



Maple Leaf Rag

Maple Leaf Music Newsletter

April 2005

A Note From Kate

Maple Leaf Music is moving in a new and exciting direction. While competition from the big box retailers and mail order discount firms has seriously affected our sales of mid-priced models from large guitar factories, some of long standing tradition, we are exploring instruments made by small shops and finding some amazing guitars. The makers of these "boutique" guitars, by definition have limited production, favoring quality over quantity. Limited production means that fewer stores carry these guitars; at the same time the makers have often requested that we limit our discounts on their instruments to 10% off list. I'm like a kid in a candy store- I can't help ordering these fabulous guitars from Collings, Bourgeois, Huss and Dalton, Froggy Bottom and Goodall. And I'm getting more and more upgraded product from these folks, more Brazilian Rosewood and other fancy stuff!

Recently we've received four different guitars from three builders. They are all OM's and all are just amazingly fantastic. Although I've never done a comparison of new guitars like this before, a "vertical tasting" is in order. Sort of like the descriptions in Acoustic Guitar, only better! We have two Bourgeois (Pantheon) guitars, one Huss and Dalton and one Goodall. For detailed descriptions, read on! More photos of all of these are available at our web site, mapleleafmusic.com.

Huss and Dalton Traditional OM Custom

A great guitar for an "old dog" who's finding his D-28 too uncomfortable to get his arm around these days, and wants to have a smaller Brazilian guitar with a 1/11/16" neck, same as the Martin. It's also the sound, size and neck width that I am comfortable with (5'4" red headed old-timey flat picker). Throaty, clear and even all the way up the neck. It's almost like the notes start before you play them- what a ride!



AND FOR MORE FUN.....



Store Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:30-6

Friday 9:30-8

Saturday 9:30-5

Sunday 12-5

Please call us at 802-254-5559

Visit the web site

Mapleleafmusic.com



Bourgeois Vintage OMS

A 12 fret slot-head OM with a 25.5" scale length and 1 3/4" fingerboard width. Adirondack with East Indian Rosewood, herringbone trim, ebony pyramid bridge, bone nut and saddle. Triple bound neck and headstock!

We're really liking the comfort of the Bourgeois necks, a wonderful blend of vintage styling with a modern, playable feel. This guitar has a wonderful distinctive midrange. Bold low down and sweet up high. Kate says "this guitar is real special. It made me start singing-something I rarely do at work these days, but the sound of this sweetheart moved me so much that those old Carter family songs just came pouring out!"

Bourgeois Vintage OM Indian Rosewood

This fine OM is bold and majestic in her mid range with bell like trebles. She puts out a thumping bass against the chest-all in all the sound is much like the Martins of the 40's and 50's. Aaron says "with many of the high end builders making bright, projection-oriented instruments, its' nice to hear something with some of that classic warm "Martinesque" tone intact. The shallow V neck is very comfortable.

Vintage appointments include Adirondack top, herringbone binding, zig-zag back strip, ebony pyramid bridge, vintage-style pickguard and rosette, 25.5" scale, 1 3/4" fret board, nickel Waverly tuners, ivoroid body binding, squares and diamonds fret board inlays.



Goodall Traditional OM

James' artistic eye is evident in his modern take on a classic model of guitar. The use of maple binding on the body and headstock in conjunction with the grained ivoroid Waverly tuners shows great taste. Adirondack top, Indian Rosewood back and sides, herringbone binding and rosette, fossilized ivory bridge pins and bone nut and saddle make for a truly handsome guitar. The neck is carved a bit heavier than on the Huss and Daltons or Bourgeois guitars.

This guitar is probably the most clear sounding of the bunch, lending itself of some intelligent fingerpicking. Bright but not shrill, it has very complex trebles. This baby is also highly suited for flatpicking. Very evenly balanced all the way across the strings and up the neck. Front and back photos are to the left.

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