# John Lennon's Guitar Sells for Record-breaking £2.3 Million at Auction



A guitar used by John Lennon has sold for $2.9 million (£2.3 million), setting a new record for the highest-selling guitar at auction in Beatles history. The 12-string Hootenanny acoustic, played during the recording of the Beatles’ 1965 *Help!* album and film, resurfaced after being unseen for over 50 years. Initially owned by Scottish guitarist Gordon Waller of the pop duo Peter and Gordon, the instrument was later given to the band's road managers and eventually rediscovered in the British countryside.

The guitar was auctioned at the Hard Rock Cafe in New York during a two-day music icons sale by Julien’s Auctions. A telephone bidder secured the guitar, which exceeded its estimated range of £485,000 to £647,000.

David Goodman, CEO of Julien’s Auctions, expressed elation at setting the new world record, emphasizing the guitar's significance as a piece of music history and a symbol of Lennon’s enduring legacy.

The guitar, made by the Bavarian firm Framus in the early 1960s, was featured prominently in the *Help!* film and used in recordings of tracks such as "It’s Only Love," "I’ve Just Seen a Face," and "Girl." It also served as the rhythm track for "Norwegian Wood," played by George Harrison.

Darren Julien, co-founder of Julien’s Auctions, confirmed the instrument’s authenticity with the help of Beatles historians Andy Babiuk and Danny Bennett. The auction house previously sold another Lennon guitar for $2.4 million and a drum kit used by Ringo Starr for $2.2 million.