

# PRESS NEWS

## Sfarzo Guitar String Company – Superior Guitar Strings for Superior Guitarists – Pat Simmons of the Doobie Brothers joins the Sfarzo String Family.

*April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009 – Santa Rosa, California – For Immediate Release*

Sonoma County based Sfarzo Guitar String Company announces Pat Simmons of the Doobie Brothers Band will be using Sfarzo Guitar Strings on his 2009 tour.

In a conversation today with Pat Simmons Guitar Tech Joe Vallee, Joe states Pat enjoys using Sfarzo Guitar Strings and will continue to do so on his current tour. Joe goes on to say... when he asked Pat if he wanted to change Guitar String brands this time around, Pat indicated, "Don't change anything."



"I am very pleased that Mr. Simmons continues to use our product. In 2008, Pat was introduced to Sfarzo Strings and I am excited to hear his decision to continue to use them for the 2009 tour. Pat uses SFT Screamer Electric 9-46 and SFT Acoustic 11-50 Guitar Sets." Says Greg Sfarzo

**About Pat Simmons** - Patrick Simmons (born October 19, 1948) is an American singer and guitarist best known as a member of the rock band The Doobie Brothers. Simmons co-founded the Doobies in 1970 with northern California musicians Tom Johnston, John Hartman and Dave Shogren. He specialized in fingerstyle guitar, picking intricate patterns on both acoustic and electric guitars while Johnston strummed or riffed alongside him. Simmons and Johnston both played lead guitar, as well, albeit with distinctly different yet complementary styles.

In the early years, Simmons' vocal style resembled that of Jefferson Airplane's Marty Balin. Following an unsuccessful debut, the band revamped its line-up late in 1971 and hit the charts the following year with Johnston's "Listen to the Music," which featured Simmons' brief lead vocal on the bridge. Simmons also performed the gospel-style lead vocal on the hit "Jesus is Just Alright."

Throughout the bands' career, Pat has contributed many songs that have become Doobie classics. The hit "Black Water", was the group's first #1 record. He also penned such memorable songs such as, "South City Midnight Lady", "Dependin' On You", "Echoes of Love" and the motorcycling song "Dangerous". While the group has experienced many personnel changes over the years, Pat has remained the only original member throughout the bands history and continues to be the driving force behind the Doobie Brothers. He has also recorded two solo albums; "Arcade" in 1983 and in 1995 the Japanese release "Take Me To The Highway".

Recently Pat produced, played on, and engineered a recording by Tim O'Connor, the "hitch hiking poet" - a project worth giving a listen to. Entitled Run Over by Love, the album features songs from the movie "Dead Calm", starring Billy Zane and Nicole Kidman. Pat lists some of his musical influences as Chet Atkins, Rev. Gary Davis, Mike Bloomfield, B.B. King, Doc Watson, the Moby Grape, Jorma Kaukonen, the Byrds, the Beatles and Bob Dylan.

Sfarzo Strings website: <http://www.sfarzo.us>  
Patrick Simmons Website: <http://www.doobiebrothers.net/biography/patrick-simmons/>  
Doobie Brothers Website: <http://www.doobiebrothers.net/>

**About Sfarzo Strings**- Sfarzo's unique string design allows a tighter wrap winding that reduces the chance of acid and sweat getting onto the core wire, which can cause oxidation and literally rot the string from the inside out. This results in very powerful tone while achieving a bright output sound. Sfarzo has been providing guitar players with quality guitar strings since 1984.

For more information about Sfarzo Strings, contact Joe at [joe@sfarzo.us](mailto:joe@sfarzo.us)  
Phone: 707- 539-6430 Fax: 707-540-6090 [www.sfarzo.us](http://www.sfarzo.us)