



Dobro All-Electric, late 1933

Date

1933

Primary Maker

Arthur J. Stimson

Description

One of the first Spanish-style electric guitars sold to the public, this 1933 Dobro All-Electric was also the first electric guitar to win a patent for its innovative blade pickup, re-engineered from unpatented pickup efforts by Audiovox owner Paul Tutmarc and his partner Arthur Stimson. In the All-Electric, Dobro combined their pickup with a resonator plate and twin sound ports to make it seem as modern—and loud—as possible. While groundbreaking, this early foray into guitar amplification was just a bit ahead of its time. They were produced in a limited run from 1933-34 and with the limited market at the time for an electric instrument, many were returned to the factory.

Dimensions

Overall (HWD) (body): 49 1/2 × 8 3/16 in. (125.73 × 20.828 cm) overall1 (body overall): 50 7/8 in. (129.286 cm) overall2 (neck): 31 13/16 in. (80.772 cm) overall3 (overall): 98 13/16 × 81 3/8 × 35 5/8 × 10 3/8 in. (250.953 × 206.756 × 90.424 × 26.416 cm)