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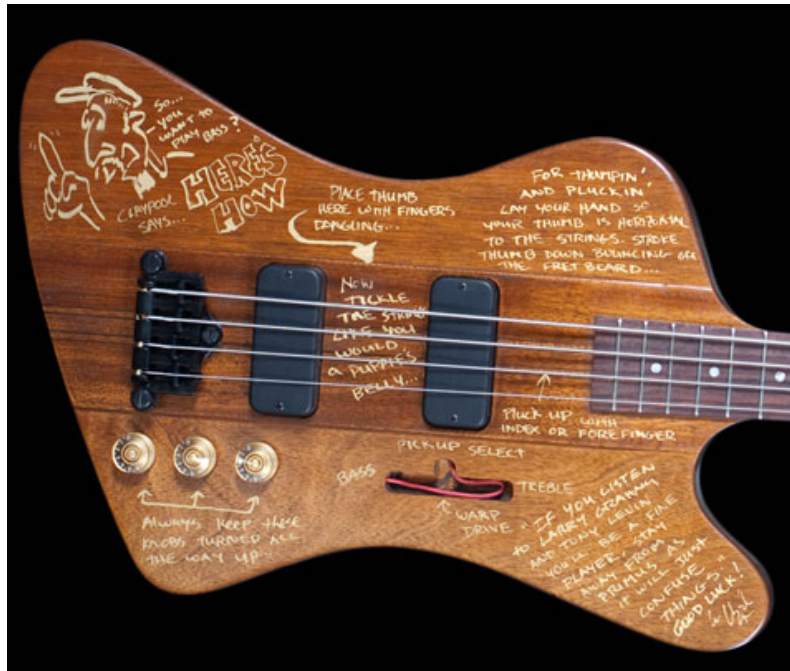
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Phoenix Guitar Gala news: Les Claypool Bass Unveiled

One-of-a-kind bass instructs fans on how to play bass like Les Claypool; to be auctioned off 2/28/09 at the Phoenix Guitar Gala & Carnival

PETALUMA, CA (Feb 5, 2009) – Artists, musicians, and legends have banded together to make the Phoenix Guitar Gala & Carnival possible. The event, the first of its kind for the Phoenix, will occur in the very building it supports – 201 Washington Ave. Petaluma, CA. It will feature 20 guitars designed and/or autographed by local artists and national legends, including George Lucas, Devo, Seth Green of Robot Chicken, Stan Lee (formerly of Marvel Comics), Les Claypool of Primus, John Lasseter, Devo, and more.



The event, scheduled to take place Sat. February 28, will feature a live Internet auction, a cocktail party in celebration of the event, a silent auction featuring artist memorabilia, and appearances by select artists listed above.

LES CLAYPOOL BASS

Les Claypool's custom-designed bass has officially been unveiled (see above). The bass features directions written by Les Claypool on how to play the instrument. This bass is also autographed.

A higher resolution photo of this bass is available at phoenixguitargala.com.

LES CLAYPOOL BIOGRAPHY

Leslie Edward "Les" Claypool is a musician, best known for his work with the band Primus and bass work. Claypool's mastery of the electric bass has brought him into the spotlight with his funky, creative playing style. The music of Primus is difficult to define, and while usually considered by critics to be funk metal or alternative metal, Primus has been called

everything from "thrash-funk meets Don Knotts, Jr." to "alternative rock" to "the Freak Brothers set to music."

Les Claypool himself once described their music as "psychedelic polka." Claypool mixes finger-tapping, flamenco-like strumming, and a Larry Graham-like slap technique, and Geddy Lee influences to develop his own unique style and has earned respect as one of rock's premier bass talents, becoming an influence for younger bassists in recent years. He is a multi-instrumentalist, novelist, music producer, actor, and film director.

Claypool has also self produced and engineered his solo releases from his own studio "Rancho Relaxo." 2006 saw the release of a full-length feature film "Electric Apricot" written and directed by Claypool as well as a debut novel "South of the Pumphouse."

LOCATIONS AND TIMELINE

The Les Claypoll bass will be publicly displayed at **Starstruck Gallery** in downtown Petaluma from late January until the Gala (February 28, 2009). **Starstruck Gallery** is located at 123 Kentucky St. For more information about this exhibit, please call **Starstruck Gallery** at (707) 766-6199.

This guitar will be auctioned on the evening of February 28, 2009 at the Phoenix Guitar Gala & Carnival. This auction will take place in the building and will be broadcast worldwide via the Internet while accepting bids from around the world.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE EVENT

For more details on sponsorships and the event, contact Jim Agius at jimagius@gmail.com or Kim Loop at kim@petalumaphoenix.org.

For more details on the non-profit organization or programs, contact Amber Faur at amber@petalumaphoenix.org.

More information can be found at the Gala's official website – phoenixguitargala.com

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