



Maple Leaf Rag

Maple Leaf Music Newsletter

DECEMBER 2009



New Arrivals

Santa Cruz 1929 00 Our newest arrival! An all mahogany 12 fret fingerpicker. Shallow V neck, 1 3/4 nut and 24 3/4 scale. Pyramid bridge, ivoroid script in peg head, no fret board dots and ebony tuning knobs. Super responsive, sweet, loud and incredibly balanced. Everything you'd ever want!

Bourgeois Country Boy 00 Another suburb all mahogany 00 sized guitar- 14 1/2" lower bout. One of the sweetest, blusiest small guitars we've seen in years. A great copy of the Martin 00-15. YES YES YES! And this is the very first one they've made!



Huss and Dalton TOM Custom This is another of our current Huss and Dalton best sellers, fondly named "Kate's Special". Designed after the Martin 000-28, this guitar features Brazilian Rosewood, first grade Sitka top, short scale and 1 11/16 S nut. Strong, well balance, sweet with plenty of punch for either gutsy fingerpicking or Carter Family old-timey flat picking.



A Note from Kate

Our most exciting news at this end of the year is our new Santa Cruz Guitar dealership. We are absolutely thrilled with these instruments; we have received 4 of the 6 instruments that we ordered and I couldn't choose a favorite if I had to! All have very individual and strong characteristics. The little parlor is the most forward open sounding babe that we've had in years; the OM while honest and plain looking is the bassiest OM in the shop-sounds like a big Dread. The H-13, being incredibly balanced and personable, was Aaron's favorite until this week's arrival of the 1929 00 and once again, our socks were just blown off by this sweet all mahogany fingerpicker! We can't wait to see the 2 dreadnaughts that we have on order!

So on to the business end of the business, yes the year has been slow but we are still here and thriving! All the bills are paid and our guitar selection has never been better, though we are short of Froggy Bottoms. We've sold all but two and anticipating a sluggish year what with yes the ECONOMY I just plain didn't order enough. That shortcoming will be made up in the next few weeks as I put in an extra order for an H-12C mahogany deluxe cutaway and an H-14 Walnut deluxe, both of which have been most excellently received here at Maple Leaf Music!

BIG NEWS!!! Congratulations to Michael Millard for Froggy Bottom's 40th Anniversary next year! To celebrate this milestone, they are making ten limited edition + guitars, and one will come to Maple Leaf Music. The model we have chosen is an H-12 with a slot headstock and she will be made from old-style straight Brazilian Rosewood (like the old Martin wood) and an Adirondack top. We are still working on the fret board design, which will feature pearl diamonds, a star at the 5th fret, and the frog logo on the headstock, all engraved in the early AC Fairbanks banjo style. There will also be a 40th anniversary engraved banner at the 12th fret. The heel cap will feature colored engraved maple leaves. She will have engraved gold Waverly tuners and an abalone back strip, soundhole rosette and trim on the fretboard extension. A true dream guitar, completely unique in a turn -of- the- century style. We can hardly wait to see her! If you would like to be contacted when she arrives next year, please phone us at 802-254-5559 or e-mail us at kate@mapleleafmusic.com.

Now is the time to start humidifying your precious guitar, mandolin or fiddle! Two humidifiers are recommended in any Collings, Bourgeois, Froggy Bottom or Huss and Dalton, one at the peg head and one in the sound hole, and keep them full of water until spring. Don't be one of those foolish people who has to pay for a top crack repair! To say nothing of devaluing your instrument! Call or e-mail us if you need one or two. kate@mapleleafmusic.com or 802-254-5559.



"Seeing Santa Claus" Christmas card by CM Russell. Charlie Russell lived and painted in my home town of Great Falls, Montana. His work documented the end of the Old West; he is known as well for his wit and dry down home humor, as evidenced in this card. If you ever get to Montana, be sure to visit the Charlie Russell Museum.

What's really hot and exciting this year?
UKULELES!!

We have taken on a new line from Hawaii. The Ko'olau Company makes their eponymous line and they import their Pono ukes from Java. They use typical uke woods such as mahogany and koa, but you never know what they will have to offer in exotic woods. We now have sopranos in ohai and mango wood.

Our ukes run the gamut from the \$29.95 colored Mahalo ukes with matching gig bag, the Fleas from the Magic fluke Company, and at the opposite end of the spectrum, ukes from Collings which are nothing short of unbelievable. We currently have a Collings concert in koa (UC1) and are waiting for tenors in curly mahogany (UT2) and fancy curly koa (UT3). They feature the most wonderful tuning pegs called Peghed tuners. They look like real violin tuners but are really geared tuners with a 4 to 1 tuning ratio and they work like butter. And of course the Collings workmanship and sound is beyond impeccable.

Thought about taking up the uke? The strings are the same as the top four strings of the guitar but the pitch is a fourth higher, so if you already play guitar you're all set because you know the chord shapes! Aloha!

Holiday Hours for 2009

Monday-Friday 10 to 5:30pm

Saturday 9:30-5pm Sunday 11:30-5pm

Dec. 18, 21, 22, 23 open till 7 pm

Thursday Dec 24 and 31 we close at 4pm

Saturday Dec 26 and Jan 2 we open 12pm

Closed Christmas and New Year's Day

23 Elliot St. Brattleboro, Vermont

802-254-5559

Please visit our web site

www.mapleleafmusic.com

One very interesting addition to this year's activities is our participation in Facebook. We now have almost 500 fans and Aaron posts to it nearly every day. We share all sorts of good stuff, from photos and videos of proud Maple Leaf Music guitar owners, pictures of new and interesting pieces, tips on repair and maintenance, and links to upcoming shows. The list goes on! If you have a project or a story or a concert we encourage you to post it on our Facebook site. Or just write to us and say Hi! We see Facebook as a means to be active and involved in the music community. Please become a fan at: <http://www.facebook.com/mapleleafmusic>

Here's a lovely silk painting of our store front by local artist Linda Eaton Marcille. We think this is just grand!



For more information here's her web site:
www.crowhousestudio.com

We specialize in fiddle tune books! Imports from Scotland, Ireland and Canada as well as small press American tune books are readily available at Maple Leaf Music. Can't find that tune? Call Kate and she will try to locate it! We have the Portland Collections and practice CD's, Fiddle Case books from New Hampshire and many reprints of old Scottish collections as well as most of the Mel Bay, Music Sales and Hal Leonard books.

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