

## Introduction

Led Zeppelin is THE band. With nine studio albums, four live albums, three video releases and over 300 million albums sold worldwide, their status in music history is cemented.

Their off-stage antics, the no bullshit approach towards promoters, unique album covers, lack of released singles, few press interviews and a sense of general mystique are just a few of the reasons that Led Zeppelin were so memorable, so popular and so idolized.

With their use of light and shade, Zeppelin shattered the claim that they were just a heavy metal band. Blues, funk, rock, reggae, ballads, Celtic and Arabic were some of the different styles of music that they crushed.

If you were lucky enough to see them live in concert, you truly witnessed magic happening. In their early dates, they were very much an underground band, playing in small clubs. As soon as their first album started getting airplay and word got out, their concerts started selling out. Fans would start to see an evolution from four guys on stage, wailing the blues, ear-piercing guitar-work and a soul-shaking rhythm section into all of the above plus the outfits, the dry ice, the color wheels and the mirrors. Everything kept getting bigger.

Another enormous part in the entire Led Zeppelin package was the instruments that they played. Jimmy Page, with his low-slung guitars, John Paul Jones, who was equally at home with a stringed instrument as he was behind a keyed instrument and John Bonham, the irreplaceable powerhouse behind the drums, each member of Led Zeppelin were proficient musicians that with the instruments that they played, brought no less than 100% to the band.

What this book is intending to present is a summary of the instruments and gear that Robert Plant, Jimmy Page, John Paul Jones and John Bonham have used throughout their careers, before, during and after the twelve years that they collectively were known as Led Zeppelin.

Although they each have signature gear that they have used and were known for, gear that one would instantly associate with each member, it would be wrong to solely do so to create a permanent impression of them.

Maintaining a small stable of gear for identity, each member has evolved their gear that they used through their careers to create an evolution in their music.

I hope that you enjoy Led Zeppelin Gear.

*Jeff Strawman*

*January 2013*