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**GINGER BAKER TO BE HONOURED AT THE ZILDJIAN DRUMMERS  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS IN LONDON**

*Jack Bruce, Steve White, Simon Phillips, Keith Carlock, Tony Allen Also Confirmed To Play At  
This Prestigious Event*

**Norwell, Massachusetts, USA – September, 2008** - To celebrate its 385th anniversary, Zildjian, the leading manufacturer of cymbals worldwide, announced details of **'The Zildjian Drummers Achievement Awards'** which will take place for the first time in the UK at London's **Shepherds Bush Empire** on **Sunday 7 December 2008**. Honoured at the awards ceremony will be drumming legend Ginger Baker. The event will be very much a performance led night with Ginger Baker joined onstage by Cream sidekick Jack Bruce and African legend Tony Allen. Also in attendance will be some of the world's greatest drummers including Simon Phillips, Steve White and Keith Carlock laying down a night of rock n roll beats and unforgettable riffs. More special guests are to be announced in the coming weeks and tickets will be made available to the public.

Renowned cymbal makers Zildjian – meaning 'son of a cymbal maker' in Armenian, is one of the oldest and longest running family businesses in the world. In 1998, the family created the American Drummers Achievement Award to acknowledge the remarkable contribution that drumming has made to contemporary music. The awards honour those individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the art of drum set playing and to music itself.

South London born Ginger Baker enters the Zildjian hall of fame having shot to fame in the 60s after joining one of the most successful and influential British blues-rock groups ever - Cream. Ginger alongside band mates Eric Clapton and Jack Bruce went on to receive five gold albums and were one of the first ever bands to attain a platinum disc. His flamboyant performances and pioneering use of two bass drums in place of the conventional single 'kick drum' instantly set new standards for rock drummers throughout the world. In 1969 Ginger left Cream with band mate Eric Clapton to form *Blind Faith* with Rick Grech and Steve Winwood, and he later went on to release his own material including 'Ginger Baker's Air Force'. Cream re-formed in 2005 and packed Arenas around the world to huge critical acclaim.

For more information go to: [www.zildjian385.com](http://www.zildjian385.com)

**Ticket Information:** [www.shepherds-bush-empire.co.uk](http://www.shepherds-bush-empire.co.uk)  
**To book tickets online:** [www.ticketweb.co.uk](http://www.ticketweb.co.uk)  
**Box Office:** tel. 08444 77 2000

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**The Avedis Zildjian Company** is a global musical instrument manufacturer of premium cymbal, drumstick, and percussion products for the drumming, percussion and musical instrument markets. Its core values, stemming from fourteen-generations of family leadership and craftsmanship, are derived from the highest quality standards, making Zildjian products the most requested musical instruments in the world.

In 1623 Turkey, Armenian alchemist Avedis created a secret process for making cymbals. (As his reputation grew, the sultan bestowed upon him the name "Zildjian," or "cymbal smith".) The company eventually moved to America in 1929. Although tradition dictated that the father pass the secret metallurgical formula on to the eldest son, Craigie Zildjian became the first female family member to work in the business and was appointed CEO in 1999.

Today, Zildjian is the world's #1 maker of cymbals and drumsticks and is recognized as the oldest continuously owned family-run business in the U.S. by Dun & Bradstreet. Zildjian employs 171 people worldwide.

**Steve White** - is best known for being in Paul Weller's band. He has wowed live audiences globally with his technique and talent for the past 11 years as well as drumming on no less than six Weller solo albums. Steve was earlier a founding member of The Style Council. In 1985 he was the youngest performer to appear on stage at the legendary Live Aid Concert at Wembley Stadium. Thereafter Steve decided to put his jazz chops to the test and went on to play and tour with the Jazz Renegades, his own band, that toured the UK and Japan as part of the burgeoning Acid Jazz movement and then he went on to play with such groups as Working Week, Galliano, The Young Disciples and The James Taylor Quartet. Earlier this year saw the release of an album from Steve's new band **Trio Valore**. The trio is a hard hitting mix of old skool funk and rare groove, featuring Damon Minchella on Bass and Seamus Beagham on Hammond B3.

**Simon Phillips** - British Rock drummer, who has played with a wide array of musicians including Big Country, Toto, Jeff Beck, Jack Bruce, Duncan Browne, Mike Oldfield, Jon Anderson, Trevor Rabin, Gary Moore, 10cc, Mick Jagger, Mike Rutherford and Phil Manzanera. He was the drummer for The Who in their 1989 American reunion tour, and appeared on solo recordings by band members Roger Daltrey and Pete Townshend. He has also worked with metal acts Judas Priest and Michael Schenker.

**Keith Carlock** – Highly acclaimed American session drummer whose credentials read like a who's who of American contemporary music. His track record includes recordings and tours with Steely Dan, Diana Ross, The Blues Brothers, Donald Fagan, Steve Cropper, Faith Hill and Sting.

**Tony 'Olapido' Allen** - Nigerian drummer, composer, and songwriter. As drummer and musical director of Fela Anikulapo Kuti's band Africa 70 from 1968 to 1979, Tony Allen was one of the primary co-founders of the genre of Afrobeat music. Fela once stated that 'without Tony Allen, there would be no Afrobeat'. He has been described by record producer Brian Eno as 'perhaps the greatest drummer who has ever lived'.