Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Types

by **visserman** » 30 Apr 2013, 12:36

First of all "What do you call them"

I like the term "Hollowed Bodied" because that is what they are. Semi-acoustic? reminds me to much of a dread naught, steel string type.

I know Gibson went for Electric Semiacoustic with their term ES, still.

Overal there are the thick ones, the ones which you could not amplify at first, The ones used during the 30s, 40s and onwards.
Guild (and probably others) started to make them thinner, and then Gibson came up with the ES135 idea.

I have a Ibanez Artist early 80s, basically a 135, sounds good, feels good ect. Then I have the (which I mentioned before) the 60s no name one which does not have a block in the middle. Pick-ups on this one are very trebly.

Overal I do like the bigger body: Reminds you a bit about an acoustic, then there is the overal sound: Lighter because of the air trapped in body, and lighther weight.
On the 60s one I have now 0.10 strings, which makes it sound really jangly. It still does have some power on the bassstrings.

So maybe some of you can sum-up what you like about the ES's or Hollowed bodies ones.

visserman

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Monotremata** » 30 Apr 2013, 21:55

I want one one of these days.. Fiances dad has an awesome cherry red 335 thats killer. I really want one of the older bigger ones like Geordie Walker from Killing Joke plays. I THINK his is an old 50s ES-175 but I cant remember the model. Im still shocked that he actually still takes it on tour as his main guitar.. When you get them cranked they feedback so awesomely out of control!

Monotremata

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **skugga** » 02 May 2013, 13:32

I've never really been a Gibson guy. Well it's mainly LP's and SG's that i'm not a fan of. I taunt natthu about getting a Flying V but that's different.

But I've always wanted an ES 335, personally I prefer the big block version to the dot but they're still nice. A red one was at the top of my list but I haven't really been out to get one in a hurry.

Until Gibson announced this:

http://www2.gibson.com/Products/Electri ... S-335.aspx

and now i'm GASing hard for it

skugga

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **DB Cooper** » 02 May 2013, 15:20

THIS is what I want! **Taylor T3/B**

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DB Cooper

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **visserman** » 03 May 2013, 10:21

I like the first image DB.

It is almost like you can see the inspiration of different guitardesigns in it: There is the LP with the top bout and three way switch, there is the older hollowed bodied idea with its F-wholes, there is a bit of a Tele in the lower bout. The volume control, is the Guild and Gretsch? The bridge, well that is Bigsby, but also reminds you about Gretsch's glory days.

The other two remind me about newish guitars: Good sound, nice feel, but nothing reminds you where sound and feel originally came from.

visserman

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **DasBeef** » 03 May 2013, 14:21

I always had it that.....
Semi Acoustic - Hollow body electric. It's electric with an acoustic element.
Electro Acoustic - Dreadnought style with pickup/mic

aminorite?

Anyway, I have one of these.... (old pic with old pedals/amp setup)

It's great. The varitone allows almost 'strat' tones to come out of the thing, and it has that signature 335 sound as well. I can't help but play all the southern rock tunes I know every time I pick it up.

DasBeef

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **DasBeef** » 03 May 2013, 14:24

skugga - I agree I like that Cornell model, but there are a couple of things just not right for me. The neck should be nicer. Blocked at least? As for the pickups, are they not straight off a Gretsch? (Filtertrons?) Why not just get a Gretsch? I take it they wouldn't give Cornell a signature model, or wouldn't pay him enough to play it?

DasBeef

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Alonious_Monk** » 03 May 2013, 18:58

> *Monotremata wrote:*
> *I want one one of these days.. Fiances dad has an awesome cherry red 335 thats killer. I really want one of the older bigger ones like Geordie Walker from Killing Joke plays. I THINK his is an old 50s ES-175 but I cant remember the model. Im still shocked that he actually still takes it on tour as his main guitar.. When you get them cranked they feedback so awesomely out of control!*

I came on this thread to post about the EXACT same guitar!

Saw KJ in March, that tone was **IMMENSE**

Alonious_Monk

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Monotremata** » 03 May 2013, 19:12

Man I missed them the last two times they were supposed to come to LA. The first show I ended up broke and couldnt buy tickets when I wanted to, and the second tour got flat out cancelled! ONE OF THESE DAYS JAZ YOU BETTER NOT FLAKE ON ME!!!

Monotremata

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **sclitheroe** » 04 May 2013, 00:59

This is my semi-hollow (albeit not left handed like this one, and with upgraded unpotted pickups and amber rather than black knobs), the Greg Bennett Royale RL-4

What's interesting about it is the build - it's more like a super-highly chambered solid body than a traditional semi-hollow construction:

That frame is all one piece of wood. I like the way they built it, their rationale for doing it, and that to my knowledge, there isn't anything else built this way out there. I could be wrong on that, since Greg Bennett is Samick's high-end house brand, and they build guitars for a lot of bigger name companies, so who knows, but it's the only one touting this design that I know of.

I also play a Greg Bennett Avion AV-6, their Les Paul inspired model (fully solid body) upgraded with the identical pickups, and with an identical setup (action, strings, neck relief) on an identical neck, so the two guitars are an interesting study in contrasts. There is a clear difference in tone between the two - the AV-6 is tighter and boxier, with a flatter sound (not sure what to call this - it sounds to me like its more consistent or flatter voiced across frequencies, I don't mean flat like dull), whereas the RL-4 is much more open sounding, rounder, deeper, and I want to say looser sounding on the low-end.

For me, I much prefer the sound of the semi-hollow of the two, to the point where if I were to buy another guitar, I'm almost certain it would be semi-hollow at this point.

sclitheroe

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **visserman** » 04 May 2013, 09:34

Some great posts guys, need to come back later with some details.
See ya!

visserman

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **The_Doc** » 04 May 2013, 11:58

Here's a photo of my stock ES-335 - I think it was made in 2009 / 2010.

In my experience I've found that I have to work hard to get the best out of semi's but you are always rewarded by a great tone which you can't get any other way. I probably wouldn't buy another semi. This one tends to get used a lot for jazz and old rock type jobs. I've never taken it on stage but it has been used on a few recordings.

The_Doc

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **visserman** » 05 May 2013, 15:34

> *DasBeef wrote:*
> *I always had it that.....*
> *Semi Acoustic - Hollow body electric. It's electric with an acoustic element.*

Electro Acoustic - Dreadnought style with pickup/mic

aminorite?

Anyway, I have one of these.... (old pic with old pedals/amp setup)

It's great. The varitone allows almost 'strat' tones to come out of the thing, and it has that signature 335 sound as well. I can't help but play all the southern rock tunes I know every time I pick it up.

I like that one Beef, is it like one of those BB King models? I can imagine you will get some great soundcombinations coming out of that one.

What the Doc mentioned about "working harder on them" maybe it reminds people about having an acoustic. I think if you play acoustic and electric a lot the difference may not be so much.
I do like the feel of the bigger bodies, but also like solid bodies, and when you look at the Guya, which I use a great deal, that is really a small scale guitar with a small body. Not good for sitting down, you need to use the Strap all the time to be comfortable.

Will get a video at some point of the 60s hollowed bodied one. Pick-ups are very bright and Pick-up switch works other way around: To the left is bridge, middle in neck and far right is both pick-ups.....

The Guya does have something interesting as well: On the pick-up selector switch it says: South/West----so bridge will be South, and neck will be West: The Japanese take on regular Rhythm and Treble on Gibsons

visserman

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Franzoni** » 05 May 2013, 19:19

1967 Fender Coronado II...designed by Roger Rossmeisl of Rickenbacker fame...pickups are Fender badged DeArmonds...one was last seen in the hands of Jimmy Vaughan playing some greasy,whiplash blues..... .....

Franzoni

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **sclitheroe** » 05 May 2013, 20:57

Having problems parsing that sentence...Jimmy Vaughan uses a Coronado, or one of your pickups was used by Jimmy Vaughan?

Either is cool, because Jimmy is awesome.

sclitheroe

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **DasBeef** » 06 May 2013, 15:59

I badly want a Coronado. I found one in Sherwood Green, but it's way more money than I'm willing to part with. Around the three grand mark. Kind of kicking myself for not picking up a 12 stringer Coronado for £750. I don't really want a 12 string guitar though, hence why I passed. It was an exceptional deal though.

DasBeef

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Franzoni** » 06 May 2013, 16:24

Jimmy Vaughan was seen using a Coronado II lately..unfortunately not mine.....

DasBeef....you would find it a big change to a Gibson...pickups are not as powerful ....in fact they would be underpowered to similar guitars of a the same era..i had thought of changing them out to make it more usable TV Jones is making some good repo's of vintage stuff for these type of guitars...it i could get them to go into the same covers to keep the vibe i might be interested.....

PS..three grand is way off the mark for one of these guitars...i paid £70 irish punts back in the day.....
..personally i would of jumped on the 12 string for £750 if i had the money

Franzoni

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **The_Doc** » 06 May 2013, 17:10

That Coronado has oodles of mojo - I want one too I've never seen one 'in the flesh' and I didn't know they had lower powered pups Franz - I'd always imagined them to be a bit of a monster. I'll keep a lookout now....and after me saying that I'd probably never buy another semi

The_Doc

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Franzoni** » 06 May 2013, 19:27

Hello there Doc.....Yeah they wouldn't be as hot as some of the pickups in more modern guitars or even some of the vintage ones....Also something to bear in mind is the Coronado is fully hollow not semi solid so a bit of a feedback monster with any overdrive...but for de bloooz or some Jazz it's pretty cool... the back pickup is also good for early rock n roll.....

Also a lot of these were chopped up for their necks for other guitar projects so i think thats why they are getting a bit rarer to find....the neck is really excellent on this guitar i have to say....a nice C profile not too fat or too thin plus it has that cool binding like on a Les Paul or your EJ strat....

Franzoni

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Dirk** » 06 May 2013, 19:35

Izzy Stradlin used to play those types of guitars. Needless to say he didn't play jazz with them.
Listen to the left channel on Appetite for Destruction for how rockin' they sound.

AFD was recorded with an ES-175, he also had a really cool cherry 335 in those days.

Dirk

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Monotremata** » 06 May 2013, 19:51

Really??? I havent seen any of the videos forever but I seem to remember him playing a Tele in one of em? Of course they were lip-syncing so it didnt matter what he was holding but...
Also seem to remember him playing a LP Jr or a Melody Maker live?? Man my brain just aint got room to keep all that stuff in there anymore haha.

Monotremata

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Dirk** » 07 May 2013, 15:35

I don't think the 335 has been in any video, but you can see it in the photo books from Robert John and Marc Canter.

He had all sorts of guitars; LP's, tele's, hollowbody's, a V in recent years, you name it.

Dirk

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **visserman** » 23 May 2013, 14:04

Were most of Izzy's parts not deleted by Slash, because he felt it was not tight enough??

The overal sound of Appetite is not great from production and recording point of view.

visserman

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **The_Doc** » 23 May 2013, 14:19

Well, I said I *probably* wouldn't buy another semi...

Decided to upgrade my ES 335 to this ES335 Block Re-issue 1963 VOS in vintage sunburst. The difference in the neck profile is noticable and I find this one much easier to handle. It's a step up in tone too. It was a difficult decision to part with the cherry but I'm glad I did. Hope you like the photo - taken on a sunny (ish) day in the UK

The_Doc

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Dirk** » 23 May 2013, 17:53

> *visserman wrote:*
> *Were most of Izzy's parts not deleted by Slash, because he felt it was not tight enough??*

Nope, Izzy played all the left channel stuff on Appetite. On the Illusions however, Slash did *some* of it. I never heard Slash talk shit about Izzy's guitar playing either.

> *The overal sound of Appetite is not great from production and recording point of view.*

I disagree, I really like how raw the sound is, and how you can distinct all the instruments clearly from each other. This was pretty much how they sounded live in those days, and I think Mike Clink did an excellent job at capturing their then spirit.

@The doc; nice guitar as well, although I really liked the cherry.

Dirk

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **The_Doc** » 23 May 2013, 19:29

Thanks Dirk.

I liked the cherry too and would have preferred to have kept hold of it but the ' 63 just had a little something extra and I didn't want to pass on it plus Mrs_The_Doc wasn't going to allow another guitar through the door!

The_Doc

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Franzoni** » 24 May 2013, 11:01

Abosolutely beautiful Doc.....congrats.....this or a blonde would be the two i would go for as well if i was going for 335.....probably lean in favour of the sunburst with the blocks like yours... .. Clapton had a sunburst '59 with dots that had a monster tone or i think of Larry Carlton and the Steely Dan stuff.....

Note to self..must resist GAS,must resist GAS...PA system must be upgraded first.....

Franzoni

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **The_Doc** » 24 May 2013, 12:02

Thanks Franz

I looked into a Larry Carlton signature 335 years ago but the price was mad and the waiting list over a year! This is the closest I'm going to get in terms of guitars to Larry - I'll never get anwhere near his technique!!

Gave this one a thorough workout last night playing along with a Freddie King style backing and it really nails that clicky vintage tone through my little Champ on full crank - even without a metal thumbpick

The_Doc

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **visserman** » 24 May 2013, 14:42

YEs Doc. that is a beauty, we all agree. Also colour, the classic sunburst, almost two-tone.

visserman

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **visserman** » 24 May 2013, 14:46

> *visserman wrote:*
> *Were most of Izzy's parts not deleted by Slash, because he felt it was not tight enough??*

> *Dirk wrote:*
> *Nope, Izzy played all the left channel stuff on Appetite. On the Illusions however, Slash did some of it. I never heard Slash talk shit about Izzy's guitar playing either.*

> *The overal sound of Appetite is not great from production and recording point of view.*

> *Dirk wrote:*
> *I disagree, I really like how raw the sound is, and how you can distinct all the instruments clearly from each other. This was pretty much how they sounded live in those days, and I think Mike Clink did an excellent job at capturing their then spirit.*

Hi Dirk,
Can't quite remember where I read that idea of Slah not liking Izzy's rhythm playing. Must have been somewhere in Guitar Player around 93 or before--or other early interviews from somewhere---.
The overal sound of the recording is fine, but the drums do have that digital sound.
On "use your illusion" (but that is the retro 90s!!) they did get it right, the songs and riffs are better on "Appetite"

visserman

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **Dirk** » 24 May 2013, 16:33

> *visserman wrote:*
> *Can't quite remember where I read that idea of Slah not liking Izzy's rhythm playing. Must have been somewhere in Guitar Player around 93 or before--or other early interviews from somewhere---.*

Maybe, since it was in '93, you're referring to the left channel of the Spaghetti Incident. Remember that a bunch of those songs were recorded alongside the Illusion records in '90/'91.
Izzy initially recorded his parts during the Illusion sessions, but they were later re-recorded by Gilby Clarke, him being the new rhythm player and all that.

It's hard to believe that Slash would say such things about another guitar player, especially one he was quite fond of, actually.

Dirk

Re: Let's Talk About Hollow Bodied Guitars ES 335, ES175 Typ

by **visserman** » 28 May 2013, 09:58

Maybe he referred to Gilby.

Yep, it must have been interviews from around "Spagetti" period, I do remember, so that is around '94.
I think it was a bit like Slash redid some rhythm parts after second hearing during mixdown, thinking he could improve matters. Think it was not really badmouthing the other guy, more like the things which go on, very normal in a way. We all have that: You hear something and think: "Heh that can be changed"

visserman