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MODERN

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February '97

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## The Long Hello Kansas City Drumworks

It may have taken ten years, but custom drum manufacturer Kansas City Drumworks has finally entered the mainstream international drum market. KCD offers drums and kits in two distinct shell constructions: *Series 6* drums feature 6-ply toms and 10-ply bass drums for a full-bodied sound with pronounced low-end presence. *Series 10* drums use 10-ply shells for both toms and bass drums for a more focused sound and extended tuning range. Both series are built with 100% maple Keller shells.

The most prominent feature of KCD drums is their tube lugs. These lugs are hand-machined from solid brass, triple chrome plated, and hand assembled in Kansas City, Missouri. The lugs have no hollow areas, springs, or inserts. They mount to the drumshell at only two



points, providing minimum lug-to-shell contact and maximum resonance. Kansas City Drumworks does not use gaskets to isolate the lug from the shell, but instead lets the shell and lug resonate as one musical body. All toms and floor toms are factory-equipped with the PureCussion RIMS mounting system.

Kansas City Drumworks drums are said to be priced competitively with those of other North American drum manufacturers. They are available in a wide range of hand-polished lacquers, oil finishes, and traditional coverings. Sunbursts, fades, and custom paint jobs are available at additional charge.

## Nine Lives Can Sure Come In Handy Sometimes E-mu To Distribute KAT Products

After dying a tragic and much-mourned death in 1996, KAT is now being given a second (or is it third?) lease on life by E-mu Systems, which has now become the exclusive distributor of KAT electronic percussion products. In addition to some select accessories, E-mu will be handling KAT percussion controllers (including the *drumKAT*, *malletKAT*, and *trapKAT*).

A little history: The availability of KAT products became restricted in 1996, when the original company ceased operations. Soon after, KAT products became available on a limited basis through Alternate Mode, Inc.—a company run by

Mario DeCiutiis, an influential figure behind KAT products. Now E-mu has stepped in. According to DeCiutiis, the partnership with E-mu will afford KAT products a much wider base of distribution, and thus greater availability to the consumer. E-mu is also a major manufacturer of sampling and sampling playback technology, which combines well with KAT controllers and makes the association a natural pairing. E-mu systems plans to take "the next logical steps" in drum pad/user products as this relationship grows.

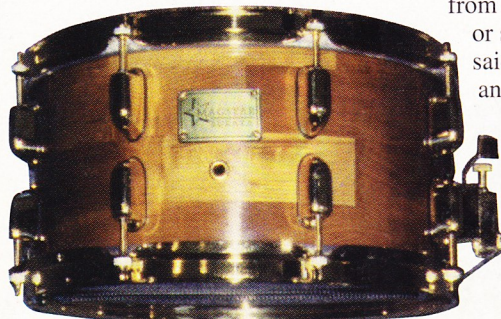
## They Don't Make 'Em Like THAT Anymore Magstar Vintage Snare Drum And New Lug

If the charm of vintage drum gear has caught your fancy, Magstar wants to talk to you. The company is now offering 1940s-style *Vintage* series snare drums in a limited edition. And we're talking *real* limited: Only fifty drums will be built. Each will feature a steam-bent 5½x14 maple shell with solid maple reinforcement rings, tube lugs, hand-rubbed orange shellac on the shell interior, a basic side-movement snare throw-off to reflect those used in the '30s and '40s, a polished white pearl covering, and a choice of either chrome or brass-plated steel counterhoops. Bearing edges will be cut according to the preference of the player, and some "newer" technical embellishments will be combined with the vintage aspects of each drum to maximize its "user readiness." And for that human touch, each drum will be signed and dated by designer Rob Kampa. Prices will range from \$529 to \$599 depending on options.



Magstar *Vintage* snare

Not ones to get stuck in the past, Magstar also offers a new cast-bronze lug that "enhances the resonance of drumshells constructed from any configuration of plies, segments, or steam-bent single boards." The lug is said to be heavy-duty yet streamlined, and extremely corrosion-resistant. The lugs will be featured on all Magstar *Artist* series snares and kits. The pictured drum is a 7x13 cherry segment-shell model with a hand-rubbed orange shellac finish and gold-plated hardware. It's priced at \$799.



Magstar *Artist* snare