

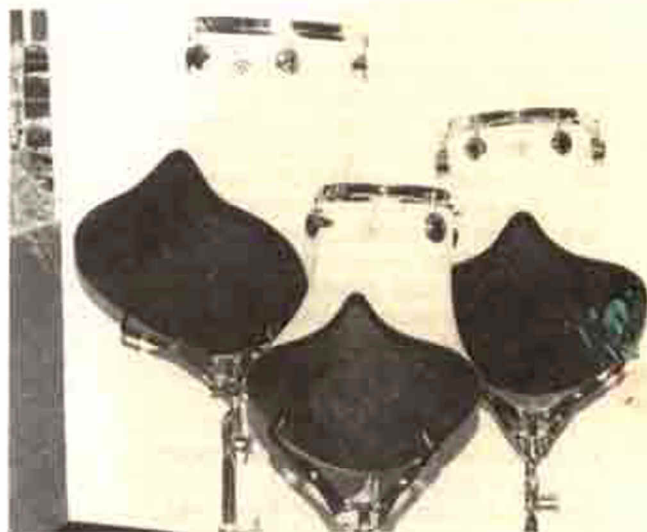
INSTRUMENT REVIEW 5

STACCATO DRUMS



What follows is not a full review by Mr. Collins, but a quick glance at something which won't appear in its completed form until some time next year. In the meantime, this will serve as an hors d'oeuvre to whet the appetites of drummers everywhere.

Anybody unfortunate enough to read my last drum review will remember me mentioning my feelings on peculiar shaped drums. Whilst not retracting my feelings on the subject, I do



have some favourable things to say on the new Staccato drums.

Designed by Pat Townshend, they are just hitting the market, although in somewhat limited numbers. So far a few kits have been ordered, but a full kit has not yet seen the light of day.

When they become more readily available, probably early next year, there will be a hundred different colours to choose from (no Egyptian hieroglyphics, I hope) and they will come in a variety of sizes.

Visually, of course, they bear

a resemblance to the North Drums which surfaced a year or so ago. The shape at the foot of the drum is different, however, being a four-pointed star shape, which from top to bottom offers an octave difference in note and tone if miked through a P.A. — an interesting idea if it works in practice.

I did actually tap about on a trio of drums: the 8", 10" and 12" tom-toms, but the best effect obviously comes from a listening rather than a playing position, though they did sound brighter than their North counterparts. The bass drum, though I've not yet been able to see it, sounds as though it will be unlike anything you've seen.

All the drums are made of fibreglass and are without seams, which of course strengthens both the sound and the shells.

No doubt a full review of a full kit will follow shortly. Stand by!! 8", 10" and 12" tom-toms £294 + VAT.

by Phil Collins

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