

READINGS, WEBSITES AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

READINGS

GUITARMAKING: TRADITION & TECHNOLOGY

by William Cumpiano and Jonathon Natelson

This is a first-rate manual with plenty of photos (b&w) and diagrams. It is not the same approach that we use, but is an excellent resource for those areas that overlap. Cumpiano covers both classic and steel string guitar construction.

BUILD YOUR OWN ACOUSTIC GUITAR

by Jonathan Kinkead

Complete instructions and full-size plans to build a 000-sized guitar. Plenty of color photos and illustrations. This is a good source for additional / alternative ways to make an acoustic guitar.

MAKING AN ARCHTOP GUITAR

by Robert Benedetto

Bob Benedetto is a celebrity in the world of archtop guitarmakers. In this book, he shares his archtop guitarmaking method in a nicely written and illustrated text. There is much useful material here for the flat-top guitar maker.

GUITAR PLAYER REPAIR GUIDE

by Dan Erlewine

Dan is the Stew Mac master repair person. Not just a "how to" book, but a "how to fix it" book. Lots of illustrations. Excellent reading for the person who wants to know more about building guitars.

THE RESPONSIVE GUITAR

by Ervin Somogyi

What are the characteristics of a top notch guitar? Ervin discusses, based on his years of experience as one of the deans of acoustic guitar making.

A volume of "The Responsive Guitar" is available from the SIMSCal library.

MAKING THE RESPONSIVE GUITAR

by Ervin Somogyi

Now that you know what constitutes a responsive guitar, Ervin discusses approaches to building a responsive guitar. This is not an instruction manual.

A volume of "Making the Responsive Guitar" is available from the SIMSCal library.

WEBSITES

ERVIN SOMOGYI

www.esomogyi.com/

Ervin is an enormously respected luthier and artist. "Principles of Guitar Dynamics and Design" <http://www.esomogyi.com/principles.html> is a great place to start.

WILLIAM CUMPIANO

www.cumpiano.com

William Cumpiano makes guitars for a living. He's a pro. Check out his website for a peek into the world of serious guitar making.

FRANK FORD

www.frets.com

Frank Ford repairs guitars for a living. He's a pro. Check out his website for a peek into the world of serious guitar repair.

OFFICIAL LUTHIERS FORUM (OLF)

www.luthiersforum.com

Check out the archives for lots of good information.

THE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MAKERS FORUM (MIMF)

www.mimf.com

Although acoustic guitar - centric, this forum also looks at electric guitars, dulcimers, etc. Great archives here, too.

ACOUSTIC GUITAR FORUM

<http://www.acousticguitarforum.com/forums/index.php>

A popular forum for all things about acoustic guitars. Associated with Taylor Guitars. Once again, check out the archives.

The 13th Fret

www.13thfret.com

This site is dedicated to the acoustic guitar and all things related. A community-environment forum with many articles on the construction of acoustic guitars in its articles section and links section.

GUITARMAKERS

Kathy Matsushita - "Notes From An Amateur Luthier"

<http://home.comcast.net/~kathymatsushita/>

Everyone knows this site, it's that great. Check it out.

Mario Proulx - Proulx Guitars

<http://www.proulxguitars.com/construction.htm>

Maybe not the best known name in guitarmaking, but I like the way that he builds.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

GUILD OF AMERICAN LUTHIERS (GAL)

Oriented toward the individual luthier, this is probably THE guitarmakers organization. It is a good source for a wide range of plans/blueprints, which can be ordered from its website. The website also has an extensive list of lutherie-related links. GAL publishes "American Lutherie", a quarterly journal, of which the class has all the issues.

www.luth.org

ASSOCIATION OF STRINGED INSTRUMENT ARTISANS (ASIA)

A.S.I.A. was formed for much the same reasons as SIMSCal: to provides a sense of community for instrument makers and to increase the level of professionalism within the craft. ASIA is similar to GAL in that it publishes the quarterly journal, *Guitarmaker*, and holds biennial conventions for luthiers.

www.guitarmaker.org