



## Fender Stratocaster Electric Guitar Formerly Owned by Mike Mitchell

### Date

1962

### Primary Maker

Fender Musical Instruments

### Medium

maple; rosewood; chromium

### Description

Guitar manufacturer Gibson briefly experimented with an electric upright bass in the late 1930s. Only two of these Gibson designs were created; one was owned and played by Les Paul's (1915-2009) brother-in-law, Wally Kamin (d. unknown), and the other—the one shown here—belonged to Betty (Perigo) Snow (1925-1998), who purchased it in May 1940 and played it with the Tropical Islanders Hawaiian Orchestra in Kalamazoo, Michigan. With its small size and light weight, this bass might have become popular, but World War II put a damper on its production as Gibson turned to wartime products. Electric basses in general did not become hugely popular until the Fender company developed better amplifiers for them in the 1950s.

### Dimensions

Overall: 39 x 12 3/8 x 3 in. (99.06 x 31.433 x 7.62 cm)