

Sonall Percussion of Encino, California has introduced their first product called CUSH Pads™, patent-pending. CUSH Pads™ replace the standard felts on standard cymbal and hi-hat stands with new pads made of a proprietary elastomer material, made in California.

CUSH Pads™ are an affordable way to improve the sound of your existing cymbals by replacing the standard tone-dampening felts that come with cymbal stands. They don't collapse, compress or take shape and allow the cymbals to ring longer and truer, allowing all the natural overtones and harmonics to resonate and be heard loud & clear. CUSH Pads™ are NOT a cellular material but rather of a solid nature. Extruded, lathe-cut and with properly finished edges, the quality and attention to detail displayed on such a simple part speaks volumes to the care put into every Sonall Percussion CUSH Pad™.

The inception of this product goes back to 1983 when Sonall Percussion owner Marco Llanos was attending the Musicians Institute. Marco became frustrated with the felts on his cymbal stands constantly deforming and shifting and resulted in having to spin the cymbal on the stand to make it sit at the proper angle only to see it settle back into an undesirable position after a couple of strikes.

Another frustration Marco encountered was the inconsistency among cymbal stands and the broad range of felts provided; a cymbal that sounded amazing on one stand would end up sounding completely different on another with a different felt consistency.

This led to years of experimenting with different materials and prototyping with just about every rubber elastomer material under the sun. In 2015, Marco finally arrived at the perfect combination of rubber elastomer material, *durometer* (hardness of rubber) and size.

The CUSH Pads™ use a larger diameter pad for the bottom and a smaller pad on top of the cymbals to allow the cymbals to ring properly. With smaller cymbals like bells or splashes, a small CUSH Pad™ on both top and bottom is recommended to allow the cymbal to resonate to its fullest potential. For larger cymbals and a more controlled “springlike” effect, two larger CUSH Pads™ are recommended.

CUSH Pads™ were recently given a rave review in the May 2015 issue of Not So Modern Drummer Magazine, a reputable publication in the percussion world that has been in business for nearly 30 years. From the review:

“This is one of those reviews that is easy to write because the product is so simple that it either works or it doesn't. It either does what the manufacturer says it does or it doesn't. This one works! CUSH pads are an alternative to the felts you use on your cymbal stand. They are made of a proprietary elastomer material, and are designed to allow the cymbals to ring longer and truer without muffling the sound or overtones. They don't collapse or take shape and always return to the original shape.”

Sonall Percussion currently has approximately five other products in the pipeline in various stages of completion. These new products won't be appearing until they are exactly right and the products can set the bar once again. Says Marco *“I like questioning everything in order to find*

out how to improve a product; The Devil is in the details and the product can't just be a new twist on something, they have to provide a genuine improvement in order to get the green light.”

For more information please visit the Sonall Percussion website, www.sonallpercussion.com or email at info@sonallpercussion.com

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