

Where Are They Now ?

Cliff Davies

by Bruce Jeansonne

You may remember Cliff as being Ted Nugent's drummer in the 70's. Cliff Davies is also an accomplished pianist, producer, and writer. Chalking up 8 Nugent albums and 4 albums by the English band **If** before Nugent, Cliff spent the 1980's working as in-house producer for Next City Productions in New York, recording with Grand Funk Railroad among others, and studying music theory at Central Michigan University.

The 90's have seen him working as a free lance drummer, producer, and writer in New York, Los Angeles, Detroit, and since 1998 Cliff has made his home in the Atlanta, Ga. area. He is currently teaching piano and drums at East Cobb Music Academy along with running the in house recording studio for students.

Today Cliff plays a 1964 Ludwig kit that was in storage for years in his mom's attic in England. The kit consist of a 20" bass, 12" tom, and a 14" floor tom. He is using a 60's Slingerland snare and his cymbal setup consist of 18" Sabian ride, 16" Paiste crash, 17" Zildjian crash, and 15" Sabian hi-hats. Cliff also occasionally uses a 22" Zildjian ride from the Nugent days.

When asked about advice for young players, Cliff responded quickly. Study hard, practice, and get a good attorney! Thanks Cliff. We will

feature a full article on Cliff Davies soon. If you would like to contact Cliff or have any questions for him, we will forward all correspondence.



Drum of the Month



1928 Ludwig "De Luxe" Black Beauty

This particular drum is a 5" x 14" model. It has 10 separate tension tube lugs, and a beautiful "floral" pattern hand engraving on a two piece brass shell which is soldered together at the center reinforcing bead. The shell is a "Standard" shell with a black nickel gunmetal finish. The tube lugs, tension rods, claws, hoops and strainer have a De Luxe plating applied to them. The strainer is a model #338 strainer. Ludwig Black Beauty snare drums were called "De Luxe" models until 1932 when they were given their famous name. This drum sold for under \$50.00 in 1928. The Ludwig "Black Beauty" is the most sought after snare drum on the vintage market. This "Black Beauty" belongs to Bill Pace of Forsyth, Ga. It is a beautiful example of the superb drums that the famous Ludwig Drum Company was producing at such an early stage of their long and enduring history.

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