

<Nats drumming>

My name is Britt Boyette and my home is Wilson, NC.

I got my first drum set in 1987 and that was kind of a jumping off point for me and I've loved the instrument ever since.

In 1989 I really got into woodworking and eventually it progressed and made sense to start making drums. I kind of did it for myself and then some of my buddies saw them and said man you should think about making these and it kind of escalated from there.

This is cypress. It was made from a tobacco barn. I was riding through Pitt County one day and they were tearing down this old barn and I stopped and asked the farmer if I could have a couple of the boards out of it. And he was really excited to give me some of the wood.

It's such a neat thing you are preserving NC history in a different way. That's kind of neat when you cut into it you can smell the tobacco from being in there 100 years or more.

Tell me about the reclaimed wood. What are the different types we have?

Mainly we have reclaimed heart pine, we also have red and white reclaimed oak, wormy chestnut and walnut.

You love walnut.

What is the biggest difference making a drum out of new wood versus one that is old wood?

Mainly the difference is it has a little more personality. The wood seems to have been somewhere and has some history behind it.

Totally unique.

We just traveled the state to come see the drum and where it's landed, so we are excited about that.

I can't wait for you to see it.

I can't wait either.

My name is Jeff Sipe and my home is Brevard, NC. I'm a professional drummer. I am so glad Britt Boyette called me, his Salem Street drum is just a joy to play and the fact that it is made here in NC is special to me.

Tonight I've got a gig with my trio. Mike Seal is on guitar and Daniel Kimbro is on base.

The finer instruments, the best-made instruments are always challenging you to be your best. It's as if they are calling to you saying you haven't mastered me yet, keep practicing, keep practicing.

In this day of so many instruments and instrument makers trying to find a cheaper way to do things, it's really refreshing to find a craftsman who's dedicated to the art and making the drum the best it can be.

It's kind of a personal thing making one of them. If you know the drummer and he's bought it and know the kind of music he likes to play and you put your heart in it a little it's very gratifying to find someone who will make music with it.