

High-end prices are \$200 for 16" models and \$300 for 18" models. New job.

### CYMBALS

**16** Straight from those infamous Turkish forges to the floor of the Anaheim Convention Center, newcomer **Amedia** Cymbals made its NAMM debut showcasing the unique Fire Bell big-bell cymbal, a hand-hammered dome that's about 60 percent raw bell, but with a nice even tone that works well for riding. Scaling way down from the Fire Bell is the Mini Cup, a jazz-oriented ride with a beautiful wash. Also, in a break from what seemed to be a trend this year of jazz-oriented cymbals, Amedia introduced the crisp, brilliant-finish D series hi-hats intended specifically for rockers. Also hidden among the Amedia booth's generous assortment was a mysterious, as-yet unnamed ride with an raw, lightly hammered face and heavily hammered underside that left us looking forward to future developments from this intriguing newby.

**Amphora** introduced the Trade series, developed with the Mountain Ridge Percussion. The Trade is similar to the New Orleans series, but with a much lighter profile and a high, snappy attack. The result, according to company president Michael Kishin, is a cymbal that is "a lot more aggressive than what we normally do."

**Bell** introduced the 18" series, a heavily belled, 100 percent hand-hammered cymbal that the company claims is a "true bell and most metal cymbals," good for post-rock and prog-metal bands.

**Brown** released its new Dark Matter series in 20" and 22". The Dark Matter is a conceptual, black-powder version of the earlier Dark Matter Energy series, which provides a lot more attack definition and a more defined tone. The new Forge was an update on an old idea—open rings with a change with an open ring top and the inside addition of an inner bell. Working directly from Turkey over the Forge made the "originality" development phase less direct, and are available in 14", 16", 18", 20", 22". The best of which, with the

addition of a few bells, would be a great ring for 2009's Buddy Rich Band reunion.

**Worked Eggs** continues its 20th anniversary with a cymbal line of the same name. Featuring a 14" hi-hat and 20" or 22" ride. The ride came comfortably modified to a 16" snare with 20th anniversary cymbal bag.

**Worked Metal** had new 18" cymbals and some cymbals made from the same metal formula as all of their cymbals, with a bell and cutting modified from the Traditional and Turk lines. The



**16** Looking for a big bell on your ride cymbal? We mean a really big bell? Put a stick to the **Amedia** Fire Bell — then run!