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#### CONTACT

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### **U8 SERIES**

## Touch Guitars® readies rollout of high-end eight-string guitar

Guetersloh, GERMANY: Touch Guitars® is all set to launch its debut model in Autumn 2009.

The **U8 series high-end eight-string guitar** has been developed by German touch-style instrumentalist-cum-instructing extraordinaire Markus Reuter — half of experimental rock duo TUNER (together with King Crimson's Pat Mastelotto).

Reuter called upon the talents of Austin, Texas-based master luthier Ed Reynolds to technically assist in making reality his long-held vision of creating an *innovative instrument* specifically for the two-handed-tapping technique of playing at which he excels.

The **U8 sets new standards by elegantly combining traditional guitar-building methods with proven performance practice** with its carefully contoured and balanced body falling into the perfect playing position by design, for example. Explains Reuter: "It was important for me that the U8 offers ideal features to both pros and beginners, and that its design is based on traditional values."

12 months on from the initial prototype that yielded consistently high praise by both peers and audiences alike during Reuter's extensive road-testing trips, **commercial U8s are being hand-built to exacting standards** in the USA (by Reynolds and his team in close collaboration with Reuter) and also a second European production facility (in Germany).

Notable U8 features include a 34-inch scale length mahogany body and optimised-shaped neck (with precision five-bolt joint); ebony headstock veneer with mother of pearl inlay; ebony fretboard; through-body strings; Sperzel locking tuners; custom aluminium bridge and brass saddles; tilted custom Bartolini pickups (for perfect default bass/treble balance); recessed controls, including pickup blend, three-band EQ with mid-band selector, and volume; tilted strap buttons (to keep the guitar belt straight on the body); and a specially designed upper horn to avoid bending the right wrist (or for resting the wrist upon during certain playing techniques).

**Touch Guitars® is currently offering a 7%-discounted introductory price** of \$4,185.00 USD (excluding local taxes and delivery) to those purchasing from the initial run of U8s via its website's Contact page. (A 50% deposit is payable on confirmation.)

Guitars are available in the following colour options: Gibson Red (as per Reuter's original prototype), Sunburst (Dark Orange and Black), Sonic Blue, Sea Foam Green, and Fiesta Red (the latter three all being solid colours).

Touch Guitars® plans to offer a number of quality custom accessories, including gig bags. Touch Guitars® will be launching its second model, the 10-string U10, in 2010.

### More information coming soon...

www.touchguitars.com http://twitter.com/touchguitars http://www.facebook.com/pages/Touch-GuitarsR/75048006034

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### **About Touch Guitars®** (<u>www.touchguitars.com</u>)

Founded by world-renowned, highly-accomplished guitarist Markus Reuter — half of experimental rock duo TUNER (together with King Crimson's Pat Mastelotto), **Touch Guitars**® has been created to fill a void within the global guitar market by bridging the gap between traditional guitar and modern technology with a new generation of tapping/touch-style instruments whose distinctive design is informed by 15-plus years of onstage and in-studio playing experience, as well as at teaching seminars worldwide.

**Markus Reuter** is a musician, producer, psychologist, and instructor; he has been playing touch guitars since the early Nineties. He travels the world extensively in his professional life, and, having met hundreds of players in the process, has been able to examine a broad range of playing techniques and playing styles. Reuter has developed a systemized approach to playing touch guitar that he calls 'the family'. This method is routinely passed on to fellow players at regular tapping courses.

**Ed Reynolds** is an outstanding master luthier from Austin, Texas; he is regularly employed as a consultant for a number of renowned guitar manufacturers, including Collings, Lakland, and Bartolini. Reynolds has worked closely with Reuter on the U8, helping facilitate his vision for Touch Guitars® by building the prototype and producing the initial commercial models.





