



GUITARSYSTEMS

A short overview of visiting LA and the NAMM Show 2010 By Paul Lenders

This is my second visit to the LA NAMM, my first visit to the NAMM was back in 2008. Like the first time I went with my friend [Christian Tolle](#). Christian is musician himself and a free lance journalist for the German guitar magazine [Gitarre und Bass](#) and writes interviews with famous guitar players. This time he did interviews with Michael Thompson and Lon Cohen.



Staying at Lon Cohen's place

In LA we again stayed at [Lon Cohen's](#) place, thanks again Lon for your hospitality. Lon owns one of the major studio rental companies in Los Angeles. He is doing rentals of exclusive, high quality and vintage equipment for the most famous artists recording and touring in the USA (check out his [extensive customer list](#))



You can rent from a '69 Dallas Arbiter Fuzz Face, a '56 Fender Strat up to a complete custom Bradshaw rig. Next we will have PL GuitarSystems pedal board for rental through Lon's rental :-)



Visit Rivera's new production plant

We visited to [Paul Rivera's](#) new production plant. We met Paul and Paul Jr. and Christian and I had a very nice dinner with Paul.

Paul was working on his new amp for the NAMM show.

Here are 3 Paul's left to right: Paul Rivera, Paul Jackson Jr. and me.

If you have time listen to [Paul Jackson's](#) stuff and check out his Credit list, what a great Player!

Next we visited the Mesa Boogie Amp shop on Sun set Boulevard and ran into [Soren Anderson](#) he was very interested in the new VibeTool.

He is the new Guitar player with [Glen Hughes](#) and [Marco Mendoza](#)

Visit at Michael Thompson's place

Because of the planned interview with Gitarre und Bass we visited [Michael Thompson's](#) home place and studio. Michael is a well known studio musician working a lot with producer David Foster. Amongst the musicians he worked with are Joe Cocker, Michael Bolton, Christina Aguilera and many others. He is also well know for his work on the soundtracks of Fame and Miami Vice. Being at his place we shortly checked out the Junior Tools and the VibeTool prototype. Michael directly liked the pedals because of their dynamic character and TMF Adjustment, stating **"They feel natural, this is why these pedals put every pedal aside"**. Michael is a very nice and passionate person.



He invited us for a second visit to check out the Junior pedals and make some video recording of it. This session lasted 3 hours, testing and talking about pedals and related technology. **Check out the video clip of Michael playing the:**



[GuitarSystems VibeTool](#)
[GuitarSystems TrebleTool Junior](#)
[GuitarSystems FuzzTool Junior](#)



Visit at Brian Ray's place

Next interview was with [Brian Ray](#) at his home place. Brian is an experienced session player, working with Etta James, Smokey Robinson, Willy DeVille, [Paul McCartney](#) and many others. Brian recently finished his tour with Paul McCartney. Brian is playing a beautiful vintage Les Paul Junior. He also tried our pedals and liked the combination with his vintage Les Paul Junior and vintage Gibson amp very much.



[Watch the video clip with Brian checking out the Junior pedals + the VibeTool!](#)



We visited [Truetonemusic shop](#) on Santa Monica Blvd and checked out what is hot on this moment. We went to [Jim Tyler](#) at his shop and discussed his high quality guitars and they are really great guitars.!

At the NAMM show we visited a lot of boots, met [Adrian van den Berg](#) from the Dutch band Vandenberg and Whitsnake, Paul Jackson Junior and had a nice chat with [Doug Aldrich](#) and Mike Soldano. He played on Christians Records check them out!!



We even had some time to relax and enjoy the beauties of nature (or is it artificial?) We did go to the show in the [Walt Disney's House of Blues](#) to see the legendary Band Ratt.

At the end of our visit we contacted with Dweezil Zappa through Lon and arranged that he will be checking out the Junior Tools personally!



Lon, Michael, Brian, Paul, Jorge and Christian thanks for your ongoing support and the good times, stay effected!

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