



## 125TH Anniversary Fact Sheet

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### The Gretsch Company Overview

- ◆ Company founded in 1883 in Brooklyn, N.Y. as banjo, drum and tambourine manufacturer.
- ◆ Privately held company; four generations of family ownership.
- ◆ Headquartered in Savannah, Ga.
- ◆ President Fred W. Gretsch; CFO Dinah Gretsch.
- ◆ Gretsch products sold in the United States and 112 countries worldwide.
- ◆ Recipient of the 2003 "Heroes Award" from the Atlanta Chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS)
- ◆ Recipient of the 2007 Century Award, designated for family businesses at least 100 years old, from the Cox Family Enterprise Center (at the Georgia Family Business Awards).

### That Great Gretsch Sound

- ◆ Gretsch drums and guitars are the preferred instruments of many studio musicians and recording artists looking for unique tonal quality and hand-made craftsmanship.
- ◆ Notable Gretsch endorsees include Chet Atkins, Charlie Watts, Neil Young, Brian Setzer and Phil Collins.
- ◆ Gretsch Custom drums manufactured at production facility in Ridgeland, S.C.
- ◆ Kaman Music has been the exclusive distributor of Gretsch drums since 2000.
- ◆ Fender Musical Instruments Corporation has been exclusive guitar distributor since 2002.
- ◆ Gretsch owns and manufactures other popular and historic music industry products and brands including Bigsby® Vibratos and Sho-Bud® Pedal Steel Guitars.

### In the Community:

- ◆ GuitarArt charity art program started by Gretsch Co. in 2002; company donates guitars to non-profit organizations, which then decorate them to be sold at auction. Company also donates higher-quality instruments to be decorated by celebrities and auctioned for charity.
- ◆ Major sponsor of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame since museum's founding in 1996.
- ◆ Gave four major scholarships to Georgia Southern University, Elmhurst College, and University of West Georgia in 2006.