

## GEAR REVIEW

# PEARL DENNIS CHAMBERS SIGNATURE SNARE DRUM

**£779** Pearl releases its second signature snare for long-time endorser and master of pocket, Dennis Chambers

WORDS: TOM BRADLEY



### RIBBED GROOVES

The grooves on the outer surface are designed to control tone but also give the drum a unique 'vinyl' look

### SINGLE STL LUGS

Lugs cleverly allow the tuning rod to rotate to "accommodate better tuning, more control and less friction"



### 12 OVER 8 LUG DESIGN

Extra precision from the additional lugs should make the batter head much easier to tune

### Essential spec



#### PRICE

£779

#### SHELL MATERIAL

Aluminium - 3mm with 5mm edges

#### CONSTRUCTION METHOD

Cast

#### BEARING EDGES

Sharp

#### HOOPS

Pearl 2.3mm SuperHoop

#### SUPPLIED HEADS

Batter: Evans G12 coated; Reso: Evans snare side 300

#### LUGS PER DRUM

20 Single STL lugs (12 over 8)

#### SNARE STRAINER

Pearl SR-020 Throw-off

#### SNARE WIRES

20 strand SN201 brass

#### CONTACT

Pearl Drums  
www.pearleurope.com

**T**o honour the legendary sticksman that is Mr Dennis Chambers, Pearl has released a brand new signature snare model which it has unofficially dubbed 'The Funkus Maximus'. Having performed with everyone from Parliament/Funkadelic to Santana and Mike Stern over the years, one thing's for sure, Chambers' dynamic control and awesome tone have always been a fundamental part of his playing. So, might we be able to tap into Dennis' style with his new signature snare?

### Build

The 14"x5" black nickel drum is made from cast aluminium which features ribbed-like grooves on its outside surface, designed to control tone (and also to look like the grooves of a record). The majority of the shell is 3mm thick, although its outer edges are 5mm, acting similarly to reinforcement rings more commonly found on wooden

drums. There are fairly large scallops taken from the bottom edge, giving the drum a rather large snare bed. The drum comes complete with Pearl's SN201 20-strand brass snare wires, while the hoops are the mighty 2.3mm SuperHoop II.

The snare has 20 single STL lugs which not only look amazing with their mixture of silver and gold colouring, but also cleverly allow the stainless steel tuning rod to rotate freely which is supposed to "accommodate better tuning, more control and less friction". Most interestingly, 12 of these 20 lugs are used for the top hoop while the other eight are used for the bottom. This extra element of precision should make the batter head easier to tune.

### Hands On

Having had the good fortune to hold onto this drum for a while and test it in a number of different scenarios, the general consensus is that this is a loud one!

Cranked up nice and tight (naturally), rimshots create an almighty snap that cuts through a mix like a hot knife through butter; helped in no small degree by the large SuperHoops. Despite this, the drum is sensitive too. Not only does it boast a large dynamic range (to be used responsibly), but also a fair tuning range. I found the drum to be most at home in higher tunings, but it's also surprisingly versatile lower down the range. **R**

**VERDICT:** A versatile and sensitive drum with a ferocious rimshot. Unique characteristics make this drum stand out from the crowd, much like the man who inspired it. It comes at a fair old price, though.

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