



FENDER LAUNCHES SIGNATURE KINGFISH TELECASTER® DELUXE GUITAR AND HUMBUCKING PICKUPS, AN ODE TO THE PRODIGY'S HUMBLE BEGINNINGS AND THE LEGENDS WHO INSPIRED HIM

**FENDER TO RELEASE A THREE-PART VIDEO SERIES ALONGSIDE
TELECASTER® CHRONICLING KINGFISH'S RISE AND THE CREATION
OF HIS SIGNATURE GUITAR THROUGH CONVERSATION AND
PERFORMANCE**

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (August 16, 2022) – [Fender Musical Instruments Corporation](#) (FMIC) today announces the launch of the [Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe](#), a collaboration with the 23-year old Grammy® winner, guitar virtuoso, songwriter and vocalist, Christone “Kingfish” Ingram. This signature Tele® not only honors Christone’s influence on the blues community, but his meteoric rise from a Mississippi hometown hero to world renowned guitar and musical phenom. Additionally, fans around the world can also learn to play Christone’s classics via [Fender Play®](#), [Fender’s complete online learning app for guitar, bass and ukulele](#). The Christone “Kingfish” Ingram collection includes original music from Christone’s

Kingfish and 662 albums, including deeply-rooted blues guitar tracks, like: "Outside of This Town," "Been Here Before," "662" and a cover of Screamin' Jay Hawkins's "I Put a Spell on You."

"The Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe guitar gives me a sense of comfort when I'm playing across genres; everything from blues to smooth rock, it's all about versatility. For me, it is important for people to play other genres," said Christone "Kingfish" Ingram. "One of my favorite features on the Tele® are my signature pickups because they're a solid option for players in all genres. Being a blues player is a beautiful thing, but it's about more than that. I've always been into heavy tones from my influences like Gary Moore and various blues players like Freddy King. I hope this Tele® inspires players of all genres to dig in and rock out."

After picking up the guitar at age eleven, Christone quickly became a staple of the Mississippi music scene. For years he performed tirelessly around town as a sideman, a solo act and alongside the Delta Blues Museum band. It wasn't long before his expressive guitar work began to turn heads far beyond his hometown. By 2015, Kingfish had made fans out of childhood heroes, such as Buddy Guy and Bootsy Collins. He even met former first lady Michelle Obama as part of a Clarksdale blues music convoy to the White House. As Christone went on to headline festivals and club dates, perform on television and release two critically lauded albums, he solidified his position as a torch bearer for the blues before he was twenty years old.

While Christone's career is in constant motion, one thing has remained the same—his mastery of the guitar. Impossibly delicate yet searingly aggressive, Christone is able to exude every emotion, impulse and influence grounded in the same conviction as the legends who inspired him to pick up a guitar in the first place. While Christone's playing is distinctly his own, his signature Telecaster® Deluxe is crafted to help players find their own style with ease.

The Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe guitar has been designed to the artist's specifications with an emphasis on power and personal flourish. The heart of the instrument is the Kingfish Signature Humbucking Pickups, custom wound for velvety lows, punchy mids and a snarling high end. The custom pickups will also be sold separately, making it that much easier for

players everywhere to achieve Christone's signature tone. Finished in mesmerizing Mississippi Night, the guitar looks as stunning as it sounds and the custom color is more than meets the eye. This mystifying shade of purple harkens back to the deep night skies Kingfish would often marvel at while growing up in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

The Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe features an alder body. The "V"-shaped roasted maple neck gives the instrument a distinctly vintage feel and the comfortable 12" radius rosewood fretboard allows for huge bends and scorching riffs up and down the neck. A custom "K & Crown" logo on the pickup covers and Kingfish's signature autograph on the headstock rounds out the instrument's personalized touch.

"The signature Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe is a great representation of versatility" said Justin Norvell, Executive Vice President of Product, FMIC. "While it is a nod to Kingfish's undeniable bluesy sound, we meticulously crafted the Kingfish Signature Humbucking Pickups to inspire players of all genres. Modeled to emulate a '50s sound, the two custom pickup sets were built for growling, overdriven blues-rock, delivering deep, shimmering and dynamic tones. We're honored to have worked alongside Christone, one of the leading next generation blues players of our time, to create these signature pickups and Telecaster®."

Alongside the release of the Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe, Fender will be telling the story of Christone's career through a three-part video series. In true tradition, the Fender® Artist Signature Series features extraordinary instruments designed with the world's greatest musicians. Each chapter of the video series aims to illuminate the milestones of Christone's journey and the creation of his signature guitar through performance and conversation. As we move fluidly through Kingfish's rise to stardom, the stage design will morph accordingly. Transforming from bedroom, to world class studios, to sold-out stages, the series' visual elements will underline just how far Kingfish has come since he first picked up the guitar.

High-resolution artist, lifestyle and product images of Christone, the Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe guitar and Kingfish Signature Humbucking Pickups can be found HERE; full product descriptions and specifications can also be found HERE.

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

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Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe (\$1,999.99 USD, £2,249 GBP, €2,649 EUR, \$3,949.00 AUD, ¥294,800 JPY) Recognized at a young age for his exceptional musical talent, Christone “Kingfish” Ingram’s path has taken him from hometown hero to global star. Christone’s raw and inspired guitar playing, soulful vocals and mature songwriting have captured the imagination of legions of new fans and fellow musicians alike, propelling him to become the face of a new generation of blues artists.

The Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe guitar features two custom humbucking pickups voiced for growling, overdriven blues-rock and an adjusto-matic bridge for perfect intonation. The “V”-shaped roasted maple neck has a classic feel while the 12” radius slab rosewood fingerboard delivers chunky tones and big bends. The mesmerizing Mississippi Night finish has a shimmering purple glow that recalls a dark winter sky in Clarksdale. Other special features include Kingfish’s signature on the headstock, a custom neck plate and a “K” crown logo on the pickup covers. With guts and sophistication, the Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe guitar delivers scorching blues in a classy package.

Kingfish Signature Humbucking Pickups (\$319.99 USD, £289 GBP, €339 EUR, \$579.00 AUD, ¥39,000 JPY) Specially designed for the Fender Kingfish Telecaster® Deluxe guitar, the Kingfish Signature Humbucking Pickups are custom-voiced to Christone “Kingfish” Ingram’s specifications for growling, overdriven blues-rock, delivering deep, shimmering and dynamic tones. Featuring 4-conductor lead wire for coil splitting options, spanky cleans are a click away from massive searing leads, making these pickups the ultimate musical Swiss army knife.

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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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