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# Stratasys Creates First-of-their-kind 3D Printed Display Pieces for Paisley Park's Newest Exhibition, The Beautiful Collection: Prince's Custom Shoes

*Exhibit includes a transparent baby grand piano, playable guitars, and a 9-foot-tall pointillist image of Prince with over 347,000 individual 3D-printed cells*

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. & REHOVOT, Israel--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [Stratasys](https://www.stratasys.com) Ltd. (NASDAQ: SSYS), a leader in polymer 3D printing solutions, in collaboration with the design team at Paisley Park in Chanhassen, Minn., has created a custom set of 3D-printed display pieces to showcase Prince's expansive shoe collection in a new Paisley Park exhibit - *The Beautiful Collection: Prince's Custom Shoes*. Paisley Park designers and museum curators worked with Stratasys to bring their designs to life by pushing the limits of what's possible with 3D printing.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20211021005101/en/>



*The Beautiful Collection* highlights approximately 300 pairs of shoes worn by Prince throughout his career. The Paisley Park team has thoughtfully displayed the shoes in a way that highlights Prince's impact on fashion, performance, and popular culture.

## **Baby Grand Piano**

Placed in the center of the exhibit and built to display 11 pairs of shoes, is a baby grand piano printed

3D printed baby grand piano display case. (Photo: Business Wire)

using both FDM<sup>®</sup> and PolyJet<sup>™</sup> 3D printing technologies. The piano is the first-ever 3D-

printed baby grand piano and is composed of 45 individual parts fused together to create the final piece. All structural parts were printed in Nylon12 Carbon Fiber and non-load-bearing covers were printed in ASA Black material. Stratasys utilized the company's Stratasys F900 3D printer and Stratasys Fortus 450 3D printer to print the structural parts. The keys of the piano were printed using PolyJet technology on the Stratasys J850 3D printer using VeroUltra White and VeroUltra Black materials – no paint was necessary to finish the keys.

## **Replica Cloud Guitars**

When designing the exhibit, Duff Eisenschenk, Designer for Paisley Park, wanted to ensure that iconic Prince elements were included in the exhibit. To highlight one such item, Eisenschenk designed the legs of the baby grand piano to be replica Cloud Guitars, one of Prince's most iconic guitar shapes. Stratasys first took over 250 3D scans of Prince's Cloud Guitar and processed the scans into 3D print-ready design files. The Stratasys design team spent over 60 hours from first scan to final files ensuring that each element of the guitar could be replicated through 3D printing. The guitars were printed on the Stratasys F900 3D printer using Nylon 12 Carbon Fiber, and the size of the F900 printer allowed the guitars to be printed in one piece, with each guitar taking over 60 hours to print. No detail was spared when finalizing the guitars; each piece included an exact replica "cloud" label printed using VeroVivid materials on the Stratasys J850. Further, the guitars were painted and fit with actual guitar tuning nuts, bridges and strings – making them not only visually appealing, but playable as well.

"When creating new exhibits at Paisley Park it's important to include innovative elements that will not only surprise our guests, but also leave them inspired," said Mitch Maguire, Managing Director for Paisley Park. "We are thrilled that we were able to partner with a Minnesota-based company to create special and unique pieces that enhance this exhibit."

## **Pointillist Canvas**

In addition to the baby grand piano with replica cloud guitar shoe showcase, Stratasys also created the largest 3D printed polymer image on fabric of Prince. The nine-foot by nine-foot image is composed of 347,130 clear spherical cells with layers of color contained inside. The ability to replicate the photograph on canvas with such accuracy was due to the Stratasys J850 3D printer which can print more than 640,000 combinations of color, textures, gradients, and transparencies – down to the micron level. The finished canvas was printed in 56 sections on 100% white cotton denim and hand sewn together. Stratasys' direct-to-textile 3D printing was first demonstrated by designers at New York Fashion Week in 2019. The canvas features an image of Prince taken by Jeff Katz in 1992.

"The level of 3D printing innovation on display at Paisley Park is incredible," said Pat Carey, Senior Vice President of Strategic Growth for Stratasys. "In everything we created for this exhibit we pushed the boundaries of our technology. In addition to being able to showcase and complement Prince's shoes through the creation of these amazing 3D printed pieces, we can also highlight how 3D printing can be utilized beyond its typical use cases."

*The Beautiful Collection: Prince's Custom Shoes* was designed by Paisley Park's Duff Eisenschenk and curated by the Paisley Park Museum Collections team. The exhibit is part of all tours and is set to be open through 2022. To learn more or to purchase tickets to Paisley Park, visit [www.paisleypark.com](http://www.paisleypark.com).

To learn more about Stratasys solutions for advanced design, visit [www.stratays.com/realism](http://www.stratays.com/realism).

**Paisley Park**, Prince's private estate and production compound in Chanhassen, Minnesota is open for public tours, giving fans of the music icon the unprecedented opportunity to tour the legendary, 65,000-square-foot complex that served as the center of Prince's creative universe. Guided tours take visitors throughout the extensive creative spaces of Paisley Park, including recording and mixing studios where Prince recorded, produced and mixed most of his biggest hits; exhibit spaces that chronicle films such as *Purple Rain* and *Graffiti Bridge*; Prince's private NPG Music Club; and a massive soundstage and concert hall where Prince rehearsed for concert tours and held exclusive, private events and concerts. The tour also features thousands of artifacts from Prince's personal archives, including iconic concert wardrobe, awards, musical instruments and concert memorabilia. For more information, visit [www.PaisleyPark.com](http://www.PaisleyPark.com) or follow Paisley Park on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

**Stratasys** is leading the global shift to additive manufacturing with innovative 3D printing solutions for industries such as aerospace, automotive, consumer products and healthcare. Through smart and connected 3D printers, polymer materials, a software ecosystem, and parts on demand, Stratasys solutions deliver competitive advantages at every stage in the product value chain. The world's leading organizations turn to Stratasys to transform product design, bring agility to manufacturing and supply chains, and improve patient care.

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