Making An Archtop Guitar

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guitar the definitive work on the design and construction of an acoustic archtop guitar by one of the most talented luthiers of the twentieth century benedetto walks the reader through all aspects of construction through to marketing your finished work includes a list of suppliers to acquire all the tools and materials listed a list of serial numbers for benedetto guitars full color plates featuring the author s models photos from the author s personal scrapbook of players who endorse his guitars and fold out templates for construction $8.1.2 \times 11$

there are many books written about making acoustic and electric guitars some bridge the subject of making an archtop but none that a layman could easily use this book attempts to close the gap including as many photographs as possible every attempt was made to call out potential pitfalls that a first time builder is likely to encounter the book is laid out with a work instruction mentality and is not intended to be a book to sit down by the fire with unless in an act of frustration you want to burn it much of the work required is work that you can do at the kitchen table with paper pencil ruler etc for instance you can draw the body shape layout the neck do all your fret calculations sketch plans for the various jigs and work out your budget the guitar cost less than 200 in parts including wood tuning machines etc the costs associated with the woodworking tools depends on what you already possess what you are willing to invest in and how friendly you are with a neighbor who may be interested in an exchange of borrowed tool time for steaks on the grill some weekend there is something about working with wood that is inspirational maybe it is the smell of the freshly cut wood the mystery of what the grain will look like when the finish is applied or the simplicity with which something incredibly beautiful may be made this book will not answer every question but will inspire you to experiment will bring out your artistic side while you make an instrument unlike any other

master guitar maker j p laplante shares the joy of guitar making in this book here is an illustrated step by step guide to building an electric archtop guitar can be a pretty intimidating project but it becomes much less so if you re guided step by step through the building process with almost 20 years of experience in custom guitar making the author details the step by step making of an electric archtop guitar using commercially available laminated top and back plates laminated plates have been the standard used on the vast majority of electric archtops since the 50 s and definitely represent a cost and time effective solution especially for those tackling a first archtop project complete and comprehensive all aspects of the construction are covered from the initial design stage to the very final setup the text is supported by over 300 high resolution colour photographs positioned throughout the 15 chapters of the book these pictures were taken as the

three guitars featured on the back and front cover of the book were being built for more info background visit my website at laplanteguitars com

the original version of this guide has sold over 30 000 copies this new edition has been expanded by 25 and promises to become an invaluable resource for collectors dealers and players this completely updated field guide provides specifications serial numbers and more for determining the originality of vintage american acoustic and electric fretted instruments detailing thousands of models by every major manufacturer the book now includes expanded coverage of martin guild mosrite dobro gibson banjos fender amps gibson amps plus updates on the latest models from fender gibson rickenbacker and others since 1990

this book is for experienced luthiers and guitar designers in the industry novice builders wishing to improve their designs and guitar owners interested in knowing more about their instruments it includes the most important technical information gathered from many sources including the academic literature and the author's own work presented here in a clear actionable form with a minimum of mathematics the book begins with a historical survey on how important features of the acoustic guitar evolved over centuries the review leads up to a chapter focusing on three iconic instruments that represent the most important types of acoustic guitars classical steel string flat top and archtop as the guitar market is so strongly conditioned by familiar traditional instruments a successful builder must have a thorough working understanding of the most important designs to underpin their own work through this volume professor french lays out the entire design process and collects detailed information in one convenient source luthiers quite often compile notebooks of measurements part numbers specific design features and other details they routinely need this book organizes much of that information with tables of dimensions material properties and other details in one essential final chapter the book also features concise side bar contributions by top guitar designers and builders including tim shaw chief engineer at fender music bob taylor co founder of taylor guitars and andy powers master guitar designer and partner

covers set up maintenance tuners acoustic adjustments nut replacement fret dressing refretting guitar electronics finish application and repair and useful tools

engineering the guitar theory and practice uniquely describes the mechanics of the guitar for engineers and craftsmen alike complete with informative illustrations this popular musical volume describes the underlying mechanical concepts behind the guitar supported by theory and test a detailed description of guitar electronics paired with an analysis of sound quality appeals to scientific audiences as well as musicians technically apt readers will gain an understanding of the technical behavior of the instrument with respect to structural and component dynamics in addition to the informative treatment of analytical models hand made and mass produced techniques are also examined in a chapter devoted to manufacturing processes audiences interested in mechanics acoustics and instrument making will find engineering the guitar theory and practice an informative and enjoyable read

this book will help all guitar players make better friends with their present guitar or decide on features to look for in a new one they will learn about the differences in guitar woods and how they sound simple guitar maintenance how to choose an instrument for their style of playing what to expect from a music dealer and the mystique of collectible guitars this new edition includes more details on amplifying acoustic guitars and a guide to guitar companies sites

this book includes 1 introduction 2 types of guitars 3 chord and anatomy 4 lesson for beginners 5 learning string notes 6 self composing with guitar pieces 7 tips of finger position 8 techniques of playing guitars 9 cultures of guitars

the recording guitarist explores the world of recording the guitar covering everything from selecting guitars and amps to employing effects and mastering recording techniques in a variety of recording environments from the modest home studio to a professional facility outfitted with pro quality gear and a staff of engineers offering valuable insights and tips for the novice or professional the recording guitarist thoroughly examines guitars electric and acoustic and amps used in the studio

and explains how to select among them to achieve the desired sound the signal chain is explained and signal processors effects are analyzed according to type placement in the signal chain and contribution to the overall mix in addition to helping readers create a total guitar sound for the studio the book also tackles recording equipment techniques and formats also included is advice from recording industry pros such as carl verheyen all di meola alex lifeson and phil ramone a special feature is a section called dial a sound an illustrated guide to the setups and recording rigs of 14 guitar greats including eric johnson dimebag darrell stevie ray vaughan jimi hendrix eddie van halen and others discusses electric and acoustic guitars and their unique tones recording hardware and software effects and how to use them monitors overdubbing mixing

on the jazz guitar and jazz guitarists

most guitarists today think of the usa as the land of the guitar classical guitars come from spain but rock jazz and folk guitars must surely be american they know the great names gibson epiphone fender gretsch martin how many of them know that christian friedrich martin was born in markneukirchen germany in 1796 and emigrated to the usa at the age of thirty seven the bate collection is a museum of musical instruments in the university of oxford and owns a collection of guitars donated by the author half of them were made by german speaking czech craftsmen expelled from their homeland after the second world war resettling in bavaria the other half by their former neighbours in saxony with whom they had worked closely for three centuries but who now found themselves behind the iron curtain this book offers a summary of the socio political background and the way it led to the decline and almost the extinction of what was once the most productive centre of stringed instrument making in the world lavishly illustrated with photos of all of the carefully researched instruments in the collection plus a unique guide to help the collector to identify the maker of his instrument

this book presents the three master guitar craftsmen john d angelico jimmy d aquisto and john monteleone who each grew up in new york and were influenced by the master cremona violin luthiers antonio stradivari giuseppe guarneri and andrea amati author rudy pensa traces these handcrafted guitars from their lute predecessors to their current incarnations archtop guitars

presents the stories behind these instruments against the photography of the guitars taken by vincent j ricardel

a collection of articles on woods for stringed instrument construction and on the construction and repair of steel string guitars wood section includes intro to taxonomy top 40 lutherie woods resawing and a bibliography of wood id books steel string guitar section articles on d aquisto s archtop guitar design gallagher turner and klein guitars inlay side bending binding linings bridge gluing bracing and more appendices include philosophy reviews of 80 lutherie books sources lutherie schools and more

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issued in conjunction with the exhibition held at the metropolitan museum of art new york from february 9 to july 4 2011 explains step by step with almost 600 photos and more than 100 illustrations how to build an electric guitar back cover shortly before his fiftieth birthday baggage handlers destroy tim brookes s guitar his twenty two year old traveling companion

his wife promises to replace it with the guitar of his dreams but tim discovers that a dream guitar is built not bought

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