



FENDER CUSTOM SHOP™ UNVEILS LONG AWAITED REPLICA OF JOHN FRUSCIANTE'S ICONIC 1962 STRATOCASTER®—WITH EVERY DENT, DING AND SCRAPE METICULOUSLY ACCOUNTED FOR

**A CAREFULLY CRAFTED ODE TO ONE OF ROCK AND FUNK'S MOST
PROLIFIC PLAYERS, THE FENDER CUSTOM SHOP™ LIMITED EDITION
MASTERBUILT JOHN FRUSCIANTE STRATOCASTER® IS A POWERFUL
AND VISUALLY STRIKING ADDITION TO THE CUSTOM SHOP'S
IMPRESSIVE CATALOG**

HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. (October 31, 2024) — Today, [Fender Musical Instruments Corporation](#) (FMIC) and the [Fender Custom Shop™](#) (FCS) announce the [Fender Custom Shop™ Limited Edition Masterbuilt John Frusciante Stratocaster®](#). This masterbuilt, bespoke guitar is a meticulously crafted replica of Frusciante's beloved 1962 sunburst Strat® that has been seen on stages and stadiums across the world. Among the ranks of rock and roll's most

recognizable guitars, this Stratocaster® showcases the true beauty of a road worn instrument—chipped paint, aged lacquer and rich imperfections dominate the body of this Stratocaster®, all of which were replicated by Senior Masterbuilder, Paul Waller. The staggering accuracy and heavy relicing of this signature model allows players to emulate one of the modern day's most accomplished phenoms unlike ever before, but moreso, it gives players the opportunity to navigate their own rock and roll journey with this incredible guitar in hand.

“Frusciante’s Strat® is right up there with the most iconic Fenders of all time; being able to work on his first-ever Signature model was a true privilege,” said Paul Waller, FCS Master Builder. “Recreating this instrument’s many beautiful imperfections was no easy feat, but behind every ding and dent is a story and it’s our job to make sure that this guitar’s narrative is told in full, stunning detail. For an instrument this heavily reliced, it still retains so much of its original beauty. A ton of work went into this one, and while much of that can be reflected in its visual components, the whole team is tremendously proud of how this thing plays. The neck has that singular worn in quality that is usually only attainable with a pre-owned vintage guitar and the Abby hand-wound pickups really speak to Frusciante’s expressive, crystalline tone.”

While Frusciante has been known to wield a number of different Fenders, his 1962 Sunburst Stratocaster® is by far the most well known. Much of Frusciante’s style can be attributed to his tremendous technique and otherworldly fusion of punk rock intensity and complex funk rhythms, but the Stratocaster® guitars unique voice informed his playing and signature sound. While many players might relegate themselves entirely to the bridge or neck pickup, Frusciante taps into the Strat® guitars true potential by frequently switching between all five pickup combinations. Thanks to the bridge pickup’s midrange bite and robust output, his solos cut through both on records and live. With the flip of the switch his tone seamlessly turns crystal clear, delivering lush rhythm lines with all the roundness and warmth one could hope to expect from a neck pickup.

To honor the indelible mark that John Frusciante has made on the musical stratosphere, the Fender Custom Shop™ has spared no expense in recreating his beloved 1962 Stratocaster®. The unmistakable reliced finish is expertly cast onto a two-piece alder body that is as comfortable and lightweight as it is deeply resonant. The early-60s style “C” shape rift sawn

maple neck and slab rosewood fingerboard harken back to the prized trappings of the Stratocaster® guitars golden era—this will leave Fender obsessives jumping for joy while players across all skill levels will revel in the neck's comfort and playability. A set of three '60s-style Strat pickups handwound by legend, Abigail Ybarra, sing with profound dynamic range, versatile frequency response and sheer sonic power. An Ilitch Electronics Hum-Canceling system allows players to experiment as wildly with gain effects pedals as Frusciante himself without the need to worry about excessive noise.

High-resolution lifestyle and product images of the Masterbuilt Paul Waller John Frusciante Stratocaster® Heavy Relic® guitar can be found [HERE](#).

For technical specs, additional information on new Fender® products and to find a retail partner near you, visit www.fendercustomshop.com. Join the conversation on social media by following @Fender and @FenderCustomShop.

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Masterbuilt Paul Waller John Frusciante Stratocaster® Heavy Relic® (\$20,000.00)

After joining the Red Hot Chili Peppers in 1988 at the age of 18, John Frusciante was quickly embraced by fans thanks to his unique blend of intricate, funky, soulful playing and unmistakable tone. Over the next three decades, Frusciante's 1962 Sunburst Stratocaster® became his go-to guitar. For this limited run, Fender Custom Shop™ Senior Masterbuilder Paul Waller painstakingly replicated this cherished guitar—from the faded and beautifully aged lacquer finish down to the heavily worn body contours. All the dings, dents and scars that cover this infamous Strat® give players the feeling of holding a true piece of rock and roll history in the palms of their hands. The highly-resonant, select two-piece alder body, early-'60s "C" profile rift-sawn maple neck and slab rosewood fingerboard are perfect examples of prized golden era Stratocaster® appointments. The combination of those quintessential pre-CBS specs and the trio of Abigail Ybarra Hand-Wound Stratocaster® pickups, with an Ilitch Electronics Hum-Canceling system, gives players the same warm, clear and expressive tones that are the foundation in Frusciante's signature sound. Other premium features include 7.25" (184.1 mm) radius, 21 narrow tall (6105) frets, Vintage Strat® wiring, 5-way switch, vintage-style synchronized tremolo, vintage-style tuners, bone nut,

wing string tree with metal spacer and certificate of authenticity. Available in 3-Color Sunburst.

ABOUT FENDER CUSTOM SHOP™:

Since 1987, the Fender Custom Shop™ and its esteemed builders have astounded players and collectors worldwide with marvels of creativity, ingenuity and artistry. From its humble Southern California beginnings, the Fender Custom Shop™ has grown to become the world's preeminent maker of highly collectible, custom instruments operating in Corona, Calif. Known as the "Dream Factory," the Fender Custom Shop™ is also home to an honored group known as the Master Builders – some of the most-skilled luthiers in the world – who craft Fender's legendary instruments and push the boundaries of possibility. The distinguished Master Builders make dream guitars a reality for players – from Eric Clapton, Jeff Beck, H.E.R. and Jimmy Page to collectors, working professionals and guitar enthusiasts. As the epicenter of innovation at Fender and the pinnacle of the brand, ideas and production techniques devised in the Fender Custom Shop™ for both Masterbuilt and Teambuilt guitars go on to inspire and influence Fender's other production line models.

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ABOUT FENDER

Since 1946, Fender has revolutionized music and culture as one of the world's leading musical instrument manufacturers, marketers, and distributors. Fender Musical Instruments Corporation (FMIC)—whose portfolio of owned and licensed brands includes Fender®, Squier®, Gretsch® guitars, Jackson®, EVH®, Charvel®, Bigsby®, and PreSonus® – follows a player-centric approach to crafting the highest-quality instruments and digital experiences across genres. Since 2015, Fender's digital arm has introduced a new ecosystem of products and interactive experiences to accompany players at every stage of their musical journey. This includes innovative apps and learning platforms designed to complement Fender guitars, amplifiers, effects pedals, accessories, and pro-audio gear, and inspire players through an immersive musical experience. FMIC is dedicated to unlocking the power of musical expression for all players, from beginners to history-making legends. In 2026, Fender celebrates 80 years of giving artists “wings to fly,” carrying on the vision of its founder, Leo Fender, and connecting players through a shared love of music.

CONTACT DETAILS

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