

Heeres Custom Guitars
Archimedesstraat 4 A
NL-2517 RV The Hague
The Netherlands
+31 (0)70 427 1476
info@heeresguitars.nl
<http://www.heeresguitars.nl>

PRESS RELEASE

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Custom made guitar with removable necks **Double neck acoustic guitar for Terence Hansen**

Singer/songwriter Terence Hansen (Salt Lake City, Utah) recently received his custom made acoustic double neck guitar. Dutch luthier Richard Heeres combined traditional and modern guitar building techniques to build this instrument. To facilitate the special tapping technique of Terence Hansen, but also to have the two necks removable for ease of transportation. Terence Hansen: “*This guitar exceeds my expectations in many ways...*”

Singer/songwriter Terence Hansen (Salt Lake City, Utah) has recently received his acoustic double neck guitar. Terence has developed a unique style of guitar playing: simultaneously on two guitars. He does not play the notes by strumming with one hand and fretting with the other, but rather uses a tapping technique in which each hand plays it's own neck. Formerly, he had a hard time playing acoustic, placing one guitar on his knee and the other in a awkward position on the ground. Heeres Guitars made him a guitar with two necks at an angle of 40°, the strings of the sloping neck running over the strings of the normal one. Terence Hansen about his new guitar: “*This guitar exceeds my expectations in many ways. From the tone, to the appearance, and the travelling take apart design. I feel that it allows me more expression as an artist, and a dynamic response I could have only dreamed of!*”

Carbon fibre reinforcement

Luthier Richard Heeres used the traditional Rosewood back and Spruce top for this Jumbo sized instrument. But to avoid the construction from collapsing under the tension of 12 strings, he reinforced it with carbon fibre rods. If any, this modern technique has a positive effect on the sound of the guitar. The instrument also features an extra sound port in the side so the player can better hear himself play. For ease of transportation both necks (and bridges) are removable, by use of a simple Allen screw. A titanium case-and-bushing system was especially devised so assembly and disassembly only takes about 5 minutes.

Electronics for the ambidextrous

The electronics were designed by the well known Dutch electronics engineer Barney Pronk. There's an AER piëzo pickup under each saddle, with a balance pot in the lower bout. Mounted to a goose neck inside the body is a Shure condenser mike which has a separate XLR output. With a mono cord plugged in, the balance pot functions as a normal balance pot between the 2 piëzo's. When a stereo cord is plugged in, both piëzo's have their own channel. But now, when turning the pot, they switch channels. So with an effects processor on one of the neck signals, one can switch the effect to the other neck by turning the pot. A nice feature for the ambidextrous.

Heeres Guitars

This instrument was custom made for Terence Hansen by Heeres Guitars from The Hague, The Netherlands. A small company with 17 years of guitar making experience, specializing in archtops and flamenco guitars. Heeres guitars are played by well known Dutch artists Olaf Tarenskeen, Johan Frauenfelder and Arturo Ramón.

Heeres Guitars will exhibit at the Open Strings Guitar Festival in Osnabrueck (G), 25-27 September.

A slide show of the building process and a live track by Terence Hansen can be found at www.heeresguitars.nl under instruments/steelstrings (<http://www.heeresguitars.nl/gitaar.php?id=473&language=EN>)

Photo's by Maarten Fleskens

Contact

Should you like to receive additional information about the guitar, or high resolution pictures, please contact Richard Heeres at info@heeresguitars.nl or address above.