offset double cutaway figured maple/rosewood/maple body, maple/mahogany thru body neck, 24 fret ebony fingerboard with pearl dot inlay, solid brass bridge, 2 per side brass tuners, P-style/J-style/piezo bridge pickups, volume/treble/bass/2 mix controls, piezo pickup switch. Available in Red Blonde, Translucent Blue and Translucent Red Sunburst finishes. Disc. 1994.

\$1,400      \$1,200      \$1,000      \$800      \$720      \$660      \$600

Last Mfr.'s Sug. Retail was \$2,000.

**TRB5** — offset double cutaway carved ash body, bolt-on maple neck, 24 fret rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlay, brass fixed bridge, 3/2 per side brass tuners, gold hardware, 2 stacked humbucker pickups, volume/treble/mid/bass/mix controls, active electronics. Available in Amber Stain, Blue Stain, Charcoal Gray and Cherry Sunburst finishes. New 1994.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,600      \$1,280      \$960      \$800      \$640      \$575      \$530      \$480

**TRB5P** — offset double cutaway figured maple/rosewood/maple body, maple/mahogany thru body neck, 24 fret ebony fingerboard with pearl dot inlay, solid brass bridge, 3/2 per side brass tuners, P-style/J-style/piezo bridge pickups, volume/treble/bass/2 mix controls, piezo pickup switch. Available in Red Blonde, Translucent Blue and Translucent Red Sunburst finishes. Curr. mfr.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$2,500      \$1,875      \$1,250      \$1,150      \$920      \$830      \$760      \$690

**TRB6** — offset double cutaway carved ash body, bolt-on maple neck, 24 fret rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlay, brass fixed bridge, 3 per side brass tuners, gold hardware, 2 stacked humbucker pickups, volume/treble/mid/bass/mix controls, active electronics. Available in Amber Stain and Charcoal Gray finishes. New 1994.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$1,800      \$1,440      \$1,080      \$900      \$720      \$650      \$595      \$540

**TRB6P** — offset double cutaway figured maple/rosewood/maple body, maple/mahogany thru body neck, 24 fret ebony fingerboard with pearl dot inlay, solid brass bridge, 3 per side brass tuners, 2 J-style/piezo bridge pickups, volume/treble/bass/2 mix controls, piezo pickup switch. Available in Red Blonde, Translucent Blue and Translucent Red Sunburst finishes. Curr. mfr.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$2,700      \$2,025      \$1,350      \$1,300      \$1,040      \$935      \$860      \$780

**TRB PATITUCCI SIGNATURE** — offset double cutaway alder body, carved figured maple top, bolt-on maple neck, 24 fret ebony fingerboard with pearl 3/4 oval inlay, brass fixed bridge, figured maple veneered peghead with screened artist's signature/logo, 3 per side brass tuners, gold hardware, 2 stacked humbucker pickups, volume/treble/mid/bass/mix controls, active electronics. Available in Amber Stain and Charcoal Gray finishes. New 1994.

Mfr.'s Sug. Retail      \$2,600      \$2,080      \$1,560      \$1,300      \$1,040      \$935      \$860      \$780

This model was co-designed by John Patitucci.

## YAMAKI

See DAION.

Instruments produced in Japan during the late 1970s through the 1980s.

## YAMATO

Instruments produced in Japan during the late 1970s to the early 1980s.

Yamato guitars are medium quality instruments that feature both original and designs based on classic American favorites.

(Source: Tony Bacon and Paul Day, *The Guru's Guitar Guide*)

## ERIC YUNKER

Instruments built in San Francisco during the early 1980s.

Luthier Eric Yunker (1953-1985) was described as "a man of many skills - poet, printer, inventor, graphic artist, musician, guitar sculptor." Yunker would combine the sculpting aspect of a guitar body and make it playable as well. One of the Yunker guitars is on display in the ZZ Top area at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio.

(Source: Jas Obrecht, *Guitar Player magazine*, March 1986)