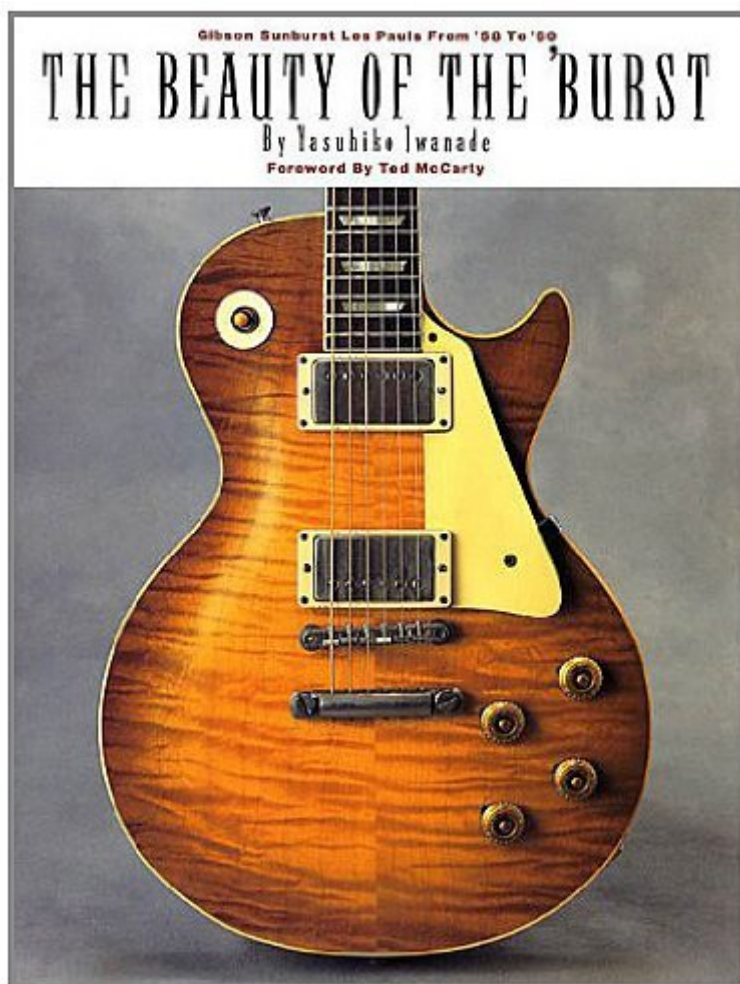


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The Beauty Of The 'Burst



Synopsis

Finally, the long-awaited English edition of this historic Japanese book is here! The Beauty of the 'Burst pays tribute to Gibson's magnificent Sunburst Les Pauls made between 1958 and 1960, the most highly prized solidbody electric guitars ever. The magnitude of their value is directly related to their look (outrageous wood patterns, or "figured" timber), since non-players are paying top dollar for them. The book features lavish full-color photos of these beautiful instruments throughout; the guitars of famous players; a foreword by Ted McCarty; a bio of the author, world renowned collector Yasuhiko Iwanade; and the "Science of the Burst" section with over 30 pages of detailed reference facts on every facet of the guitar, including colors, wood figure, pick-ups, hardware and qualities of "voice." This may be the closest guitarists will ever be able to get to these incredibly collectible beauties! 216 pages, 8-1/2 inch. x 11 inch. Softcover

Book Information

File Size: 35176 KB

Print Length: 224 pages

Publisher: Hal Leonard (March 1, 1999)

Publication Date: March 1, 1999

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B006IK1U8C

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #460,964 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #45

in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Songbooks > Guitars & Fretted Instruments > Electric Bass & Guitar #287 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments & Performers > Guitar #400 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Music > History & Criticism

Customer Reviews

The Les Pauls that Gibson manufactured between 1958 and 1960 are simply the best electric

guitars ever made. Like a stradivarius violin these hallowed guitars maintain a mystical build and possess a sonic quality and alluring beauty that has defied attempts to equal it or explain it. Gibson only made about 1700 of these guitars between '58 to '60 and they are the most sought after electrics in all guitar-dom. This wonderful book by Yasuhiko Iwanade chronicles these magic 3 years with amazing photographs of these fascinating instruments. Like a fine wine these sunburst beauties have aged into perfection over the last 50 years. Most of these guitars were hand sprayed in Cherry sunburst-dyed nitrocellulose lacquer finish but have all aged differently--according to their exposure to the elements and sunlight. This book allows an amazing gander at these beauties, but also contains some nice interviews of 'burst players and excellent articles concerning the design of this anachronistic instrument. To think in the early 60's the Les Paul was considered as "staid and old-fashioned". Ha! What you could fetch for \$280 in 1960 will now cost you close to a million to own. I couldn't help but wonder as I leafed through this excellent book...Who were the bigger fools?...the one's who wouldn't dish out \$280.00 for a Standard back in the day...or the ones who will dish out \$500,000.00 + for them now? I think both. It's a sad fact that many of these amazing instruments are not able to cry and sing as they were intended, but are now locked into vaults as part of an investment portfolio. Ted McCarty, The chief designer of this guitar (as well as the tune-o'-matic bridge later on) gives a nice foreword. This is a book that I can't just glance at. I'm compelled to pick it up and read it whenever it catches my eye.

If you're an electric guitar player....or a woodworker, or even someone who appreciates fine "art", this is a wonderful book. Very high quality photography of a wide assortment of the most iconic, collectible electric guitar on earth. Now if someone could come up with a version using 3D photography so those who have not seen the "movement" in the flame (grain highlights) of a really pretty top in person! Still this is an amazing compilation, and a must-have for 'burst owners. I bought a used copy that looks absolutely brand new, with no signs of wear or page creases.

I got this book basically because I love Micheal Bloomfield and his 59 Les Paul. I wanted to know more about the amazing tone he had. I really had no idea that the 59 Bursts were so diverse. Not like these days where you can see a rack of ten matching guitars at the store. Each one of these has its own distinct personality, its own face and no doubt, its own voice. This book captures the uniqueness that is the 59 Burst, explains them in great, but not overwhelming detail. Excellent detail and explanation of the construction process. The photography is amazing. I meant to buy this in hard cover, and after seeing the photos, I will. I know that my friends (who aren't into music and

guitars like I am) will pick up this book and look through it just as they would any art book on my coffee table. Well worth the money. One problem - It makes me want a 59 so much more now!

Great coffee table piece.

If you're a fan of this guitar you must have this book. These are the holy grails of all electric guitars. The photos are beautiful, the pages are laid out well. This is a real coffee table book for electric guitar lovers. Don't pass this up. It's a lovely book.

Great book but most pictures are very similar; this is basically a logging of these bursts for just the few years when they actually ended production of the first Les Paul and tried to only make the SG style in it's place, then everyone discovered the guitar so they brought it back!

Great pictures of a great era in Les Paul history. Well worth having around to thumb through to see what I'll most likely never be able to afford!

Fantastic book for any Les Paul lover. Great pictures to feast over for hours and days and months. This is like a candy catalog for Gibson Les Paul lovers. I just wish I could afford one of these vintage guitars.

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