

PAISTE COMBO CRISP HI-HATS & RUDE POWER RIDE THE REIGN



From £349 Paiste looks for inspiration from two of its most influential and genre expanding long-term endorsees

WORDS: GEOFF NICHOLLS

Here we have two signature products at opposite ends of the Paiste cymbal spectrum. Dave Lombardo achieved fame with Slayer in the 1980s when he and the band pioneered speed/thrash metal; 1980 also saw the advent of Paiste's Rude cymbal series, aimed at metal and punk players. In 1986 Lombardo played Rude cymbals on *Reign In Blood*, and in recognition of this his

Paiste has used different alloys for the top and bottom cymbals. The top is cast from B20 '602' bell bronze (CuSn20) and the bottom from Paiste's Signature alloy, which is closer to B15. Both are certainly heavy cymbals, but the alloys and finish look similar in colour, the top cymbal having slightly broader lathing underneath. The top also has a smaller, peakier bell, while the bottom's bell is broader and rounder, more

THE B20 BRONZE OF THE TOP HAT HAS A SLIGHTLY WARMER TONE THAN THE BOTTOM SIGNATURE BRONZE, KNOWN FOR ITS BRILLIANCE

22" Rude Power Ride is called The Reign.

Stewart Copeland's equally potent, fiery style was honed in The Police and his florid reggae-inflected hi-hat licks have been admired ever since. His signature 12" Combo Crisp Hats are titled The Rhythmartist after his 1985 solo album and filmed African odyssey, and are designed with his dancing style in mind.

Build

Paiste's Rude cymbals were from the beginning aimed at metal and punk drummers. The Rude title refers to the unlathed surface. Lombardo's Reign ride is a 22" titan, with smoothly polished unlathed body, pock-marked with irregular hammering top and bottom, excepting the bell which is lathed with a broad knife. Cymbals are hand-made in Switzerland using Paiste's B8 bronze (CuSn8), also known as 2002 alloy.

Copeland's 12" hats are novel in that

typical and handy for seating the pair.

Copeland's buccaneering Rhythmartist logo adds a final flourish.

Hands On

Starting with the 12" Combo Crisp hi-hats, although the two cymbals are similar in weight the top is significantly deeper in pitch than the bottom, which is high and pingy. The B20 bronze of the top hat has a slightly warmer tone than the bottom Signature bronze, known for its brilliance. Thus the bottom provides the cut while the top gives the smoother, darker playing surface. The result is that played closed there is still a loud and clear stick sound, while the pedalled 'chip' is urgent and incisive.

The difference in the two cymbals is exaggerated also by the bell profiles, the top cymbal's rather smaller bell having a tinklier sound. But let's not forget these are small 12" hats and so are always going to be agile and tightly focused. Whether played closed

Also try...



1 PAISTE SIGNATURE BLUE BELL RIDE

We say: "Made to Stewart Copeland's specifications, the Blue Bell ride is unique in sound and looks."



2 ZILDJIAN A 13" POCKET HATS

We say: "Gospel drummers are renowned for their taut groove and these razor sharp cymbals are as cutting a pair as you'll ever need."



or open, jazzy 10-to-10 style, they are always fleet and assertive, like Copeland himself. But the lower pitch of the top cymbal makes sure they retain a warmth, so there is no danger of them ever being thin and tinny.

They respond well to numerous styles, from old-fashioned Papa Jo Jones swing right up to post-electro Mark Guiliana or Chris Dave cutting-edge beats. Being small they are also suited to life as a secondary pair, or perhaps mounted on a remote pedal centrally, Bill Bruford style.

Turning to the 22" Reign ride, it's one of those cymbals that requires you to lay-in with a heavy stick. This way you get the full effect of the loud and shrill attack. But it too has a surprising soft warmth underlying the undeniably aggressive intention. In fact if you crash it you get a huge, deep, satisfying roar.

A single hard tap to the body of the



Essential spec



PRICES

Signature Combo Crisp hi-hats, £372; Rude Power Ride The Reign, £349

ALLOY USED

Hats: CuSn20 bronze top and Signature Bronze bottom; ride: CuSn8 bronze, aka 2002 bronze

FINISH

Hats: natural brilliant; ride: Rude polished

HAMMERING

Hand and machine guided

COUNTRY OF MANUFACTURE

Made in Switzerland "using modern, innovative methods"

DIAMETERS AVAILABLE

12" hi-hats; 22" ride

WEIGHTS

Hats: heavy top and heavy bottom; ride: extra heavy

MODELS AVAILABLE

Hi-hats and ride

SUITABLE FOR

Hats: fast and nimble pop, dance, rock, world, jazz, folk, etc; ride: all metal, heavy rock and loud pop

CONTACT

Korg UK Ltd
01908 304 601
paiste@korg.co.uk
www.korg.co.uk

RUDE REIGN

Dave Lombardo's 22" Rude Power Ride is a 35th anniversary reproduction of the cymbal he played on Slayer's 1986 album *Reign In Blood*

RHYTHMATIST HI HATS

Stewart Copeland's top and bottom Combo Crisp hats are equally heavy and, unusually, made from two different Paiste alloys

cymbal unleashes a clamorous tolling bell character. Leave it to resonate and revel in the long sustain surrounded by a full tone that is quite clear and diminishes uniformly without unduly clashing overtones. In other words a typically clean Paiste sound, pure but with ample scale.

Pounding out no-messing, driving eighth-note ride beats, the attack is undeniably intense and toppy, but is balanced by that

high-pitched yet warm background wash.

Part of the blueprint for extreme heavy rides involves increased bell sizes. But this sometimes means that playing these oversized bells can be like clouting an anvil, resulting in a dead, wrist-jarring 'ting' if you don't catch them just right. Paiste seems to have avoided this by lathing the bell so that it remains resonant while benefitting from its size in terms of volume. **R**

VERDICT: There are no more deserving drummers than Copeland and Lombardo to be honoured with these signature Paiste hi-hats and ride cymbal, which do exactly as their names imply.

BUILD QUALITY ★★★★★
PLAYABILITY ★★★★★
VALUE FOR MONEY ★★★★★
RHYTHM RATING ★★★★★