



2015 Epiphone Wilshire, signed by Pete Townshend and Roger Daltrey

Date

2015

Primary Maker

Pete Townshend

Medium

Wood; Metal; Plastic

Description

2015 Epiphone Wilshire, serial number 1012121328, in vintage sunburst finish. The guitar is signed on the body in gold marker, "Pete Townshend" and in black marker "Roger Daltrey." In hardshell case. Epiphone produced the original run of the Wilshire model guitar from 1959-1970 as a response to Fender's popular Stratocaster. The most recent reissue of the Wilshire began in 2009 and continues production to present day. Pete Townshend (b.

1945) and Roger Daltrey (b. 1944) are English members of the rock band The Who. The Who are a British band founded in London in 1964. They are considered one of the most influential bands of the 20th century, combining mod, rock, and power pop sounds to form a new output of popular music. The Who were born from an earlier band, The Detours, which featured then guitarist and vocalist Roger Daltrey. Daltrey recruited bassist John Entwistle and guitarist Pete Townshend to join his band. After a name change to The Who, the band brought on drummer Keith Moon, filling out the lineup. In December 1964, the The Who released their first single "I Can't Explain," which helped secure a record contract. After touring during much of 1965, the band's next single came in October of that year. "My Generation" was a rebellious song, penned by Townshend, about Britain's new youth culture of the 1960s. It became one of The Who's signature songs, and has been ranked as one of the most influential rock and roll songs by Rolling Stone and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The Who's debut studio album My Generation, was released in late 1965 (April 1966 in the US) and although the band discounted it as a "rush job," it's heavy guitar sounds helped inspire the future hard rock genre of the 1970s. A Quick One (1966) and The Who Sell Out (1967) followed, as the band continued to hone their sound. Tommy (1969) was The Who's fourth album, a concept album that was billed as one of the first rock operas. The album tells the story of Tommy Walker, a fictional character, and his journey to becoming a spiritual leader. The Who performed portions of Tommy at their 1969 Woodstock concert. Who's Next (1971) continued the band's experimental output, including the use of synthesizers, and was an instant success. Songs like "Won't Get Fooled Again," "Baba

O'Riley," and "Behind Blue Eyes" topped the single charts. Quadrophenia (1973), their second rock opera album, The Who By Numbers (1975), and Who Are You (1978) rounded out the decade - with Who Are You reaching #2 in the US and #6 in the UK behind the eponymously titled single. Drummer Keith Moon died three weeks after the album's release. The Who carried on without Moon, hiring drummer Kenney Jones of the Small Faces and Faces. They recorded two albums with Jones, Face Dances (1981) and and It's Hard (1982). Townshend left The Who in 1983, effectively ending the band. They have reunited several times since, although bassist John Entwistle passed away in 2002. Zak Starkey, son of Ringo Starr, has played drums for the band since 1996. Daltrey's piercing scream, along with Townshend's windmill guitar playing are signature elements of The Who's sound. Their destructive onstage behavior - smashing instruments in many performances - was in line with the heavily distorted "Marshall stack" amplifiers the band utilized. Their songwriting and style inspired countless future artists, and the band was honored with an induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990.