

*Master Series*  
by  
*Fender*<sup>®</sup>

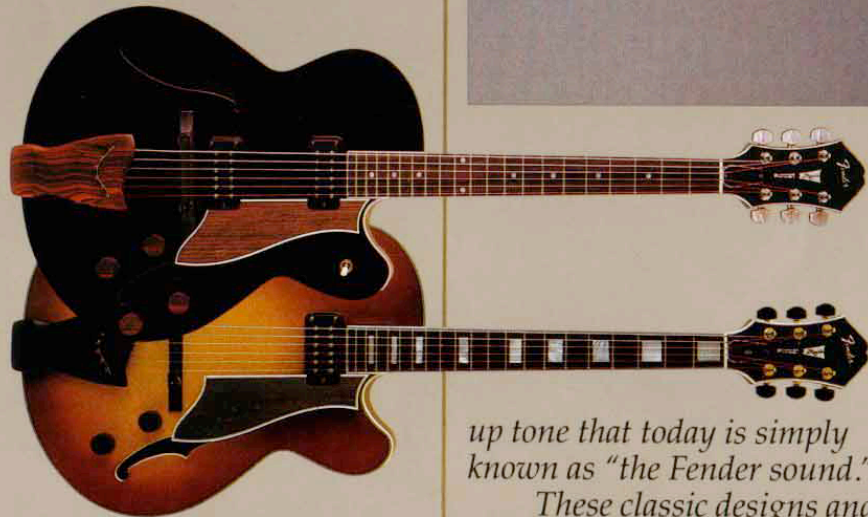


Since Fender guitars first emerged into the musical world from a tiny shop in Fullerton, California, the Fender marque has been associ-

# Master Series

ated with a set of characteristics that have shaped the Fender legend for 40 years.

Those Fenders revolutionized modern music, and they did it with solid hardwood bodies carved in sensuous shapes, with bolt-on rock maple necks, a unique headstock design with "six on a side" tuning machines, and with a brash, jangly single-coil pick-



Smaller-bodied D'Aquisto Standard (top) and Elite, shown in Black and Autumn Burst.

## Fender leads a renaissance in guitar artistry



after electric guitar all over the world — a dominance which continues to this day.

But leadership, once achieved, can never be taken for granted. And to maintain leadership in a field as active and dynamic as music requires ceaseless effort and experimentation — not only researching ways to improve existing products, but developing entirely new products which take ad-

vantage of a company's unique strengths and skills.

Approximately three years ago, this philosophy led Fender's master guitar designers and technicians to an important conclusion regarding the state of the electric guitar



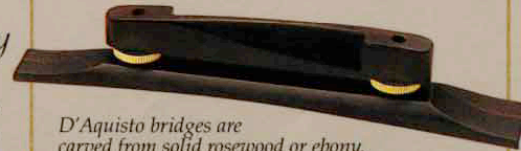
James L. D'Aquisto, world-renowned guitar luthier and designer.

market. While the only serious competition for Fender's designs was the family of hollow and semi-solid guitars utilizing set necks and dual-coil

# D'Aquisto

humbucking pickups, Fender saw opportunities for major improvements in this basic design concept and decided to undertake the project.

Thus the Master Series was born. A family of nine all-new instruments which bring Fender innovation and quality to guitarists who prefer the sound and feel of chambered bodies and humbucking pickups. From the elegantly crafted D'Aquisto Series — designed and built under the personal supervision of the great master himself — to the contemporarily-styled Esprit™ models — to the slimmed-down Flame™ line,



D'Aquisto bridges are carved from solid rosewood or ebony.

each offers a combination of time-proven design and exciting new tonalities and features unavailable anywhere else.

A few minutes spent with

any Master Series instrument will prove the point: the Fender legend has taken on a whole new dimension.

The Fender/D'Aquisto Association:

Fender takes great pride in joining hands with James L. D'Aquisto in developing the first truly new production hollow-body acoustic/electrics in many years. Acknowledged as the world's leading designer and maker of

arched top, F-hole guitars, D'Aquisto's handbuilt instruments are highly prized by leading jazz musicians. The waiting list for his masterfully crafted one-of-a-kind guitars extends for years.

Sadly, most players will never have the chance to own a D'Aquisto original. But by combining Fender's experience in building quality guitars with the D'Aquisto genius, the new D'Aquisto Ultra, Elite, and Standard models are sure to become classics in their own right.



Ebony tailpiece allows adjustment of the angle at which the strings cross the bridge.



The Ultra D'Aquisto with Natural finish is pictured.

## Feel The Personal Touch Of James D'Aquisto

**N**o guitar maker has taken the full-body, arched F-hole guitar to a higher state of development than James D'Aquisto. The three instruments that he designed for Fender are no exception. Using premium hardwood, precision hardware, and special pickup designs, these instruments compare favorably with D'Aquisto's handcrafted originals.

Crowning the line is the Ultra model, featuring the rarest, book-matched tight-grain solid spruce and highly-figured solid maple, with multiple binding and deluxe gold-plated hardware. A combination pickup/pick-guard assembly is supplied which allows the guitar to be electrified without harming its acoustic properties.

The single-pickup Elite

and dual-pickup Standard deliver the same artistry and craftsmanship at more affordable prices. All three guitars feature an exclusive D'Aquisto innovation — adjustable sculpted wood tail-pieces that provide a dramatic range of different tonalities.

"I believe that with the technology available today, if a large company could keep a high standard of quality control, and really understand what they are producing, my type of guitar can be made at a price that people can afford."

James D'Aquisto

While the new Fender Master Series Esprit and Flame guitars bear a superficial resemblance to other popular electrics,

have given the Esprit and Flame models an acceptable humbucking sound simply by fitting "off the shelf" pickups. Instead, the pickups and elec-

# Esprit & Flame

tronic closer examination reveals a myriad of subtle detail refinements. Taken all together, they add up to a totally new — and uniquely versatile — tool for the contemporary guitarist. Some of the major features shared by Esprit and Flame models include:

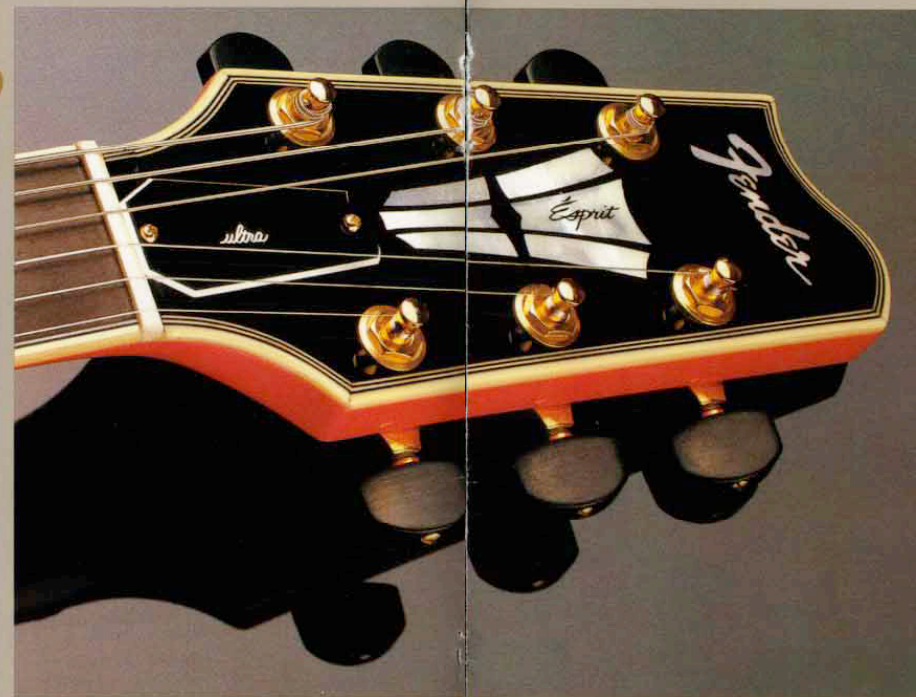
**Tone Chambered Bodies.**

Although appearing to be totally solid, the guitar bodies feature strategically shaped and positioned hollow channels carved in the body. These unique tone chambers allow the instruments to "breathe," increasing resonance and sustain and producing a fuller, rounder tone. A side benefit: weight is reduced and overall balance is improved.

**Special Split-Coil Pickups.** (Available on Elite and Ultra models) Fender could

tronic were the subject of a complete design study, utilizing input from top players. The result was an entirely new pickup system, with separate designs for bridge and neck (different string spacing at bridge and neck locations were even accounted for). The bridge pickup features extra windings for a hotter, mellower sound without harshness, while the

## Modern classics reinterpreted with the touch of Fender genius



Flame Elite (top) shown in Frost White features offset cutaways. Fuller-bodied Esprit Ultra is shown in Frost Pink.

neck pickup was designed with a higher resonant frequency for clear, lush rhythm sounds.

designs developed by Fender especially for the Master Series. Each string is individually adjustable for side to side spacing (in addition to standard height and intonation adjustments) allowing the instrument to be set up exactly to player preferences. Roller-type string saddles combine with adjustable tailpiece height and

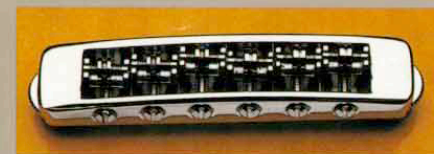


Angle-compensating tailpiece for "micro" fine tuning adjustments is featured on Elite and Ultra models.

a unique angle-compensating string attachment to achieve superior playability at any desired tension setting. In addition, Ultra and Elite models include "micro" fine-tuning adjustment on the tailpiece for more precise tuning.

Thanks to a new wiring arrangement, when both pickups are used in single-coil mode they are automatically in a hum-canceling configuration.

**Custom Hardware.** All models utilize new bridge



Three-axis adjustable bridge allows for side to side spacing in addition to height and intonation adjustments.

**Unique "TBX"™ Tone Control System.** Included on Ultra and Elite instruments, the advanced patent-applied-for TBX tone control features a unique dual-mode operation. Over the first half of its rotation, it functions as a conventional tone (high-frequency rolloff) control. When advanced past the midpoint, it actually changes the resonant

peak of the pickup, producing a bright, ringing tone unlike that ever heard from a guitar of this type. Thus Esprit and Flame players truly get the best of both worlds: humbucking sustain and warmth, plus Fender's penetrating edge.

**Refined Body And Neck Construction.** Only select hardwoods are used in the Esprit and Flame. Alder bodies (a first for this style of instrument) combine with carved Spruce or Maple tops, set-in Maple necks with Ebony or Rosewood fretboards to provide unmatched warmth and resonance along with superior stability and sustain. The dual cutaways feature a special angled shape which combines with the low-profile heel to allow much easier access to the highest frets. The net result is sound and play-



Pickups may be used as humbuckers or switched for brilliant, single-coil "Fender-type" sound.

ability unlike any other guitars on the market — a fact which can be easily demonstrated by listening carefully to the unamplified sound of the instruments.



## *Esprit™: Homage To The Past, An eye To The Future*

**P**layers who admire the sound and feel of the traditional thin-body semi-hollow electrics will find an exciting alternative in the new Esprit™ line. The large, tone-chambered body provides a beautiful mellow tone with exceptional sustain. The elimination of F-holes makes the Esprit highly feedback-resistant —

an important consideration when playing in high-volume amplified situations.

The Esprit Standard offers all the key features of the series, with a carved maple top, rosewood fretboard, three-way adjustable bridge, top-loading angle-compensating string attachments, adjustable tailpiece, and dual humbucking pickups. The

Elite version adds bridge fine tuners, the TBX tone system, coil-splitter, deluxe inlaid fretboard, and a wide choice of custom colors. The top-of-the-line Esprit Ultra features carved spruce top, inlaid ebony fretboard, and gold-plated hardware with the Elite's electronics. It also comes with a deluxe molded case with ATA approval.



## *Flame:™ Bold In Concept, Brilliant In Execution*

**F**or the rock player looking for a new sound, the search stops with the Flame.™ Slightly downsized from the Esprit, the Flame guitar's offset cutaways and extremely comfortable body make it a pleasure to play. The warmth of its chambered alder and maple body combine to achieve perhaps the

ultimate combination of rich tonality, sustain, and feedback resistance. The Flame eludes comparison with any other guitar on the market.

Both the Flame Ultra and Flame Elite include two special-design split-coil humbucking pickups with Fender's patent-applied-for TBX tone control system. Rich woods and deluxe hard-

ware (in gold on the Ultra) complete the package. The Ultra also includes an ATA-approved Voyagair™ shipping case. The Flame Standard includes essentially the same outstanding features, less the tailpiece fine tuners and TBX system.

The Flame models truly shape up as a new standard for tomorrow's music.

# D'Aquisto



	ULTRA	ELITE	STANDARD
<b>Pickups</b>	Special pickguard mounted pickup assembly	Single humbucking pickup	2 double-coil humbucking pickups
<b>Controls</b>	Volume and tone control	Volume and tone control	Volume and tone control for each pickup
<b>Pickup Switching</b>			3-way selector; neck/both/bridge
<b>Scale Length</b>	25.5" (647.7mm)	24.75" (628.7mm)	24.75" (628.7mm)
<b>Neck</b>	Maple	Maple	Maple
<b>Fretboard</b>	Ebony	Ebony	Rosewood
<b>Inlays</b>	Mother-of-Pearl Split Block Inlays	Mother-of-Pearl Block Inlays	Mother-of-Pearl Dot Inlays
<b>Radius</b>	12" (304.8mm)	12" (304.8mm)	12" (304.8mm)
<b>Neck Width at Nut</b>	1.710" (43.4mm)	1.700" (43.2mm)	1.700" (43.2mm)
<b>Colors</b>	Natural Violin Sunburst	Natural Violin Sunburst	Natural Violin Sunburst

**Custom Colors**  
 Sunburst  
 Autumn Burst  
 Candy Green Burst  
 Candy Red Burst  
 Frost White Burst  
 Frost Pink

# Esprit™



	ULTRA	ELITE	STANDARD
<b>Pickups</b>	2 double-coil humbucking pickups	2 double-coil humbucking pickups	2 double-coil humbucking pickups
<b>Controls</b>	Volume and tone (TBX) control for each pickup	Volume and tone (TBX) control for each pickup	Volume and tone control for each pickup
<b>Pickup Switching</b>	3-way selector; neck/both/bridge	3-way selector; neck/both/bridge	3-way selector; neck/both/bridge
<b>Scale Length</b>	24.75" (628.7mm)	24.75" (628.7mm)	24.75" (628.7mm)
<b>Neck</b>	Maple	Maple	Maple
<b>Fretboard</b>	Ebony	Rosewood	Rosewood
<b>Inlays</b>	Mother-of-Pearl Split Block Inlays	Mother-of-Pearl Snowflake Inlays	Mother-of-Pearl Dot Inlays
<b>Radius</b>	12" (304.8mm)	12" (304.8mm)	12" (304.8mm)
<b>Neck Width at Nut</b>	1.710" (43.4mm)	1.710" (43.4mm)	1.710" (43.4mm)
<b>Colors</b>	Black Cherry Sunburst Autumn Burst	Black Cherry Sunburst Autumn Burst	Black Cherry Sunburst Autumn Burst

**Custom Colors**  
 Sunburst  
 Autumn Burst  
 Candy Green Burst  
 Candy Red Burst  
 Frost White Burst  
 Frost Pink

# Flame™



	ULTRA	ELITE	STANDARD
<b>Pickups</b>	2 double-coil humbucking pickups	2 double-coil humbucking pickups	2 double-coil humbucking pickups
<b>Controls</b>	Volume and tone (TBX) control for each pickup	Volume and tone (TBX) control for each pickup	Volume and tone control for each pickup
<b>Pickup Switching</b>	3-way selector; neck/both/bridge	3-way selector; neck/both/bridge	3-way selector; neck/both/bridge
<b>Scale Length</b>	24.75" (628.7mm)	24.75" (628.7mm)	24.75" (628.7mm)
<b>Neck</b>	Maple	Maple	Maple
<b>Fretboard</b>	Ebony	Rosewood	Rosewood
<b>Inlays</b>	Mother-of-Pearl Split Block Inlays	Mother-of-Pearl Snowflake Inlays	Mother-of-Pearl Dot Inlays
<b>Radius</b>	12" (304.8mm)	12" (304.8mm)	12" (304.8mm)
<b>Neck Width at Nut</b>	1.710" (43.4mm)	1.710" (43.4mm)	1.710" (43.4mm)
<b>Colors</b>	Black Cherry Sunburst Autumn Burst	Black Cherry Sunburst Autumn Burst	Black Cherry Sunburst Autumn Burst

**Custom Colors**  
 Sunburst  
 Autumn Burst  
 Candy Green Burst  
 Candy Red Burst  
 Frost White Burst  
 Frost Pink