

Ovation  
U.S.A.





## *Preface...*

Adamas guitars are remarkable instruments; ones which do not suggest a rush to judgement, a hasty review, or an impulsive purchase decision. Rather, the nature of the instruments implies thoughtful reflection and a savoring of detail. We urge you to relax with this catalog and take time to discover the unique qualities of Adamas. It's simply a product you will enjoy thinking about, musing about, mulling over in your mind. In all respects, we believe we have created an instrument which forms a natural partnership with the musician.

Then there is but one item left that this catalog cannot answer: How does it sound? In guitar design, science and technology must always share the platform with the human ear. Only in playing this guitar can you fully comprehend and share our enthusiasm for it.

## *This is Adamas...*



Any reasonable investment in a guitar will put an instrument of acceptable standards into your hands, just as any automobile will take you where you want to go and bring you back again. Few of us, of course, accept such a mundane attitude when it comes to choosing the products that will make a difference in the way we work or play. We want and look for something more. And, therein, lies the point of Adamas guitars.

As in the evolution of all Ovation products, there is an unique combination of creative refinements and the innovative use of new materials and engineering concepts. Standard technical approaches are rarely adequate, for these conventional solutions virtually guarantee conventional products.

The Adamas, on the other hand, is not simply an exotic and transitory technical wonder of the moment. Rather, it is the result of a step-by-step program of exhaustive research and development that first began almost twenty five years ago when we reintroduced the roundback to the world. It is a striking example of the uniqueness that is Ovation, and it clearly illustrates Ovation's philosophy : to take technologies of the highest order and combine them, applying them toward a useful and more pleasing musical result.

The Adamas guitar is, in fact, a very subtle idea which has found its final form. It is an idea which states that music is foremost, much more important than the technology which serves it. For it is this idea which has been part of Ovation since our inception. And it is this idea that epitomizes the reasons why acceptance among professional players around the world is so closely linked with the name Ovation.

Our finest expression of this idea is Adamas.







## The Challenge...

We started with a clean sheet of paper. Certain design criteria were established: Goals identifying areas where improvements could be made, then the implementation with new materials to realize them.

We imagined a thinner, more responsive top, free from the risk of cracking and buckling. A more harmonically rich and balanced output throughout the entire range of the guitar. A neck free of warp and bow, problems that come about from heat, cold, moisture, and humidity. A guitar offering a technical superiority not normally associated with hand crafted musical instruments.

We imagined an instrument that so exceeded the capabilities of a 'standard' guitar that it almost could be a category all its own. The result was a guitar we called *Adamas*: a Latin word meaning "diamond in the native form of carbon."

Follow along with us as we cover the features and abilities of *Adamas*, the guitars that seem to make the limitations of the stringed instrument genre virtually disappear as they take your music to new places with unparalleled ease and accuracy.



## Component Details...

### THE TOP

Aside from the now famous roundback shape, the single feature that sets *Adamas* guitars apart from other acoustic guitars is the top.

A guitar top should be strong, yet light and resonant. It's largely the flexibility of the top that determines the sound output and quality. Even the best spruce tops have their limitations. Too thick, and the tone is weak and harmonically limited; too thin, and the top can warp and crack. The *Adamas* top solves both of these problems.

Called a Fibronic Soundboard, the *Adamas* top is really a composite structure, built with two .005" carbon-graphite outer layers with a .035" birch veneer sandwiched in the center, all bonded together at 250°F. While the fibers of the carbon run in a longitudinal direction parallel with the neck of the guitar, the birch veneer grain is set at a 60° angle to the carbon. This yields an extremely rigid, yet uniquely thin membrane, one-third the thickness of a typical spruce top.

The finish itself is very light to minimize any impairment of sound. The effect of the opposing grain directions between the carbon and the birch virtually guarantees that, short of physical damage, the Fibronic Soundboard will not crack.

Fans and braces have been engineered specifically for the Fibronic Soundboard to achieve the design objective of  $\pm 3\text{db}$  change over the entire playing range of the guitar. The size and contour of each fan have been developed separately to achieve this goal, and their individual weights are controlled to within a few tenths of a gram.

Contributing to the thin, resonant top are the unique and highly recognizable soundholes of the *Adamas*. By replacing the one large center hole of a traditionally designed guitar with the symmetrical series of holes in the upper bout, the strength of the top has been greatly increased and the sound dramatically improved. This relocation is indispensable to the distribution of the tension from string loads

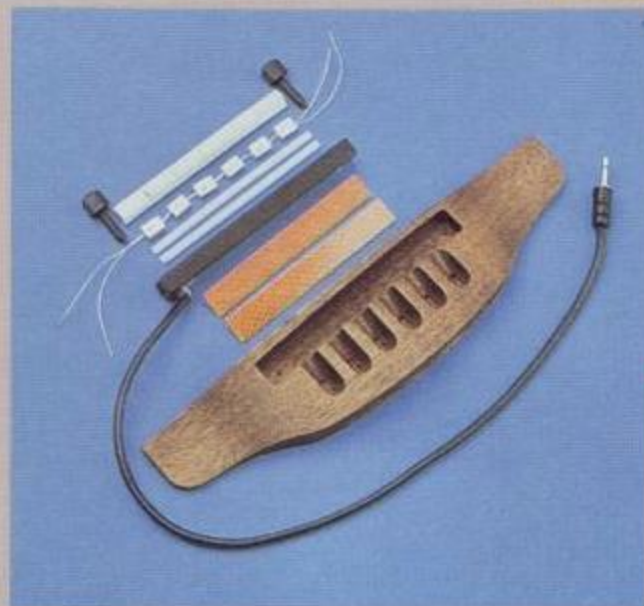
on such a thin soundboard. The pattern and size of the holes were developed to minimize feedback when playing electrically at an extremely high level.

The design of *Adamas* deep Bowl cutaway models allows only one series of soundholes and one epaulet. Yet, due to the decreased internal volume of the bowl, the guitar yields no noticeable reduction in overall sound output.

### THE BOWL...

The *Adamas* bowl follows the standards set by our Ovation Roundbacks, except that it is one-quarter inch deeper due to the way the outer ring secures the top to the bowl. The neck block is also an integral part of the bowl. It is reinforced by the use of struts to provide an absolutely rigid mounting base for the Kaman Bar™ neck, helping to insure against any possibility of neck creep, shrinkage, or misalignment.





## THE NECK...

At the heart of each Adamas guitar is a unique neck reinforcing system called the Kaman Bar. Bonded directly into the neck beneath the fretboard, the Kaman Bar is a U-shaped aluminum casting which incorporates a one-quarter inch steel tension rod adjusted from inside the bowl rather than at the peghead where the risk of breakage is greater. The Kaman Bar provides ample adjustment to compensate for neck changes that can occur over time due to heat, humidity, and string load. This feature allows the Adamas neck to join the body at the 14th fret, which achieves the maximum rigidity possible at the lowest weight. The perfect alignment of neck and bowl which is possible with the Kaman Bar makes all Adamas models particularly roadworthy and resistant to external forces which might, otherwise, induce neck twisting or loss of shape.

Bonded to the top of this rigid neck structure is a resin impregnated black walnut fretboard which is approximately 45% more dense and strong than the native wood alone. It is also virtually impervious to heat, moisture, acid from sweat, and other such elements. Because of

its unique properties, this particular fretboard will not show any significant wear as a function of time.

## THE ELECTRONICS...

All Adamas acoustic-electric guitars, both 6 and 12 string models, use six piezoelectric transducers located directly beneath Delrin saddles that are set to achieve proper intonation. String vibrations are not only amplified from the top of the saddle, but their mechanical action on the Fibronic Soundboard is also transmitted. This patented system produces a clear, natural, uncolored sound picture of exceptional depth and presence, and as loud as the music might demand.

Our all Adamas has the state-of-the-art an op-24 three Band equalizer preamp system. Six operational amplifiers with 24 transistors each provide you with the quietest, most efficient and most reliable system available today. The active E.Q. system boost or cut 12 decibels. The result: An extraordinary range of tonal possibilities.

## Reprise...

As you reflect on the Adamas guitars, we believe you'll find the abilities of these instruments quite astounding. Their sound is significantly superior to even our own Ovation models, acclaimed as they are. We hope, in reading this brochure, that you can not only perceive and appreciate the distinctions of the Adamas, but also understand the thinking of the people behind it. That our products communicate their design concepts so directly and honestly is an important part of the Adamas' magic. There is no doubt that these instruments represent our finest work.



# Adamas...

First introduced to the world in 1973, the Adamas guitar created a new set of standards by which the value of a guitar could be judged, offering a sound and playing ease previously unavailable.

The aesthetics and visual features of the Adamas are as unique and appealing as its audio presence. The scroll-like design of the peghead gives the Adamas a classical grace and dignity; it is a decorative complement to the carved walnut bridge. An attractive, non-slip finish with bronze highlights is selectively applied to the bowl for dramatic stage lighting effects.

The unique, inlaid soundhole epaulets, undoubtedly the single most recognizable feature of Adamas guitars, are constructed of a variety of exotic woods: teak from Burma, birds-eye maple from the United States, padauk from the Andaman Islands, and American black walnut. A smooth satin finish preserves the rich patina of the woods and allows the epaulets to become subtle parts of the ribbed carbon-graphite top.

The solid walnut neck is hand rubbed to a deep satin finish that is elegant, yet fast and durable. The fretboard, made from select even-grain black walnut, has delicate maple inlays set in a black background for high contrast. It features an extended, two octave range up to E above the usual high C.

A specially designed outer rim adds a subtle decorative carved touch to the soundboard, and its round contour contributes substantially to playing comfort. A fine white binding-ring seals the rim to the top.

Every Adamas guitar is play-checked, tested to assure uniform quality, and signed personally by C. William Kaman II, president of Ovation Instruments and son of the Roundback's original creator, Charles Kaman.

The Adamas guitar: A blend of uncompromising technological achievement and fresh imaginative design. These touches, both visual and technical, along with extreme care in production and testing, create a guitar to enhance the most inspired of performances.







## *Adamas Models...*

<i>Description</i>	<i>Model</i>
Adamas 6 string Acoustic Electric .....	1687
Adamas 6 string Acoustic Electric cutaway .....	1587
Adamas 12 string Acoustic Electric .....	1688

## *Adamas Finishes...*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Color</i>
-2 .....	Red
-5 .....	Black
-7 .....	Beige
-8 .....	Blue
-9 .....	Brown



# Adamas II...

Adamas II guitars are our most recent carbongraphite instruments. Developed with special care to insure that they maintain the quality levels associated with the more finely detailed Adamas models, Adamas II guitars open wide the world of Adamas.

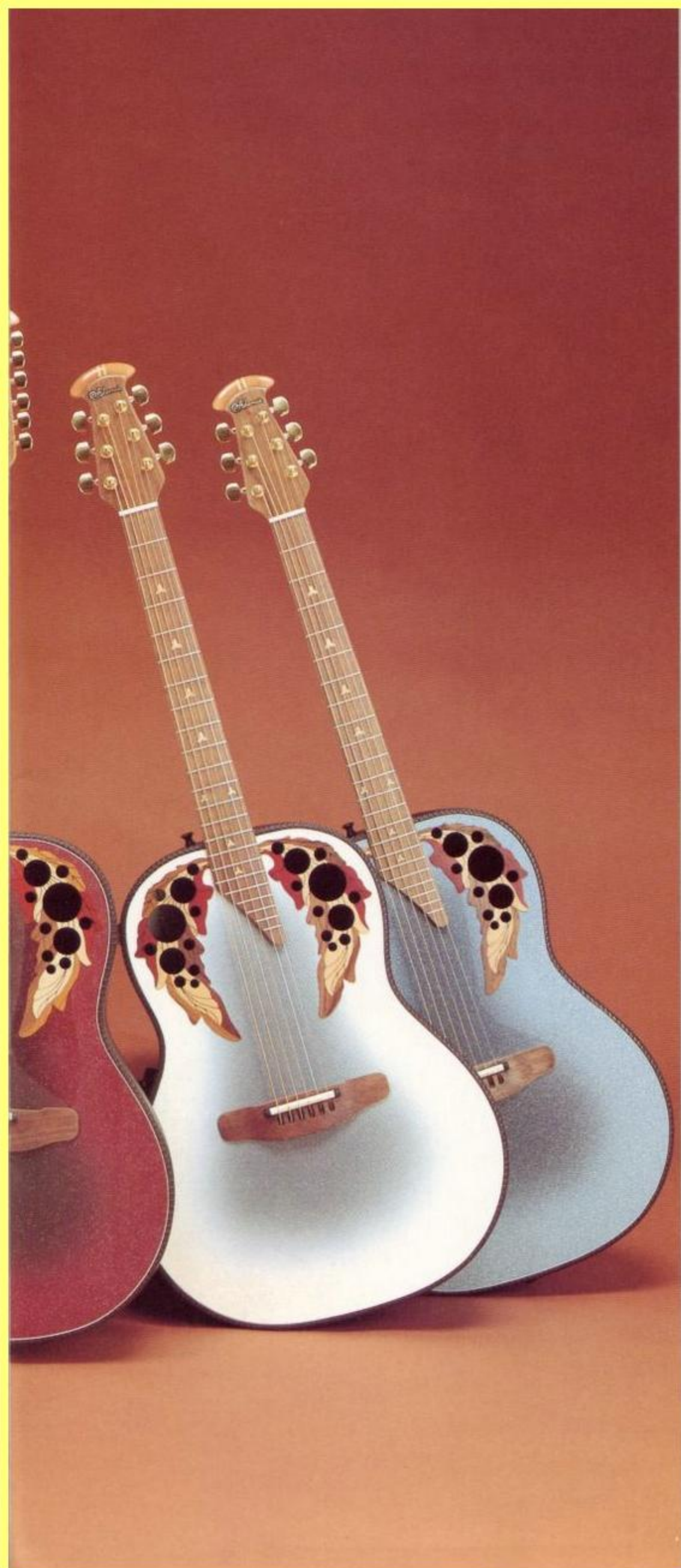
Thin and fast, the Adamas II features the exclusive five-piece neck found on other Ovation guitars. Consisting of two outer pieces of matched mahogany and three inner pieces of rock maple, the neck incorporates the Kaman Bar™ found on all Adamas models. The Ovation-style peghead is marked with the Adamas name and matched by a solid walnut bridge.

A 22-fret, reinforced fingerboard extends the range of the Adamas II to D above high C. Constructed of the same finely grained walnut found on the Adamas guitars, the fretboard is decorated with its own unique inlay pattern.

It is particularly important to remember that virtually all of the other features of the Adamas guitars can be found on the Adamas II models. From the deluxe gold tuning machines and bone nut, down to the Fibronic carbon/wood composite soundboard with its exotic wood epaulets, the Adamas II adds a new level of performance to your music. A guitar designed to remain true to its purpose, the Adamas II provides the musician with features at the forefront of design technology.







## *Adamas II Models...*

<i>Description</i>	<i>Color</i>
Adamas II 6 string Acoustic Electric .....	1681
Adamas 6 string Acoustic Electric cutaway .....	1581
Adamas 12 string Acoustic Electric .....	1685

## *Adamas II Finishes...*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Color</i>
-2 .....	Red
-5 .....	Black
-7 .....	Beige
-8 .....	Blue
-9 .....	Brown



# Adamas II

## Super Shallow Cutaway

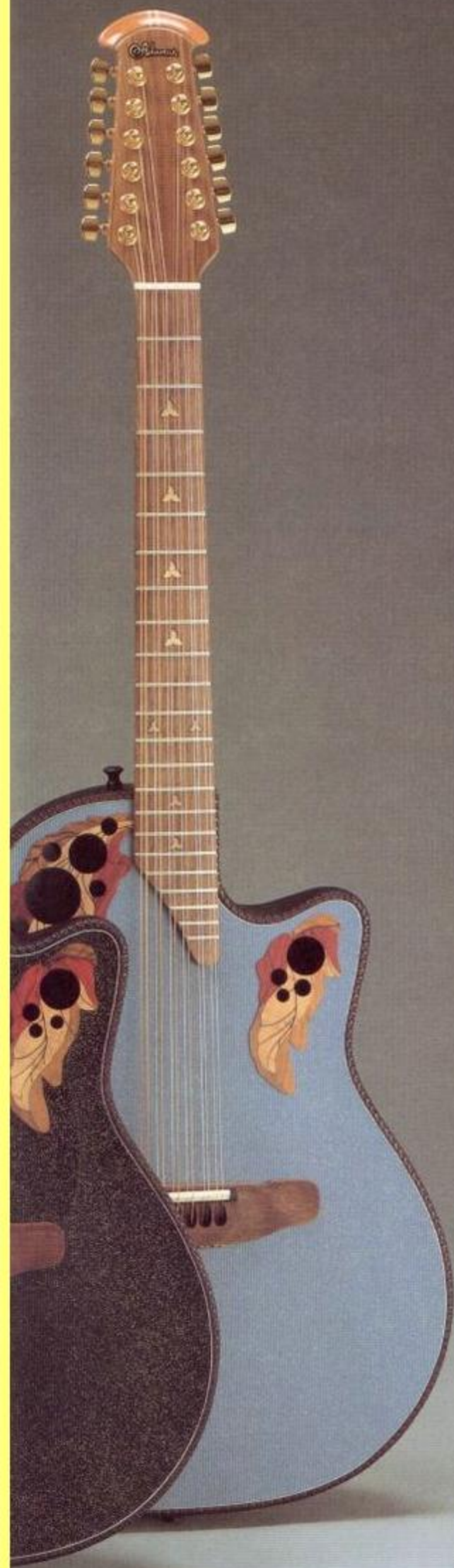
The Super Shallow Cutaway bowl, specially designed for Adamas II models, is the prime acoustic guitar for electric solid body guitar players. Its thinness, even by Ovation's standards, enables the player energetic live actions.

Both 6 and 12 string models have soundboards which are decorated differently with exotic wood epaulets. The specifications are the same as those of other Adamas II guitars, except the depth of the bowl, soundhole design and color.

Fitted with jumbo frets, the Super Shallow Cutaway model will be perfect for performance matching that of electric solid body guitar. This unique cutaway guitar will add a new level of performance to your acoustic rock music.







## *Adamas II Super Shallow Cutaway Models...*

<i>Description</i>	<i>Model</i>
Adamas II 6 String Acoustic	
Electric Super Shallow Cutaway .....	1881
Adamas II 12 String Acoustic	
Electric Super Shallow Cutaway .....	1885

## *Adamas II Super Shallow Cutaway Finishes...*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Color</i>
-NB2 .....	No-Burst Red
-NB5 .....	No-Burst Black
-NB8 .....	No-Burst Blue





## Accessories...

Owning an Adamas doesn't stop with the guitar itself. Every fine instrument needs protection to insure a lifetime of pleasure and performance. Offering the best possible protection against damage from travel and the elements is the Ovation Adamas guitar case. Specially designed to accommodate roundbacks, the inside of the case is plush-lined and form-fitted to hold the guitar snugly and securely. An inside pocket provides storage for strings and small accessories.

An optional fitted case cover offers further protection by cushioning both the case and the guitar against accidental impact damage. This leatherlook cover is a valuable asset for touring musicians whose instruments are subject to constant handling.

All Adamas guitars are shipped from the factory with Kaman Adamas strings: A light gauge set #1818 on the six string models, and a light gauge set #1616 on the twelve string models. Adamas strings are especially produced for acoustic-electric guitars and highlight the capabilities of the Adamas guitar.

## Specifications...

	ADAMAS	ADAMAS 12 STRING	ADAMAS II	ADAMAS II 12 STRING	ADAMAS II 6 STRING SUPER SHALLOW CUTAWAY	ADAMAS II 12 STRING SUPER SHALLOW CUTAWAY
Model No.	1687 1587	1688	1681 1581	1685	1881	1885
Length	40 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	41 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	40 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	41 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	40 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	41 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Width	15 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	15 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	15 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	15 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	15 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	15 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Depth	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	4 $\frac{7}{16}$ "	4 $\frac{7}{16}$ "
Top	Carbon Graphite	Carbon Graphite	Carbon Graphite	Carbon Graphite	Carbon Graphite	Carbon Graphite
Top Bracing	Adamas Fan	Adamas Fan	Adamas Fan	Adamas Fan	Adamas Fan	Adamas Fan
Body	Deep Bowl	Deep Bowl	Deep Bowl	Deep Bowl	Super Shallow Cutaway	Super Shallow Cutaway
Body Binding	Carved Fiberglass Ring	Carved Fiberglass Ring	Carved Fiberglass Ring	Carved Fiberglass Ring	Carved Fiberglass Ring	Carved Fiberglass Ring
Scale Length	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Neck Width @ Nut	1 $\frac{11}{16}$ "	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	1 $\frac{11}{16}$ "	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	1 $\frac{11}{16}$ "	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "
No. Of Frets	24	24	22	22	22	22
Neck Joins Body @	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret
Fingerboard	walnut	walnut	walnut	walnut	walnut	walnut
Radius Of F B	10"	10"	10"	10"	10"	10"
Inlays	8 Maple	8 Maple	8 Maple	8 Maple	8 Maple	8 Maple
Bridge	Carved Walnut	Carved Walnut	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut
Machine Heads	Deluxe 24K Gold	Deluxe 24K Gold	Deluxe 24K Gold	Deluxe 24K Gold	Deluxe 24K Gold	Deluxe 24K Gold
Pickup	Piezoelectric Steel String	Piezoelectric Steel String	Piezoelectric Steel String	Piezoelectric Steel String	Piezoelectric Steel String	Piezoelectric Steel String
Electronics	OP-24 3 Band E.Q.	OP-24 3 Band E.Q.	OP-24 3 Band E.Q.	OP-24 3 Band E.Q.	OP-24 3 Band E.Q.	OP-24 3 Band E.Q.





## Warranty Card and Certificate of Compliance with The Special Quality Requirements

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All Ovation guitars undergo quality inspection at the factory and only that accepted are issued a factory warranty card and an original warranty card prepared for each country to which the guitars are to be exported.

In the next step we additionally specially select guitars compliant with rigid quality standards out of those guitars already accepted, and issue this Certificate of Compliance with The Special Quality Requirements to accompany them.

(Just as each model has its own material quality standard used for top use each model has its own quality standards for finished product specifications.)

All the guitars with this certificate in a first quality product and assure "finish and quality of the highest level" in terms of "performance, material, color, vibration measurement, etc.," and ensure that the instruments will keep its excellence for years to come.

Also, with respects to products for this country, a warranty card of either of the two Ovation-affiliated wholesalers is attached at the factory, while ones guitars being exported are accompanied by a warranty card of a sole agent. Guitars having only a factory warranty card and that are not accompanied by a

proper warranty card of wholesalers/sole agent are often refurbished scratched guitars, refurbished bit shopworn guitar and refurbished used guitar during consumer shows held around the U.S.A.. In the U.S. A. the guitar is commonly known as meaning second quality of factory recondition. Therefore, please confirm the proper documents before purchasing.

Please carefully retain this certificate and the warranty card. The presence of the certificate and the manufacturer's serial number are registered and kept by the wholesaler/sole agent to help improve the service for the quality control of your guitar.



right to left : Factory Warranty Card, Kaman/Nakao Wholesale Warranty Card, Factory Certificate of Compliance with The Special Quality Requirement

## Service And Maintenance

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The manufacture of high-tech instruments demands that close tolerances be consistently met. If the final step in the process is not rigid quality control, the design concepts and engineering skills involed in guitar manufacture will come to naught. With the introduction of our newest Ovation and Adamas models, the most sophisticated and demanding quality control procedures have been implemented.

Most international Ovation distributors (Nakao Corporation in Japan) are equipped to repair your

Ovation guitar should it be required. Their service departments are staffed with craftspeople who are familiar with the methods used in the construction of our instruments and are trained to handle problems at the factory that might arise with Ovation guitars.

Because of the unique construction of our guitars, we recommend that only an international Ovation distributor (Nakao Corporation in Japan) or an authorized dealer service your instrument.



# Ovation

**W**e've come a long way since Charlie Kaman started making guitars in our helicopter blade factory in Connecticut over 25 years ago. I remember that early commitment well. A commitment to build a revolutionary new guitar using the latest Aerospace Technology and New England craftsmanship. I see the same excitement today as we continue to expand the boundaries of conventional wisdom about guitar making. People seem to expect it from us and we expect the same from ourselves.

The evolution of the distinctive family of Ovation guitars began as an engineering project. The result was a literal reinvention of the guitar. Extensive research using the physical laws of acoustics and vibration led Charlie's research group to favor a Roundback design. A rounded back projects a strong, clear tone throughout the entire playing range, something a flat back guitar cannot do.

Professional input has always had a big role in our new product development. Our pickup system and on-board electronics have set the standard for live and recorded acoustic guitar sound. Six piezoelectric elements are placed at each string anchor point on the Delrin saddle, the point at which the combination of string and top sound are produced. The mixture of individual string and top vibration helped us make music history. The aluminum channel in which the crystals are held provides important shielding for quiet operation.

The Kaman bar neck was the result of the need for a more stable guitar for the traveling performer. The Kaman bar provides maximum stiffness at the lowest possible weight, while retaining ease of adjustment. When this structure is bolted into the Lyra-chord® heel block in the bowl, you have an immensely strong arrangement designed to allow pressure to be absorbed by durable synthetic materials rather than the delicate woods. I have flown from sub zero temperature in Connecticut to sunny Los Angeles hundreds of times with my guitar and never had any neck movement problems.



*Bill Kaman, president of Ovation Instruments, Inc., with his Collector Series Guitars.*



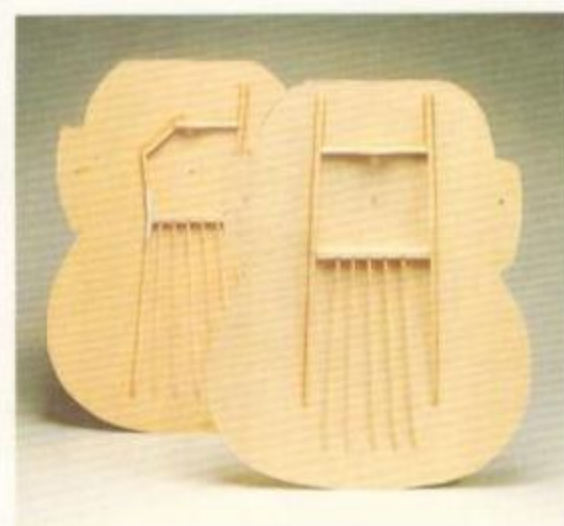
Our Adamas and Elite guitars made people stop and listen to our logic... they simply sound, look and play the best of any guitar made today. Their 22 sound hole top design allowed us to use a more efficient bracing pattern. The result is the loudest, richest sounding guitar you can find.

I'm proud of our employees at the factory in New Hartford, Connecticut. Many of our employees have been with Ovation since the beginning and

nobody in any country of the world makes them like we do here.

The Roundback is now seen in top professional players' hands all over the world. I hope you receive as much satisfaction from playing your Ovation as we do from building them.

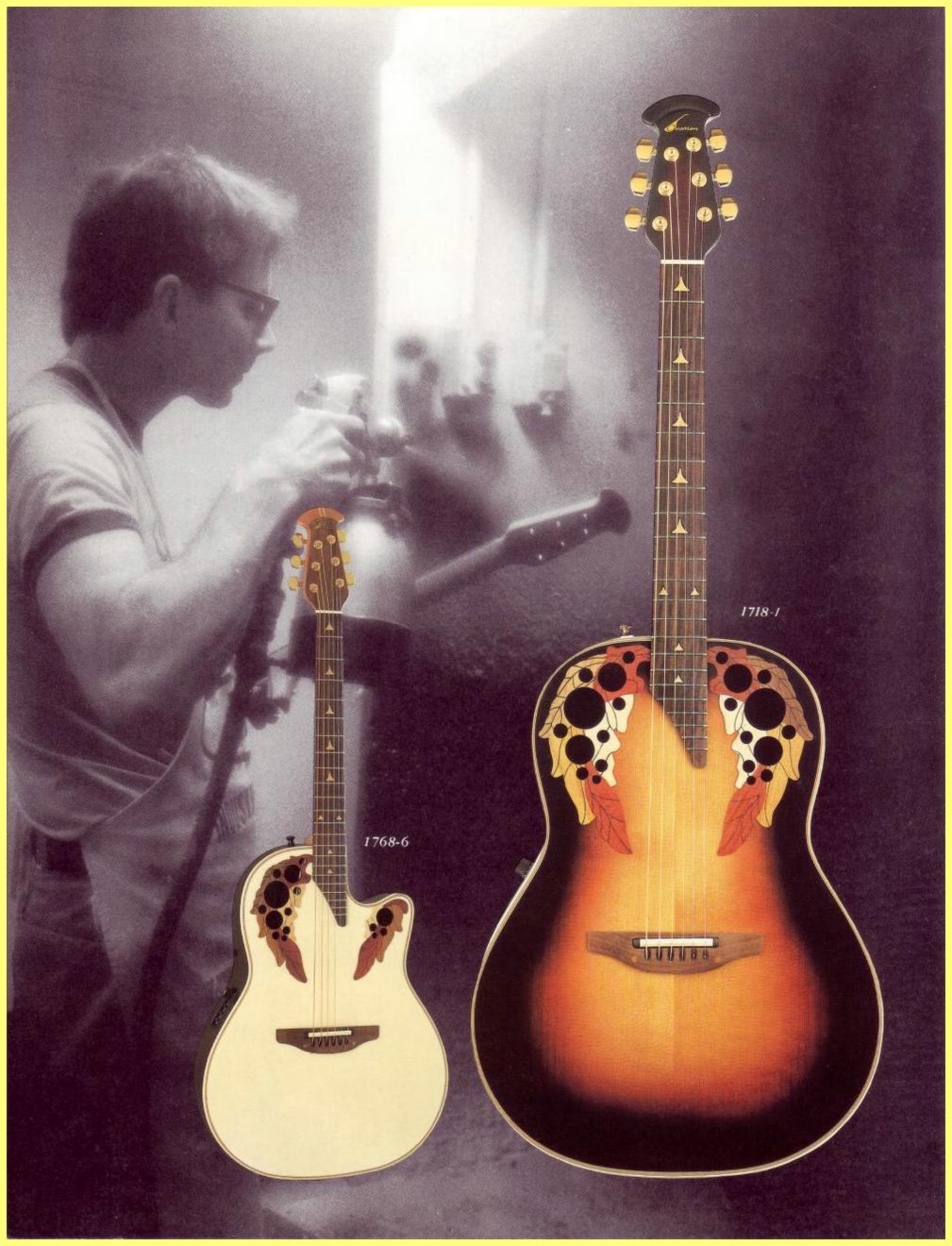
*C. William Kaman, II*











1768-6

1718-1



# Elite

## 1868 Super Shallow Cutaway



1758-4

Specifications	1718 Deep Bowl L718 Left Hand	1768 Deep Bowl Cutaway	1868 Super Shallow Cutaway	1758 12-String	1858 12-String Super Shallow Cutaway
Length/Width/Depth	40 $\frac{7}{8}$ " x 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{13}{16}$ " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm	40 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{13}{16}$ " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm	40 $\frac{7}{8}$ " x 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 4 $\frac{3}{16}$ " 103.5 x 40 x 10.6cm	41 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{13}{16}$ " 105.4 x 40 x 14.8cm	41 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 4 $\frac{3}{16}$ " 105.4 x 40 x 10.6cm
Top	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA
Top Bracing	Quintad	Quintad	Quintad	Quintad	Quintad
Body	Deep Bowl	Deep Bowl Cutaway	Super Shallow Cutaway	Deep Bowl	Super Shallow Cutaway
Body Binding	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained
Scale Length	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ " / 64.1cm	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ " / 64.1cm	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ " / 64.1cm	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ " / 64.1cm	25 $\frac{1}{4}$ " / 64.1cm
Neck Width @ Nut	1 $\frac{11}{16}$ " / 4.3cm	1 $\frac{11}{16}$ " / 4.3cm	1 $\frac{11}{16}$ " / 4.3cm	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " / 4.8cm	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " / 4.8cm
No. of Frets	22	22	22	22	22
Neck Joins Body @	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret
Fingerboard	Rosewood	Rosewood	Rosewood	Rosewood	Rosewood
Radius of Fingerboard	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm
Inlays	9 Maple	9 Maple	9 Maple	9 Maple	9 Maple
Bridge	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut
Machine Heads	24K Gold	24K Gold	24K Gold	24K Gold	24K Gold
Finish	-1, -4, -5,	-1, -4, -5,	-1, -4, -5, -6,	-1, -4, -5, -6	-1, -4, -5, -6,
Pick-Ups	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel
Electronics	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24

### COLOR AND ACOUSTIC ELECTRIC FEATURE CODES

Standard Colors	Acoustic Electric Features
1-Sunburst	Op-24: Active Preamp, 3 Band E.Q.
4-Natural	
5-Black	
6-Cream White	
7-Nutmeg	
9-Dark Brown	
ASW-Angelstep Walnut	

ultimate in strength and rigidity. The 22 fret fingerboard is made from black walnut and features inlaid wooden position markers. Machine keys are 24K gold plated Ovation Schallers.

Lyrachord guitar bowl, walnut bridge, and the OP-24 active preamp with three band E.Q. gives you unprecedented control over your acoustic electric sound.

Ovation Roundbacks are available in two bowl depths. The 5 $\frac{13}{16}$ " deep bowl provides the fullest acoustic sound. The 4 $\frac{3}{16}$ " super shallow cutaway bowl will give you a clear and penetrating acoustic sound, while allowing an extremely comfortable feel and ease of playing access to the upper frets. The necks on all super shallow bowl Roundbacks have jumbo frets which further contribute to the playing ease for which these models are known.



1768-5

1868-1

Our top-of-the-line Elite puts much of the Adamas technology within the reach of many more players.

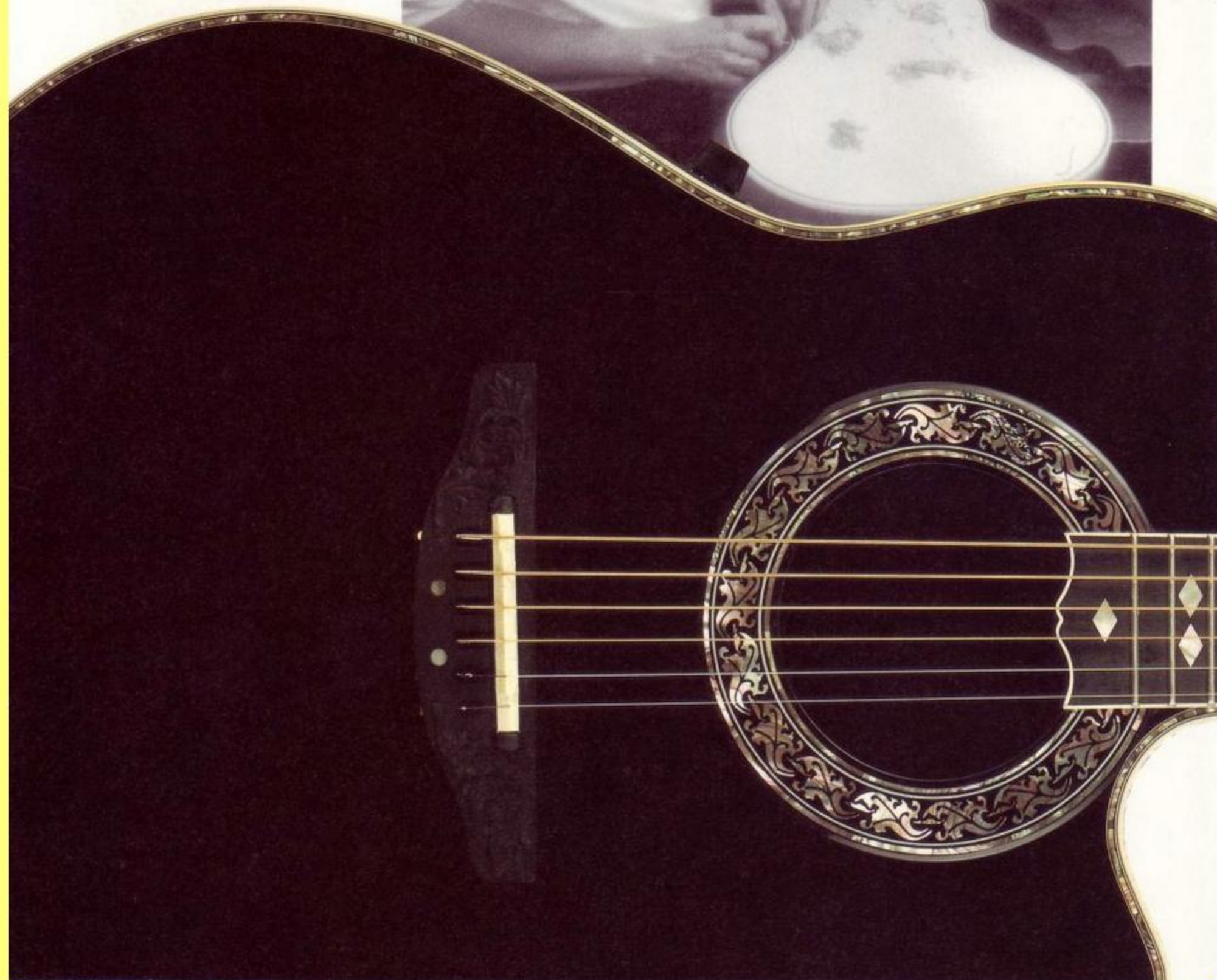
Elite's spruce top develops different tonal characteristics than the Adamas' carbon-graphite/birch top. With its Adamas-derived, Quintad II brace pattern, the top is 0.100" thick overall and, constructed from our best grade spruce, reinforced with birch veneer in the upper bout for outstanding highs. The sound hole configuration is based on the Adamas design and accented by epaulets consisting of five different exotic woods.

Elite's five-piece neck (three mahogany and two maple layers) incorporates the famous Kaman Bar for the



# Custom Legend

Over 200 pieces of Abalone are inlaid by hand in each Ovation Custom Legend guitar.





The Custom Legend is the best Ovation roundhole guitar we make. Representing a major advancement in top design, the Custom Legend combines the finest hand selected Sitka spruce with our unique "A" shaped bracing pattern. The A-brace places supports that run with the grain of the top instead of against it, thereby giving the top strength while still allowing it to be extremely sensitive to vibration. The Custom Legend is one of the guitars most requested and played by our top name endorsees in every style of music.

Our acoustic-electric version has an OP-24 preamp and a three band graphic E.Q. providing a wide degree of tonal shading and beautiful separation to really bring your sound to life.

The Custom Legend is finished with careful attention to detail. Genuine abalone purfling and inlays

along with a carved walnut bridge help make the Custom Legend one of the finest guitars ever built.

#### Cutaway Model

Custom Legend Cutaway Roundbacks allow free access to the upper frets for expressive chords and lead lines. Incorporating the famous Ovation built-in acoustic-electric pickup system, they can take your music to new and dynamic places.

#### Custom Legend 12-String

Sharing cosmetic features with its 6-string counterpart, the Custom Legend 12-string represents the ultimate, wood top professional instrument.



Specifications	1869 Custom Legend Super Shallow Cutaway	1719 Custom Legend	1759 Custom Legend 12-String	1769 Custom Legend Deep Bowl Cutaway
Length/Width/Depth	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 4 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 10.6cm	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm	41 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 105.4 x 40 x 14.8cm	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm
Top	Sitka Spruce AAA Hand Picked	Sitka Spruce AAA Hand Picked	Sitka Spruce AAA Hand Picked	Sitka Spruce AAA Hand Picked
Top Bracing	A	A	A-12	A
Body	Super Shallow Cutaway	Deep Bowl	Deep Bowl	Deep Bowl Cutaway
Body Binding	Abalone Purfling	Abalone Purfling	Abalone Purfling	Abalone Purfling
Scale Length	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm
Neck Width @ Nut	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.8cm	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm
No. of Frets	20	20	20	20
Neck Joins Body @	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret
Fingerboard	Ebony, Ivory Binding	Ebony, Ivory Binding	Ebony, Ivory Binding	Ebony, Ivory Binding
Radius of Fingerboard	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm
Inlays	29 Genuine Abalone	29 Genuine Abalone	29 Genuine Abalone	29 Genuine Abalone
Bridge	Carved Walnut	Carved Walnut	Carved Walnut	Carved Walnut
Machine Heads	24K Gold Pearlloid Buttons	24K Gold Pearlloid Buttons	24K Gold Pearlloid Buttons	24K Gold Pearlloid Buttons
Finish	-1, -4, -5, -6	-1, -4, -5	-1, -4, -5	-1, -4, -5
Pick-Ups	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel
Electronics	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24

For Color And Acoustic Electric Feature Codes 17

1869-5





1866-1

1717-4



# Legend

Always the mainstay of the Ovation line of guitars, the Legend has an established reputation that is befitting of its name. The Legend has features designed to appeal to the professional and semi-pro musician: a bound fingerboard, Kaman bar neck, a top grade Sitka spruce top, Ovation A-brace pattern and on-board active electronics. The Legend is seen on-stage with major performers throughout the world and can be heard on recordings of top hits.

## The Cutaways

Included in the Legend family are super shallow bowl (1867) and deep bowl (1767) electric Cutaways with our unique A-shape bracing pattern. These Cutaways have been gaining rapid acceptance since their unhesitating endorsement by international

jazz super star Al DiMeola. The Legend super shallow bowl electric is the ideal guitar for the player looking for a great acoustic and acoustic-electric sound with a feel comparable to that of a solid body.

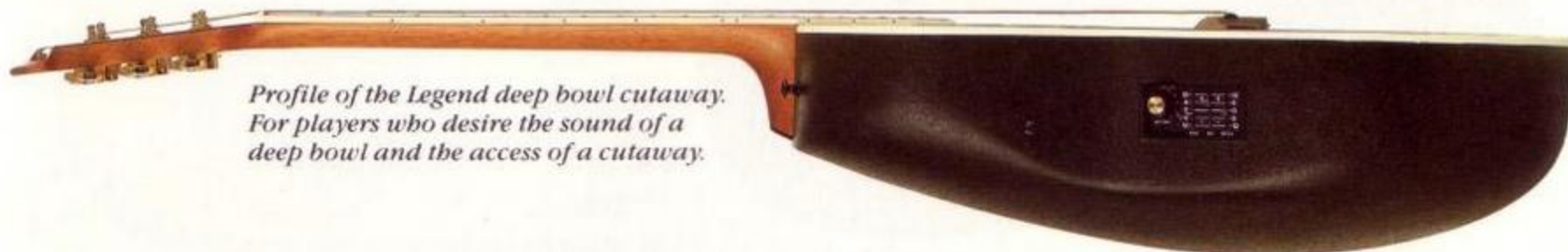
## Legend 12-String

Our 12-string version of the popular Legend Roundback offers remarkable clarity and string separation and a neck so thin and fast that even the smallest hand has no problem with it. All of our 12-strings have necks which join the body at the 14th fret and are designed to be tuned to concert pitch.



Specifications	1717 Legend L717 Legend Left Hand	1767 Legend Deep Bowl Cutaway	1867 Legend Super Shallow Cutaway	1756 Legend 12-String	1866 Legend 12-String Super Shallow Cutaway
Length/Width/Depth	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm	41 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 105.4 x 40 x 14.8cm	40 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 105.4 x 40 x 10.6cm
Top	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA	Sitka Spruce AA
Top Bracing	A	A	A	A-12	A-12
Body	Deep Bowl	Deep Bowl Cutaway	Super Shallow Cutaway	Deep Bowl	Super Shallow Cutaway
Body Binding	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained
Scale Length	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm
Neck Width @ Nut	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.8cm	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.8cm
No. of Frets	20	20	20	20	20
Neck Joins Body @	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret	14th Fret
Fingerboard	Ebony, Ivory Binding	Ebony, Ivory Binding	Ebony, Ivory Binding	Ebony, Ivory Binding	Ebony, Ivory Binding
Radius of Fingerboard	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm
Inlays	15 Pearl	15 Pearl	15 Pearl	15 Pearl	15 Pearl
Bridge	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut	Walnut
Machine Heads	24K Gold	24K Gold	24K Gold	24K Gold	24K Gold
Finish	-1, -4, -5	-1, -4, -5	-1, -4, -5, -6	-1, -4, -5	-1, -4, -5, -6
Pick-Ups	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel
Electronics	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24

For Color And Acoustic Electric Feature Codes see page 17



*Profile of the Legend deep bowl cutaway.  
For players who desire the sound of a  
deep bowl and the access of a cutaway.*



# Elite Limited



The body top of the Elite Limited model is made from angel step walnut with a beautifully winding grain. The model label of asymmetrical circles represents the fascinating curves of this grain.

The Elite Limited has only two models: 6 and 12 string super shallow cutaways. They are available only in one color, maximizing the effects of natural grain.

Designed to possess every quality required of a professional guitar, this first-rate model has distinguishing sound which is different from Adamas guitars with carbon-graphite tops and Elites with spruce tops, although the soundhole design is the same.

Both the 6 and 12 string models have Op-24 active equalization system 3 band EQ and a five-piece, Kaman Bar neck. The 22 fret fingerboard, made with black walnut is decorated with nine maple inlays. The Elite Limited model is every guitarist's dream-come-true with its beautiful design and perfect qualities.

5868-ASW

5858-ASW



Specifications	5868 6-String Super Shallow Cutaway	5858 12-String Super Shallow Cutaway
Length/Width/Depth	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 10.6cm	41 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 105.4 x 40 x 10.6cm
Top	Angel Step Walnut	Angel Step Walnut
Body	Super Shallow Cutaway	Super Shallow Cutaway
Body Binding	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained
Scale Length	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm
Neck Width @ Nut	1 <sup>11</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm	1 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> " / 4.8cm
No. of Frets	22	22
Neck Joins Body @	14th Fret	14th Fret
Fingerboard	Rosewood	Rosewood
Radius of Fingerboard	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm
Inlays	9 Maple	9 Maple
Bridge	Walnut	Walnut
Machine Heads	24K Gold	24K Gold
Finish	ASW	ASW
Pick-Ups	Piezoelectric Steel String	Piezoelectric Steel String
Electronics	Op-24	Op-24

For Color and Acoustic Electric Feature Codes see page 17

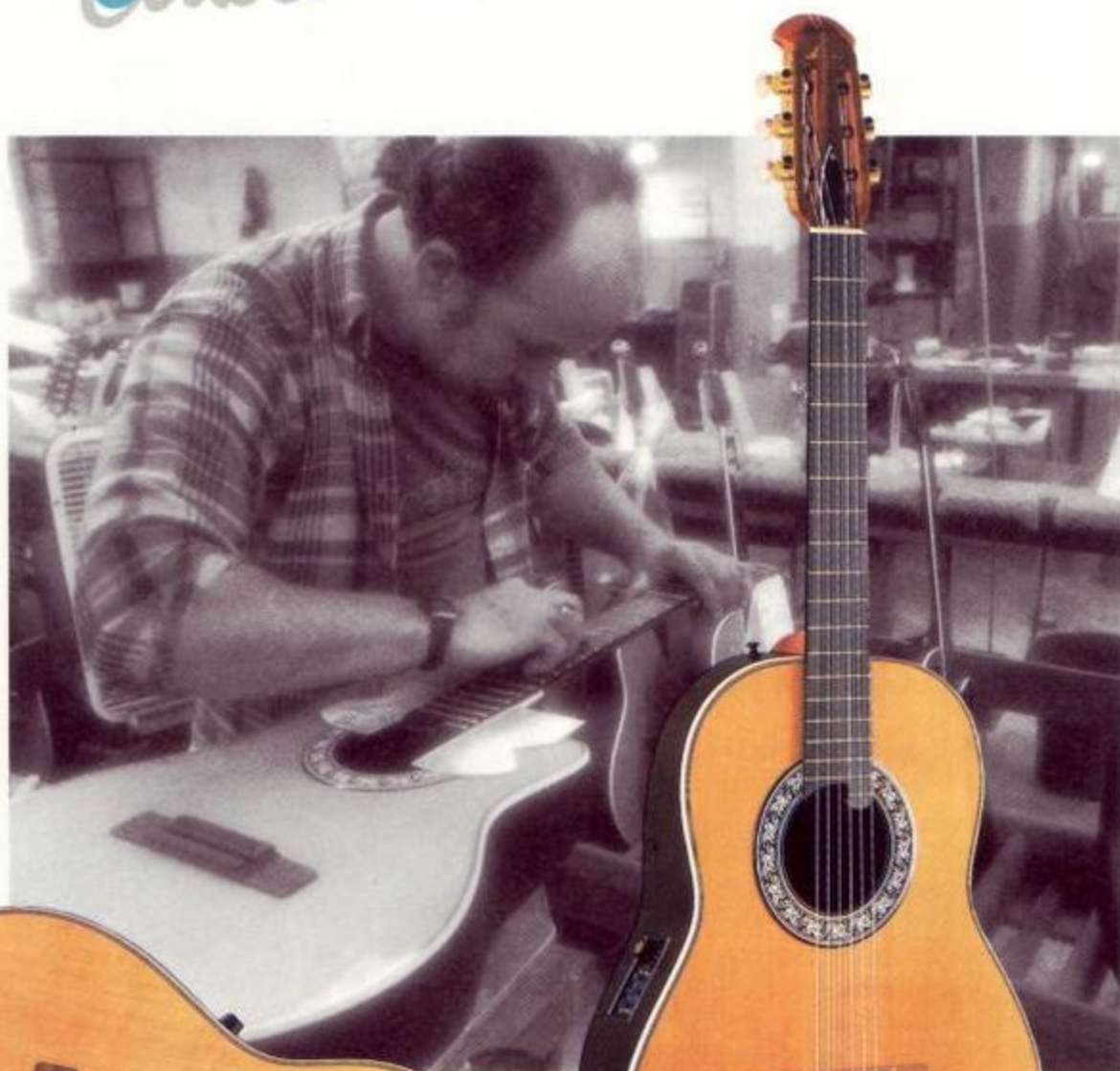


# Classics

The Ovation Classic is a nylon string guitar created for the serious musician. Our Roundback design offers a new dimension in acoustic sound for the nylon string player. The Ovation Classic acoustic-electric model lends itself to ensemble and amplified classical performance. Some composers have even begun to write pieces for the acoustic electric guitar. The combination of a cedar top in our AAA grade and unique double fan bracing pattern gives the Classic beautiful sustain, full resonance, and penetrating clarity.

## Nylon String Cutaways

Ovation now offers a nylon string Classic Electric Cutaway. The deep bowl Classic Cutaway is a 19 fret design with cedar top and Ovation double fan bracing. Both models incorporate piezoelectric pickups with the OP-24 three band graphic E.Q. system.



Specifications	1863 Classic Super Shallow Cutaway	1763 Classic Deep Bowl Cutaway	1713 Classic
Length/Width/Depth	41" x 15 3/4" x 4 3/16" 104.1 x 40 x 10.6cm	41" x 15 3/4" x 5 13/16" 104.1 x 40 x 14.8cm	41" x 15 3/4" x 5 13/16" 104.1 x 40 x 14.8cm
Top	Cedar AAA	Cedar AAA	Cedar AAA
Body	Super Shallow Cutaway	Deep Bowl Cutaway	Deep Bowl
Body Binding	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained	Ivory Grained
Scale Length	26 3/16" / 66.5cm	26 3/16" / 66.5cm	26 3/16" / 66.5cm
Neck Width @ Nut	2" / 5.1cm	2" / 5.1cm	2" / 5.1cm
No. of Frets	19	19	19
Neck Joins Body @	12th Fret	12th Fret	12th Fret
Fingerboard	Ebony	Ebony	Ebony
Radius of Fingerboard	Flat	Flat	Flat
Inlays	None	None	None
Bridge	Classic Walnut	Classic Walnut	Classic Walnut
Machine Heads	Classic 24K Gold	Classic 24K Gold	Classic 24K Gold
Finish	- 4,	- 4,	- 4,
Pick-Ups	Piezoelectric Classic	Piezoelectric Classic	Piezoelectric classic
Electronics	Op-24	Op-24	Op-24

For Color and Acoustic Electric Feature Codes see page 17.

1863-4



# Craftsman

There is no compromise whatsoever in making Craftsman guitars-top quality is eagerly pursued and our experienced craftsman strictly select only the best materials.

Nothing but the best spruce-known as the tallest tree on the North American Continent-from Sitka, Alaska is used for the body top. The 200 to 300 year-old spruce trees have tight and even growth rings and produce clear timber which enables ideal acoustic qualities, including adequate resilience and superior vibration. The words "Hand Selected AAAA" in the specifications means that the material is of the highest quality.

Body and fingerboard purflings, rosette and inlays are made of the finest Mexican abalone, which among all other shellfish, possess remarkable beauty. The outer rim are made of several hundred pieces of shells of superior quality in all aspects, including luster, shine and color, and are all inlaid manually by experienced craftsmen, adding a luxurious touch. The whole body has a classical and sophisticated grace worthy of Ovation products, exuding a gorgeous and high-grade atmosphere. The Ovation logomark on the peghead is also made of first-rate abalone.



N768-9



N769-7



Specifications	N769 Craftsman Deep Bowl Cutaway	N768 Craftsman Deep Bowl Cutaway
Length / Width / Depth	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm	40 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 15 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " x 5 <sup>13</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " 103.5 x 40 x 14.8cm
Top	Sitka Spruce AAAA Hand Selected	Sitka Spruce AAAA Hand Selected
Top Bracing	A	Quinted
Body	Deep Bowl Cutaway	Deep Bowl Cutaway Abalone Purfling
Body Binding	Ivory Grained, Abalone Purfling	Ivory Grained
Scale Length	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm	25 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> " / 64.1cm
Neck Width @ Nut	1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm	1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>16</sub> " / 4.3cm
No. of Frets	20	22
Neck Joins Body @	14th Fret	14th Fret
Fingerboard	Ebony, Ivory with Abalone Purfling	Rosewood, Ivory with Abalone Purfling
Radius of Fingerboard	10" / 25.4cm	10" / 25.4cm
Inlays	29 Genuine Abalone	9 Maple
Bridge	Carved Walnut	Walnut
Machine Heads	Deluxe 24K Gold Plated	Deluxe 24K Gold Plated
Finish	-7	-7, -9
Pick-Ups	Piezoelectric Steel	Piezoelectric Steel String
Electronics	Op-24	Op-24



# Special Edition



In times when new musical expressions are constantly sought after, the Special Edition guitar is designed to meet the highest demands of the musician. These two models are only made to order and every product is elaborately checked and tested to meet the highest standards that a hand-made guitar can possibly reach.

Ovation continues its comprehensive research and development in the creation of better sound and guitars for the benefit of musicians who are enthusiastic about creative music.



B768



Model D868 Ovation Doubleneck		
Specification	Standard	Option
Top	Solid Sitka Spruce	Solid Sitka Spruce
Brace Pattern	Quinted D	Quinted D
Scale Length	25 1/4"	25 1/4"
Neck Widths @ Nut	1 11/16" (6 String) 1 7/8" (12 String)	1 11/16" (6 String) 1 7/8" (12 String)
Neck Configuration	12 String/Top; 6 String/Bottom	6 String/Top; 12 String/Bottom
Top Finish	Sunburst, Natural, Black	White, Other
Bowl Color	Black, Brown	Black, Brown
Neck Construction/Finish	5 Piece with K-Bar, Satin Finish	5 Piece with K-Bar, Gloss Finish
Neck To Body	At 14th Fret	At 16th Fret
Fingerboard Material	Rosewood	Ebony
Fingerboard Inlays	Maple Elite Pattern	Abalone/Custom, Legend Pattern, Polyster/Legend Pattern
Fingerboard Binding	Ivory	Abalone
Frets (Number/Size)	22/Jumbo	22/Regular
Body Binding/Purfling	4 Ply Elite Type	Abalone
Bridges	Walnut, Natural Finish	Carved Walnut Natural or Black Finish
Meghead Logos	Gold Decal	Mother Of Pearl
Machine Head	24K Gold	Chrome or Black
Electronics	Op-24	Op-24

Model B768 Elite Bass	
Top	Solid Sitka Spruce
Body	Deep Bowl Cutaway
Top Bracing	Quintad
Bowl Color	Brown (-5, Black)
Body Binding	Ivory Grained
Neck Const./Material	2 Piece: Mahogany
Neck Finish	Satin, Natural Finish (-5, Black Finish)
Neck Width @ Nut	1 9/16"
No. Of Frets	24: Jumbo
Neck Joins Body @	16th Fret
Neck Adjustment	Kaman Bar
Scale Length	34"
Fingerboard	Ebony
Radius Of Fingerboard	10" (25.4cm)
Inlays	9 Maple
Bridge	Walnut
Finish	-1, -4, -5, -6
Machine Heads	24K Gold Schallers
Pickups	Piezoelectric
Electronics	Op-24



D868



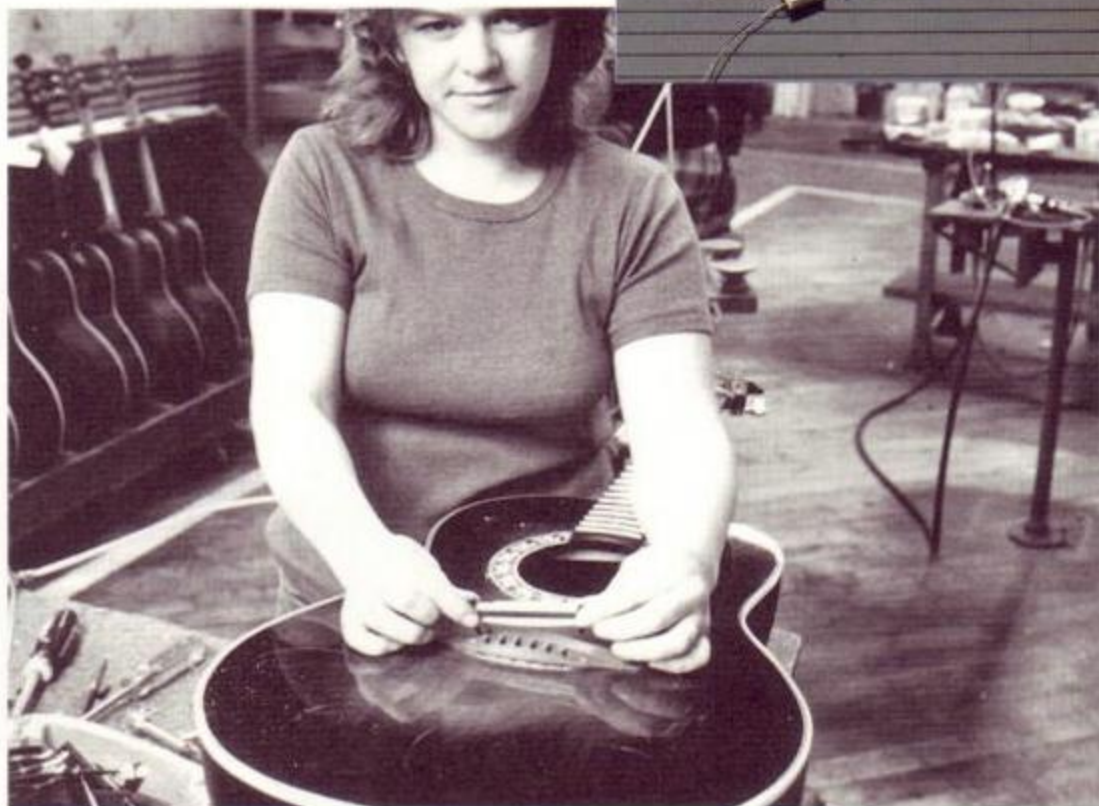
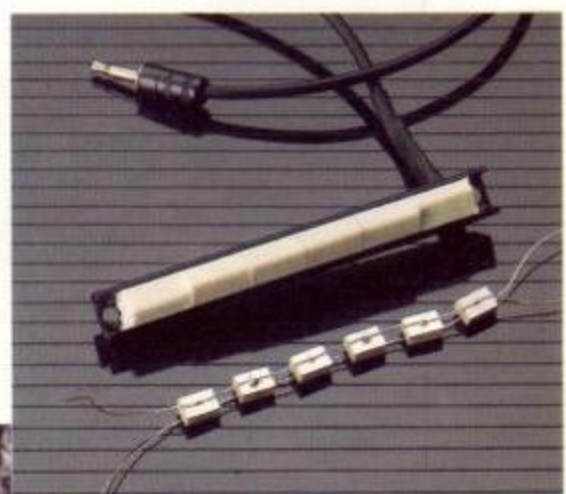
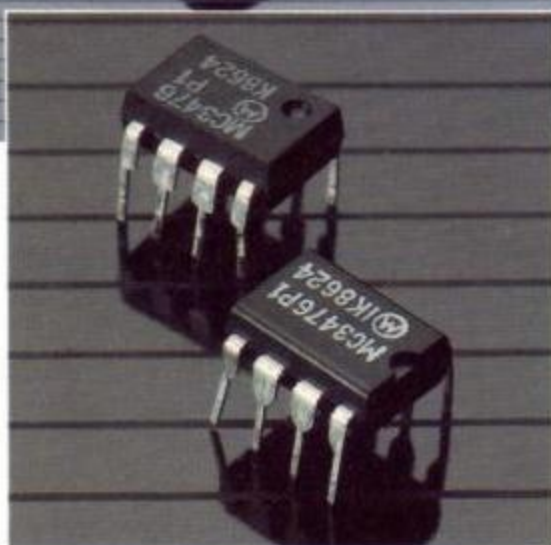
# Electronics



For the full story on Ovation pick-up design, you'd have to go back to the late '60's. Acoustic guitars began to compete with the projection of electric instruments, both on stage and in the studio. Ovation engineers rose to the challenge and developed the six crystal in-bridge system that allowed musicians the creative option of an acoustic sound in an electric world. An acoustic electric guitar sound that continues to add variety today to the high-tech electro-pop synthesizer sounds that have become so popular.

## OP-24 Preamp

The state-of-the-art OP-24 three band equalizer represents the latest advance in acoustic-electric amplification. It is by far the most powerful system we have ever produced. Six operational amplifiers with 24 transistors each provide you with the quietest, most efficient and most reliable system available today. The three bands of active equalization boost or cut 12 decibels. The result: An extraordinary range of tonal possibilities. The OP-24 option is available on all Legend, Custom Legend, and Elite models.





# Cases

Owning an Ovation guitar doesn't stop with the guitar itself. Every fine instrument needs a protective case to insure a lifetime of pleasure and performance. Specially designed to accommodate Roundbacks, the inside of our deluxe, molded case is plush-lined and form-fitted to hold the guitar snugly and securely. An inside pocket provides storage for strings and small accessories. After all, if you thought enough to buy the world's best guitar, it only makes sense to protect it with an Ovation case.

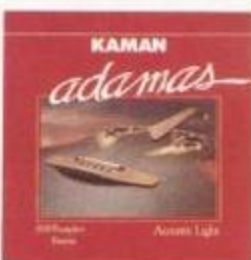
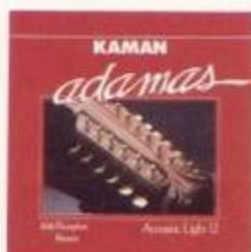


Description	Model	Color
Molded Case (Deep Bowl)	9110-0	Black
Molded Case (Super Shallow Bowl)	9117-0	Black

## Strings

### Adamas Phosphor Bronze Strings

They feature Composite Gauging, which produce superior sound when played either acoustically or amplified. By utilizing core and wrap wires of identical size, neither part of the string dominates the various modes of string vibration. They vibrate more consistently and with greater amplitude to produce a sharper, more precise tone. The computer controlled string winding equipment, a spin-off of Kaman Aerospace technology, builds exceptional quality into Adamas strings, with phosphor bronze wires wound around the core wires. No matter which model of acoustic or acoustic electric guitar you put Adamas strings on, you will get a sharper, clearer tone that will convince you that you have never played better. Adamas strings are with distinctive knobs (patent pending) of solid brass.



MODEL NO. (SET)	E1	B2	G3	D4	A5	E6
#1616 LIGHT GAUGE	.010	.014	.023	.030	.038	.047
12-STRINGS	.010	.014	.008	.014	.018	.027
#1717 EXTRA-LIGHT GAUGE	.010	.014	.023	.030	.038	.047
#1818 LIGHT GAUGE	.012	.015	.023	.032	.044	.053
#1919 MEDIUM GAUGE	.013	.016	.025	.035	.047	.056

### Ovation Bronze Strings

They are of quality bronze strings, designed and reasonably-priced for professional players and also beginners. Ovation strings, produced by the computer controlled string winding equipment, project a clearer and better-balanced tone, ideal for both stage performances and practices. They are with distinctive knobs of solid brass like Adamas strings.



MODEL NO. (SET)	E1	B2	G3	D4	A5	E6
#5112 LIGHT GAUGE	.009	.012	.020	.026	.036	.046
12-STRINGS	.009	.012	.009	.011	.018	.024
#5113 EXTRA-LIGHT GAUGE	.011	.014	.022	.030	.036	.046
#5114 LIGHT GAUGE	.012	.015	.025	.034	.044	.054
#5115 MEDIUM GAUGE	.013	.017	.026	.038	.048	.058

### Omega Classics Strings

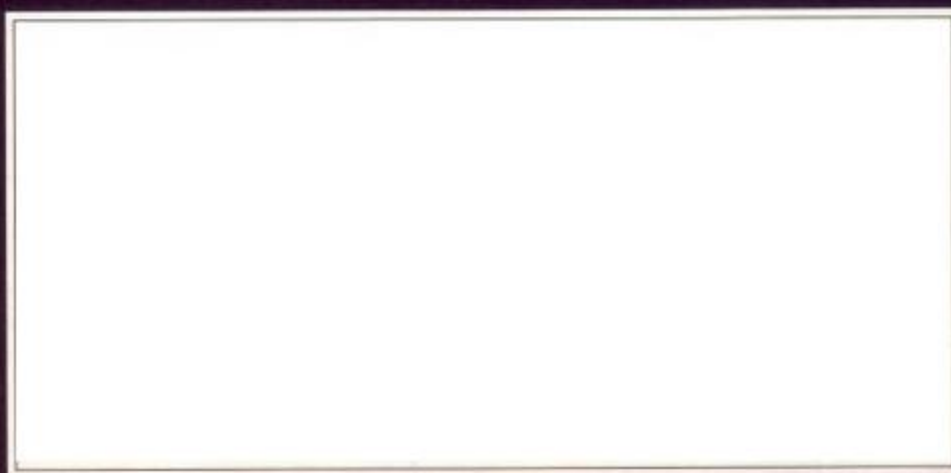
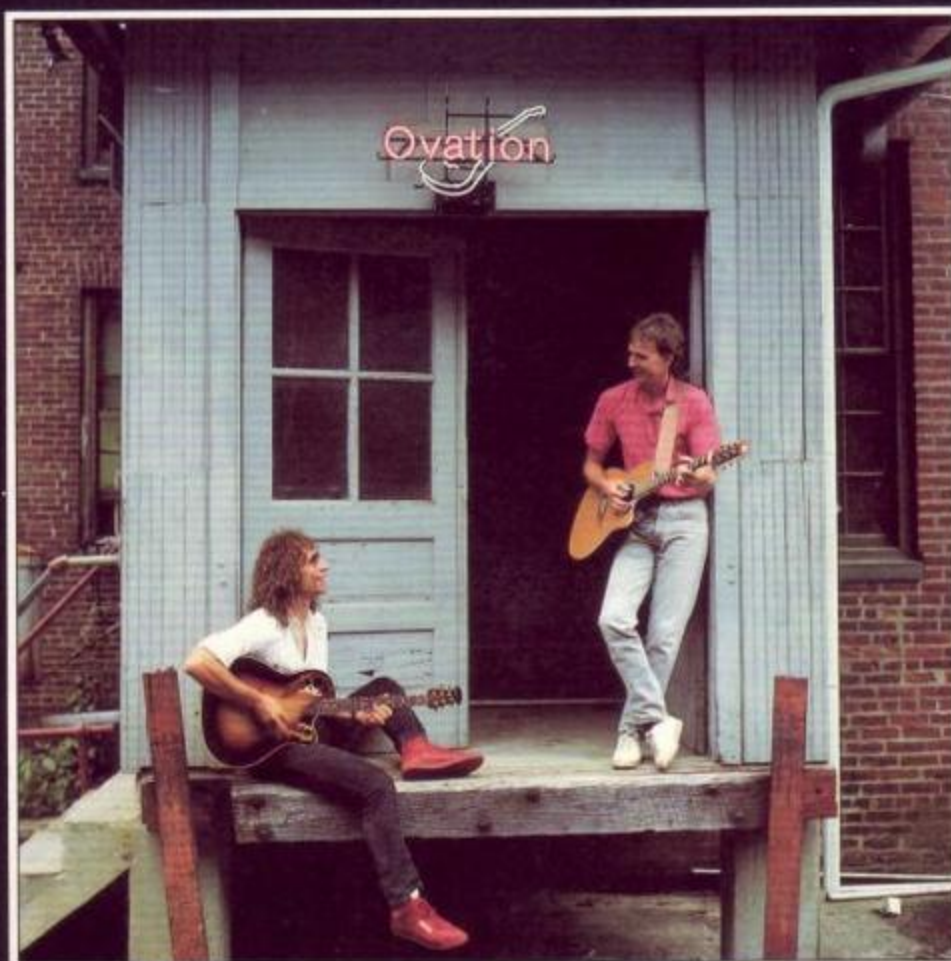
They are of mono-drawn woven synthetic belt for use in the core, wrapped with new silver plated cadmium bronze, while conventional classics guitar strings are wrapped with elastic nylon. They do not go floppy, but give more projection, improved balance and a clearer crisp bass sound, just right for today's performing classics players. Omega Classics Strings represent the latest nylon string technology, only possible with the mono-draw system which extrudes individual nylon fiber continuously one at a time, accurately to 1/10,000 of an inch.



MODEL NO. (SET)	E1	B2	G3	D4	A5	E6
#4141 NORMAL TENSION	.028	.032	.040	.030	.036	.042
#4242 HIGH TENSION	.028	.032	.040	.032	.038	.044
#4343 EXTRA HIGH TENSION WOUND THIRD	.030	.034	.029	.034	.040	.046







Kaman Music Corporation, P.O. Box 507, Bloomfield, CT, U.S.A. 06002  
Nakao Corporation, 12-8 Nihonbashi-Hisamatsucho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan