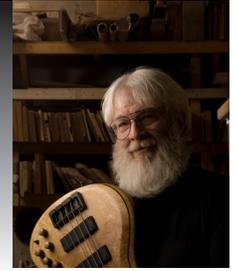


The MTD Kingston Difference



Part One: Michael Tobias

For over 35 years Michael Tobias has been designing and building some of the greatest basses this world has ever seen, which are being played by some of the greatest bassists this world has ever heard. Always the innovator, Michael has pioneered many techniques and features that are the envy of the industry, while at the same time earning the friendship and respect of his peers. "I was part of a roundtable discussion group that Bass Player Magazine put together, with a panel of incredible bass builders and players," comments Dale Titus. "I can remember how everyone in the room hung on Michael's every word, even the other builders."

Here is a portion of an interview that Michael conducted regarding his MTD Kingston basses:



Michael Tobias



MTD Kingston Z 6-string

What made you decide to create the Kingston line of basses?

Originally I was looking for an instrument that would be able to offer some of my design concepts in a more affordable package.

What were some of your goals when you set down to design them?

To create a bass that would be extremely playable and user friendly. Ergonomically balanced and tonally versatile, an instrument that would not discourage a new player....a professional quality bass at a reasonable price

Can you quickly give some thoughts about the Artist, Heir, Z and ZX basses? What personality does each bass have?

The Artist is a focused solid bass aimed at a straight ahead rock voice. The pickup is placed in the sweet spot to give maximum punch.

The Heir is more versatile but still capable of being very aggressive and raw. I worked very hard to make sure the Heir delivers a wide variety of professional tones.

The Z was a move to tie the US and import series together without making a copy of the US bass. The Z is a great bass in it's own right. Clear and sweet with a warm smooth voice.

The ZX is further in that direction but retains it's own character. The Bartolini specially designed pick ups and circuit give the bass more dynamic range without making the bass too hard to control.

You can learn more about Michael Tobias by visiting <http://www.mtdkingston.com/theman/index.htm>