

# Ibanez®

2005 WINTER PRESS RELEASE



## H.R GIGER SIGNATURE SERIES IBANEZ GUITARS UNVEILED

### Limited Edition Electric Guitars Feature Graphic Designs By Influential Modern Painter and Sculptor

(ANAHEIM, CA) In one of the most interesting pairings worlds of the visual and musical arts in recent memory, designer H.R. Giger, best known for the creature of "Alien" fame, has joined forces with Ibanez, the fretted-instrument maker for heavy metal band Korn, jazz guitarist George Benson and many others. On display at the "NAMM" musical instrument convention in Anaheim, CA in January were two different limited edition Ibanez guitars featuring bodies utilizing the designs of H.R. Giger.

"H.R. Giger's collaboration with Ibanez is a natural pairing when delving into the world of string instruments," commented H.R. Giger's agent Les Barany at the convention site. "Mr. Giger is an acknowledged fan of diverse musical styles and an accomplished jazz pianist and saxophone player in his own right. Giger's musical enthusiasm and his avant-garde approach to industrial and 'practical' design is right at home in the Ibanez camp." Bill Reim, president of Hoshino U.S.A. which distributes Ibanez in the United States, and who has contributed to many Ibanez designs himself, was extremely enthusiastic about the new partnership. "I was always a big fan of H.R. Giger's work, and I was influenced during my years in art school by his designs for album covers for Emerson, Lake and Palmer, Deborah Harry and others. I had always wanted to use H.R. Giger's designs for some of our displays, so when the chance came to actually utilize his graphic designs for our guitars, we were more than ready to do so."

There are two different models of H.R. Giger/Ibanez electric guitars, whose relatively small numbers of available quantities compared to standard guitar production should make them highly desired items for collectors

(final quantities were not available at press time). The RGTHRG1 features Giger's "NY City XIX" painting on the Ibanez "RG" body design popular among heavy metal guitarists. The ICHRG2 features Giger's "NY City VI" painting on an Ibanez Iceman guitar, perhaps the most famous Ibanez guitar design.

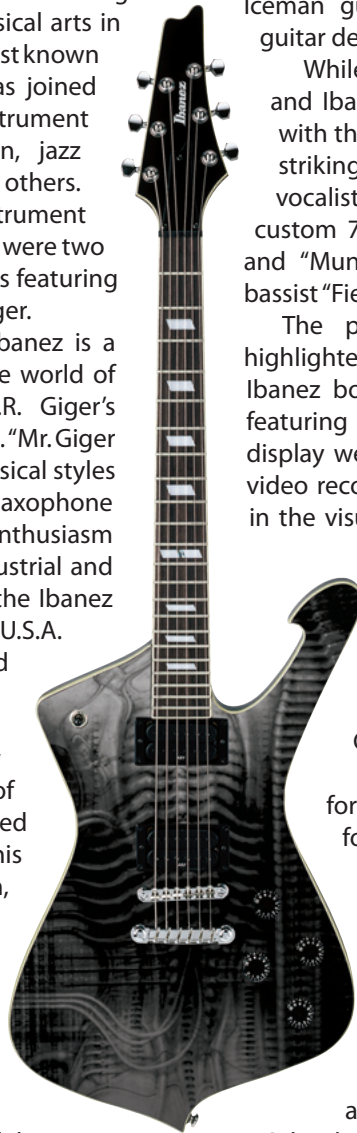
While this is the first collaboration for H.R. Giger and Ibanez, the two have a previous connection with the metal rock band Korn. Giger designed a striking functional sculpture mike stand for Korn vocalist Jonathan Davis while Ibanez has created custom 7-string guitars for Korn guitarists, "Head" and "Munky" and 5-string bass guitars for Korn bassist "Fieldy."

The partnership of Giger and Ibanez was highlighted at the NAMM Show Hoshino U.S.A./Ibanez booth with a H.R. Giger-dedicated display featuring the two Giger/Ibanez guitars. Also on display were other examples of Giger's work and a video recounting some of Giger's impressive career in the visual arts. The Hoshino U.S.A./Ibanez booth itself, overseen by an improbably huge figure of Japanese science fiction hero "Ultra-Man," also featured H.R. Giger's limited edition "Guardian Angel" sculpture hanging very visibly from the high ceilings of the Anaheim Convention Center.

More detailed specifications and prices for the new H.R. Giger Ibanez guitars can be found at the end of this press release.

### H.R. GIGER Background Info

H. R. Giger is recognized as one of the world's foremost artists of Fantastic Realism. Born in 1940 to a chemist's family in Chur, Switzerland, he moved in 1962 to Zurich, where he studied architecture and industrial design at the School of Applied Arts. By 1964 he was producing his first artworks, mostly ink drawings and oil paintings, resulting in his first solo exhibition in 1966, followed by the publication and world-wide distribution of his first poster edition in 1969. Shortly



after, he discovered the airbrush and, along with it, his own unique freehand painting style, leading to the creation of many of his most well known works, the surrealistic Biomechanical dreamscapes, which formed the cornerstone of his fame. To date, 20 books have been published about Giger's art.

Giger's third and most famous book, *Necronomicon*, published in 1977, served as the visual inspiration for director Ridley Scott's film *Alien*, Giger's first film assignment, which earned him the 1980 Oscar for the Best Achievement in Visual Effects for his designs of the film's title character and its life cycle, plus the movie's otherworldly environment. Giger's other film works include "Poltergeist II", "Alien3" and "Species".

Giger's album covers for Debbie Harry and the band ELP were voted among the 100 best in music history in a survey of rock journalists. Throughout his career, Giger also worked in sculpture and, in 1988, created his first total environment, the Tokyo Giger Bar, and in 1992 a second Giger Bar in Chur.

In 1998, The H.R. Giger Museum was inaugurated in the Château St. Germain, a four-level building complex in the historic, medieval walled city of Gruyères, Switzerland. As the permanent home to many of the artist's most prominent works, the Giger Museum houses the largest collection of the artist's paintings, sculptures, furniture and film designs, dating from the early 1960's until the present day. Displayed on the museum's top floor is Giger's own private art collection, as well as the H.R. Giger Museum Gallery where, on a rotating basis, Giger curates one-man shows for other artists.

The adjoining new H.R. Giger Museum Bar was officially opened on April 12, 2003 as part of the museum complex. Giger's designs for the bar emphasizes the pre-existing Gothic architecture of the 400 year old space. The giant skeletal arches covering the vaulted ceiling, together with the bar's fantastic stony furniture, evoke the building's original medieval character and give the space a church-like feeling.

September 16, 2004 saw the opening of a six-month Giger retrospective at the Museum Halle Saint Pierre in Paris, France. "Le monde selon H.R. Giger" (The World According to H.R. Giger), is the largest

exhibition of the artist's work to ever take place outside of Switzerland. Over one year in preparation, ninety percent of the artwork is on loan from Giger's collectors, including three Swiss museums. The display of more than 200 pieces spans four decades of the celebrated artist's career, covering two floors of the museum's exhibition space. On December 17, 2004, H.R. Giger received the prestigious award, "La Médaille de la Ville de Paris", at Paris City Hall, from Christophe Girard, the city's Deputy Mayor in charge of Culture.

Giger continues to live in Zurich, working on a variety of new projects, including the final plans for a train ride through the Giger Museum. He is also in the process of completing a series of new sculptures for another retrospective in Prague this upcoming April.

To learn more about the artist and his current projects, visit his official web site, [www.hrgiger.com](http://www.hrgiger.com)

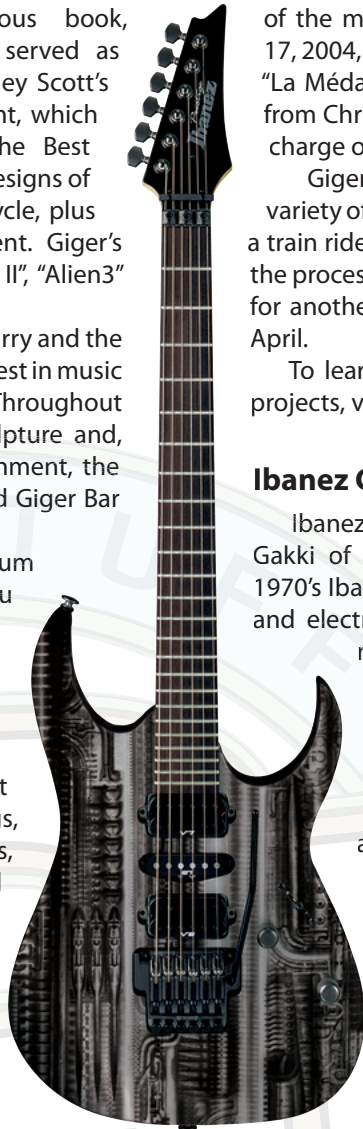
### **Ibanez Guitars, Bases and Electronics**

Ibanez guitars were first made by Hoshino Gakki of Nagoya Japan in the 1930's. Since the 1970's Ibanez has provided a vast range of acoustic and electric fretted instruments for a long list of respected "guitarist's guitarists," including George Benson, Steve Vai, Joe Satriani, Pat Metheny and Head and Munky of Korn. In addition, the company is one of the most important electric bass guitar companies in the world, as well as a manufacturer of amplifiers and effects processors such as the legendary Tube Screamer overdrive pedal. Information on Ibanez electric guitars and basses, acoustic guitars, amplifiers, and electronic effects can be accessed at [ibanez.com](http://ibanez.com)

Additional information on the fascinating, sometimes controversial, history of Ibanez is available in the new book, "Ibanez - The Untold Story," which also debuted at the 2005 Winter NAMM Show in Anaheim. At this time the new book can be purchased at [ibanez.com](http://ibanez.com) and will be available at authorized Ibanez guitar and electronics retailers.

Requests for information and photos on the H.R. Giger Signature Ibanez guitars should be directed to [pspecht@hoshinusa.com](mailto:pspecht@hoshinusa.com)

Requests for press photos of the works of H.R. Giger as well as licensing and select commissions are available through [www.baryartists.com](http://www.baryartists.com)



# Ibanez

## H.R. Giger Signature Series Specifications



### ICHRG2

- List Price: \$929.99
- "NY City VI" Graphic Print
- Mahogany Body
- 3pc Maple Neck
- 24 3/4"/Set-In Neck
- 22/medium Frets
- Rosewood Fingerboard
- Parallelogram Inlay
- BR-EG Fixed and Quick Change Tailpiece Bridge
- Powder Cosmo H/W Color
- Ibanez Axis AH1 Humbucker Neck Pickup
- Ibanez Axis AH2 Humbucker Bridge Pickup
- 3-way switch
- Case List Price: TBA



### RGTHRG1

- List Price: \$929.99
- "NY City XIX" Graphic Print
- Mahogany Body
- 5ply Maple/Walnut Neck
- 25.5/Neck-Thru Body Neck Scale
- 24/jumbo Frets
- Rosewood Finger Board
- Shark Tooth Inlay
- Edge Pro II Bridge
- Powder Cosmo H/W Color
- Ibanez Infinity 1 Humbucker Neck Pickup
- Ibanez Infinity 2 Humbucker Bridge Pickup
- 5-way switch
- Case List Price: TBA

