

Product: Warren Arlen Roth Signature

Price Paid: USD 2400.00

Submitted **12/04/2008** at **12:16pm** by **Daniel Marois**

Features : 10

Has a fast maple neck with a satin finish that feels really great. Only slight buzzing on upper frets on low E but easily adjusted. This thing is light and there's a sweet natural ring to the wood. Mine is white with black hardware and pickguard. It has 3 Lindy Fralin pickups with a 5-way switch. There are push/pull pots on volume and tone knobs that will keep you busy for a while looking for yet another new sound. It has a modern bridge as opposed to the classic Tele bridge.

Sound : 10

This is the best guitar I've owned (or played) by a country mile. There seems to be an unlimited variety of sounds available. It even sounds great acoustically. Obviously it does the Tele thing perfectly, but it also goes beyond that with the combination of the 3 pickups and the push/pull pots. This is ostensibly one of the most versatile guitars to be found outside Don's Classic model. I play through a Carvin Belair 212.

Action, Fit, & Finish : 9

The finish is superb. Since I'm fairly anal, I have to mention two very minor issues: the lower screw on the control plate can't be tightened properly and there is a slight misalignment between the pickguard and the control plate.

Reliability/Durability : No Opinion

So far so good, but, obviously, only time will tell. Which is why I feel uncomfortable rating this category. Not being a professional musician I suspect it will outlive me fairly easily.

Customer Support : 10

Have not required after purchase service but all through the building process Don was patient (he wasn't convinced with all my choices but went along anyway :-)) and made some good suggestions. I didn't feel the need to contact him regularly because just talking with him I somehow knew the guitar was going to be just fine. But he was always available and quick with responses. Although I suspect I drove him a little crazy with my black hardware fetish!

Overall Rating : 10

I've been playing on and off for 42 years. I'm not one of those musicians who owns a bunch of classic and vintage instruments so I can't brag about that. But I did play a 65 Tele back in 65 and a new ES-335 back in 82. Both fantastic guitars.

Why did I choose Don Warren? I'm a big fan of Arlen Roth and when I found out Don had built him a signature model that was more than good enough for me. When I received the guitar and opened that great-looking case my heart literally skipped a beat. It was exactly as I had pictured it. This is an instrument I could not afford, and I don't regret buying it. If you're contemplating a custom-made instrument you owe it to yourself to put Warren Guitars on your short-list.

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Price Paid: UNKNOWN

Submitted **05/31/2008** at **11:46am** by **John V**

Features 🤔: 10

Lighting fast maple neck. No buzzing anywhere. Perfect intonation. Extremely light. 3 tone burst finish. 3 Lindy Fralin pickups/ 5 way switch. Push/pull pots on volume and tone knobs

Sound 🤔: 10

I'm still discovering new sounds daily. This guitar covers all the classic Tele sounds and more. Classic Strat, Stevie Ray plus Gibson and Gretch tones. Even almost acoustic tones too. Super sustain. The push/pull pots and the tone knob offer so many variations its amazing. I'm playing through a Mesa Boogie Lonestar with 2 12's plus a THD cabinet with 2 12's. I'm using a Fulltone GT500 pedal.

Action, Fit, & Finish 🤔: 10

This guitar was shipped via the postal service and arrived in pristine condition. It was so comfortable to play and everything was right. If you've ever bought and played a new guitar that wasn't right (buzzing strings, intonation not right, pickups improperly aligned) you know what I mean. This guitar is perfect.

Reliability/Durability 🤔: 10

Built like a tank. From my conversations with Don, I know he personally tests each guitar rigerously before it ever leaves his shop.

Customer Support 🤔: 10

I spoke with Don several times on the phone during the purchase process, build and subsequent shipping of the guitar. First of all he's extremely friendly and easy to talk to. You can tell immediatly he really cares about each and every guitar he makes. As I'm located on the west coast and Don is in New York, I thought it might be hard to catch him on the phone. But as I found out he not only builds guitars, but he teaches guitar too. He called me several times at 11:00pm his time(8:00pm my time)after arriving home from giving lessons. He was never in a hurry and was eager to answer any questions I had. It's rare in this day and time with so many industries being shipped or lost to overseas to find find an honest person and also an American craftsman". Don is rarity. I told him don't ever change. I know if I had an issue with the guitar, he'd be there to fix it.

Overall Rating 🤔: 10

I've been playing 46 years. I currently own a Eric Johnson model Strat, Gibson ES335, Rickenbacker 12 string, Fender 1952 Hot Rod Tele, 1966 Rickenbacker 330. Wechter Acoustic. 1967 Vox Cambride Reverb, Fender Cybertwin, Lonestar Mesa Boogie and even a "Esteban amp from that guy who dresses like Zorro and plays spanish guitar and sells them on HSN.

I became aware of Don's guitars purely by chance while surfing the internet. I was looking at Danny Gatton video's on Utube and that led to Roy Bucannon and of course Arlen Roth, which led to Don's video of him playing the Arlen Roth Sig model. I was so impressed by the tones, that I must of watched that video 50 times. I researched Don and his guitars on the web

and could find nothing
but good things. I decided to take the plunge and give him a call.
I'm certainly glad I did. If this guitar was lost or stolen (over
my dead body) I would immediately place an order for new one.
If your considering a high end guitar from one of the "major"
manufacturers, you owe it to yourself to give this Guitar serious
consideration. This is a handmade instrument by a real craftman
who really cares about the product he's selling. Unlike
a lot of the garbage that comes off the assembly line from one of the "major" guitar companies. Don tells
me he'll be coming out with
a new model shortly. I'm very curious to see what it is.
I could type more, but I hear my Warren guitar calling me to come play.