

By Jim Basara - GJD

In yesterday's article, we talked about some of the best new guitar offerings that we saw at the NAMM show last weekend. Today, we're going to highlight a few new amps.

First up is the new series of high-end amps from Paul Reed Smith. Paul has clearly been busy this year, launching not only the new acoustic guitars that we highlighted last week, but a new guitar amp series that will certainly get a lot of attention.



The new series of amps consists of three models:

Dallas – The “Dallas” model is meant to be reminiscent of classic 6L6 American reverb amps. It offers an open 3D tone for huge sounding cleans. The Dallas model leans toward the clean side but moderately overdrives nicely.

Original Sewell – The “Original Sewell” is modeled after 50's era amps. It is available in both EL34 and 6L6. It is geared toward a smooth tone that was crafted to give an expressive, vocal quality to lead work.

Blue Sierra - The “Blue Sierra” is designed to grab the best of the classic British and American amps. It offers gain structured for equally great cleans to medium gain overdrive tones. It is also available in both EL34 and 6L6.

Each of the three models are available in 50 or 100 watt versions. The amp comes in a 2-12 combo, a 1-12 combo and head/cabinet configurations. The available cabinets are 2-12 closed back, 2-12 open back, and 4-10 open back.

We got to hear each of the three models and they all sounded really great. Personally, I would have a difficult time choosing between the Original Sewell and the Blue Sierra. And, while the sound of these amps is striking, so too is their appearance. The amps are done up in an aggressive paisley pattern that gives them a very distinct look. Of course Paul went one step further and donned a matching jacket.

