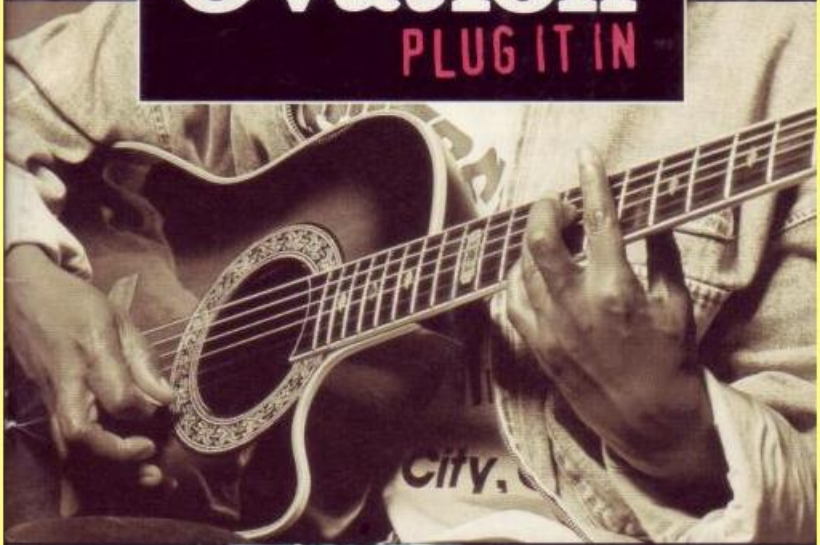


**Ovation<sup>®</sup>**  
PLUG IT IN





Aeronautical pioneer Charlie Kaman did what few have ever succeeded in doing — he revolutionized the acoustic guitar. A longtime guitarist, Charlie held a belief that aviation technology could improve the design of the acoustic guitar.

He turned that belief into action in the mid-sixties. In his own words, "It wasn't a case of just making a guitar. It was very clear that with our background in aerospace we could really make a better one. We could create something that was a new advance, as we saw it. We had the capability. We had the technology."

When the first production Ovations arrived on the scene in 1966, with their roundback and new ideas, professional musicians hailed the guitar's performance and purists shook their heads. Now, thirty years later, the professional guitarists were proven right. Today, Ovation is the world's best selling American-made acoustic guitar.

The first design concept, however, wasn't a roundback. It was a traditionally shaped guitar with a fiberglass body. But as more ideas flowed into the project, the roundback concept began to take shape. And before the first prototype was built, it was decided that the company would place its fortunes on this new design.

The inspiration for the roundback came from the structural arch. The idea was to eliminate the need for braces inside the guitar. The shape was refined to be more or less parabolic to reflect the sound towards the soundhole. This design proved to have much greater volume and projection than traditional guitars.

The single greatest influence on the tone of an acoustic guitar is the bracing that supports the top. Ovation experimented with hundreds of different patterns and strut designs, again drawing on their aeronautical heritage.

Rather than choose one design as a compromise, Ovation has always offered a number of different bracing patterns across the line. Each one has its own distinct personality, but each one is definitely an Ovation. If you listen to a Legend, a Balladeer and an Elite, you'll hear different subtleties in the sound that distinguish each one from the other. With these new bracing patterns and techniques, plus the unique roundback design, Ovation has taken tone, balance and projection to a new level.

Near the end of the sixties, professional guitarists got serious about amplifying their Ovations. A number of add-on pickups were available at the time, but none worked very well, particularly at the pro level. The engineers at Ovation came up with a concept that made the acoustic/electric guitar professionally-acceptable — the Ovation under-saddle pickup.

Eventually, guitarists at all levels plugged in. Ovation president, Bill Kaman recounts, "In the beginning, only about 15% of the guitars we built had pickups. Ten years later, 90% of our guitars were acoustic/electric. The truly amazing thing is that it also took about 10 years before any of our competition began to offer acoustic/electric models as standard in their line."

The original Ovation pickup has yet to be surpassed and is still the heart of every Ovation acoustic/electric. Over the past 25 years, Ovation has maintained its leadership as the dominant acoustic/electric guitar maker in the world. The electronics have undergone a number of changes to keep pace with players' needs and advances in sound reinforcement technology.

The idea of innovation through technology has been central to Ovation's development over the past three decades. In that time, Ovation has developed more new ideas about acoustic and acoustic/electric guitars than any other manufacturer has in the last hundred years. And when the next big idea in acoustic guitars arrives, chances are it'll be wearing the name Ovation.

# 1998 Ovation Electronics

Ovation started the revolution in acoustic/electric guitars and Ovation electronics have kept pace with players' needs and sound reinforcement technology. Over the past 25 years, Ovation has maintained its leadership as the dominant acoustic/electric guitar in the world.

## Optima ... A New Benchmark



The Optima uses the latest generation of analog electronics, giving the system noise specs comparable to recording studio consoles (-104.3dB). The Optima also features a highly accurate on-board chromatic tuner for standard, open or non-standard tunings.

- Built-in chromatic tuner •
- Tunable notch filter removes feedback note-by-note •
  - Four-band EQ for precise tone contour •
  - Ultra-quiet 104dB signal-to-noise ratio •
  - Phantom power, balanced line out •

## OP-X ... The Four-Band Wonder



The OP-X features four precise bands of EQ (at 80Hz, 600Hz, 6.6KHz and 10KHz) to contour the sound accurately plus a very steep (30dB/octave) notch filter designed to kill feedback one note at a time. Now you can solve feedback problems without changing the character of the sound.

- Low, Lo-Mid, Hi-Mid and High EQ bands •
- Less than 0.1% distortion •
- Steep-slope, narrow-band tunable notch filter •

## OP-24Plus/ OP-24E ... Low-Noise Flexibility



The famed Ovation OP-24 has been updated using the latest in low noise analog circuitry plus a "three-and-a-half" band equalizer. It also features a Pre-Shape circuit that lifts the bass and treble and reduces the "rumble" below 40Hz.

- Three-band EQ with switchable mid-frequency •
  - Pre-Shape and EQ defeat switches •
  - OP-24E features built-in 'E' tuner •

# IF YOU'RE GONNA PLAY OUT, YOU GOTTA PLUG IN

## HexFX ... Beyond Stereo



One of the best ways to increase the impact of acoustic guitar in live performance is to use stereo. The HexFX system creates a realm of stereo effects that have never been heard on the acoustic/electric guitar.

- Individual pickup and preamp for each string •
- Five different stereo effects plus natural chorus •
- Mono or Stereo •

## OptiMax ... The Stage & Studio Ultimate



A microphone adds ambience and "breathy" highs - a nice "finish" to the on-board pickup sound. The OptiMax takes the concept to a new level with a special mike and blend control that give you the best of both worlds.

- Ovation pickup plus ultra-mini Telex mic •
- Pickup/Mike Blend control with automatic crossover •
- High and Low shelving EQ with Mid-Shape select •
- Low-Z, Hi-Z outputs; phantom powerable •

## Thinline Graphic ... the bite of the Viper



The chambered body Viper blurs the line between acoustic and electric. Because of its unique construction and performance, it needs a special electronics package - the Thinline Graphic.

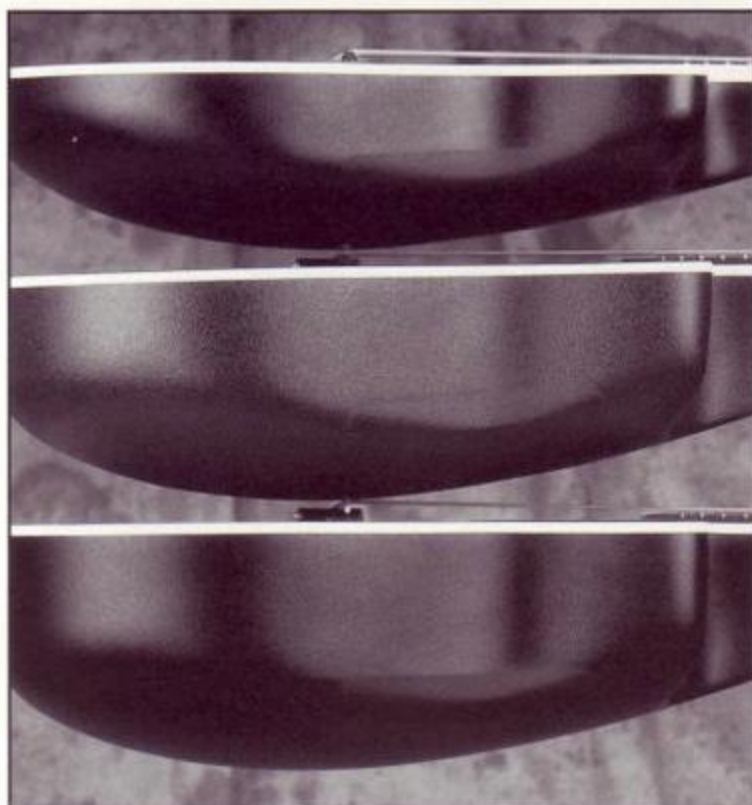
- 2-pole filters for precise response •
- SMT design with very low noise •
- Pop-up volume control •

## Roland Ready

Select Ovation acoustic/electric models can be ordered with a factory installed Roland GK-2 synthesizer interface as an option. It includes the magnetic hex pickup, synth/guitar mix controls and controller output jack.

# The Roundback

## *The Roundback*



When Charlie Kaman set about to build a better guitar 30 years ago, he had no preconceived notions about instrument design. After much analysis and experimentation, a parabolic "bowl" shape proved to give the best projection, volume and tone. Ovation gained its fame with its round back and today makes roundbacks in three body sizes, super shallow, mid-depth and deep (top to bottom, above). Whichever one you choose, you'll get clear projection and rich, full tone.

## Ovation Colors

- 1 Sunburst
- 2 Red Stain
- 4 Natural
- 5 Black
- 7 Nutmeg Stain
- 8T Blue Transparent

- ASB Aspen Blue
- BCB Black Cherryburst
- CCB Cherry Cherryburst
- CG Cadillac Green
- CGB Cadillac Greenburst
- HB Honey Burst

- M Mahogany
- NEB New England Burst
- P Plum Burst
- RRB Ruby Redburst
- RR Ruby Red
- WB Wineburst

### Adamas Standard Finishes

- 4G Natural Graphite
- 5HG Black High Gloss
- OB Opaque Burgundy

### Custom Order Finishes For Adamas 6581

- 2 Red Reverse Sunburst
- 5 Black
- 7 Beige
- 8 Blue Reverse Sunburst
- 9 Brown Reverse Sunburst
- BG Bluegreen
- NB2 Solid Red
- NB8 Solid Blue

# 1998 Collectors' Edition

## *1998 Collectors' Edition*



The 1998 Collectors' Edition strikes a beautiful balance between acoustic purity and electric performance. The five-piece maple and mahogany neck is an ergonomic marvel of playing comfort. The beautiful figured maple top is lightly braced for maximum output. The OP-24E preamp lets you contour your sound for any venue, with Mid-Shift and Pre-Shape for a broad range of eq control.

- Figured Maple Top in New England Burst Finish •
  - OP-24E Preamp with 'E' Tuner •
  - Laser-cut Epaulets •
  - 5-pc. Maple/Mahogany Neck •
  - 22-fret Rosewood Fingerboard •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
1998	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/EL	NEB
Finishes: NEB-New England Burst			

# Adamas Q

**NEW FOR**  
**'98**



The Adamas Q is built completely of hand laid carbon fiber, very much like a Formula One racing car. The neck runs the length of the instrument, so there is no need for a heel at the neck to body joint. It has a balanced and even response from the lowest sub-harmonic to the highest partial. In construction and performance, the Q is in a league of its own.

- The Most Advanced Acoustic Guitar Ever Made •
- Hand Laid Carbon Fiber Construction •
- Perfectly Balanced Acoustic Response •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
Q181	Deep	6-String Ac	4G

Finishes: 4G-Natural Graphite

# Adamas & SMT

**NEW FOR**  
**'98**



Adamas instruments feature a unique carbon fiber soundboard — two .005" layers of uni-directional graphite fibers on either side of a .035" layer of birch. The birch is oriented at a 60° angle to the graphite fibers, a technique that enhances the high frequency response without compromising the bass or midrange. The new Adamas SMT (1597-4G) has a clear finish on the smooth top, showing off the natural graphite fibers.

- Carbon Fiber Top •
- Optima Preamp & Electronics •
- Mahogany & Maple 5-piece Neck •
- Adamas Fan Bracing Pattern •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
1597	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/El	4G
6581	Deep C/A	6-String Ac/El	5HG, OB

Finishes: 4G-Natural Graphite; 5HG-High Gloss Black; OB-Opaque Burgundy

# Elite & Custom Elite

## Elite & Custom Elite



If there's one guitar that defines the Ovation "look", it's the Elite. The multiple soundholes were the result of experiments in sound — making a more responsive top. Without a large hole in the high stress area in front of the bridge, the bracing can be far less restrictive. The Custom Elite uses our most select AAA Sitka Spruce top, lots of abalone inlay and the Optima preamp.

- Optima & OP-X Preamp & Electronics •
- Solid Sitka Spruce Top •
- 22-fret Rosewood Fingerboard •
- Quintad Bracing Pattern •
- Deluxe Gold Hardware •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
CE768	Deep C/A	6-String Ac/El	BCB
CE868	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/El	BCB
1768	Deep C/A	6-String Ac/El	1
1868	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/El	4,5,BCB
1858	S/Shallow C/A	12-String Ac/El	1,BCB

Finishes: 1-Sunburst; 4-Natural; 5-Black; BCB-Black Cherryburst

# Elite Standard

## Elite Standard



The Elite Standard is a simple yet classic design, with a two-piece mahogany neck, rosewood fingerboard and exotic wood epaulets. The neck shape is a soft vintage 'V' from days gone by, but it's reinforced with the modern Kaman Bar. With exciting new finishes like Aspen Blue, the Elite Standard is on its way to becoming a new classic in every way.

**NEW FOR**  
**'98**  
**ASPEN**  
**BLUE**  
**FINISH**

- OP-24E Preamp & Electronics •
- Solid Sitka Spruce Top •
- Two-piece Mahogany Neck •
- 22-fret Rosewood Fingerboard •
- Quintad Bracing Pattern •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
6778	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/El	4,5,BCB,CGB
6868	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/El	4,5,ASB,BCB

Finishes: 4-Natural; 5-Black; ASB-Aspen Blue; BCB-Black Cherryburst; CGB-Cadillac Greenburst

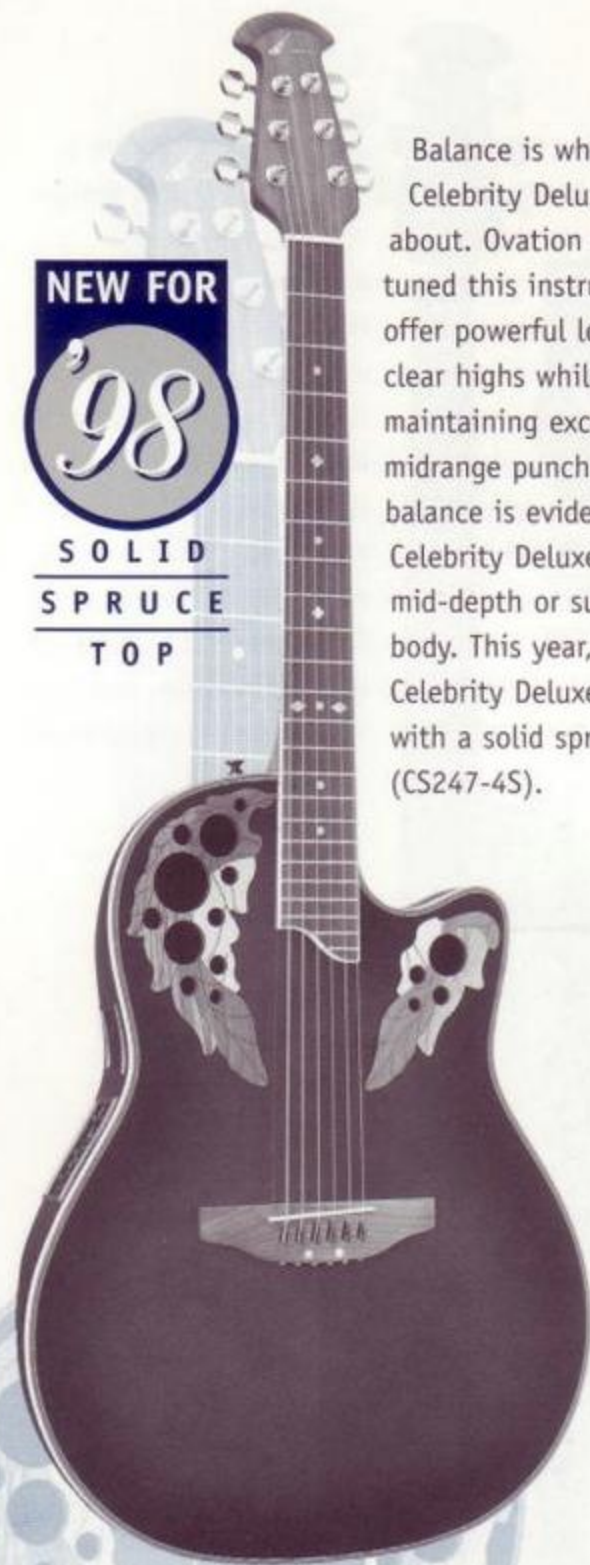
# Celebrity Deluxe

## Celebrity Deluxe

NEW FOR

'98

SOLID  
SPRUCE  
TOP



Balance is what the Celebrity Deluxe is all about. Ovation designers tuned this instrument to offer powerful lows and clear highs while maintaining excellent midrange punch. And this balance is evident in all Celebrity Deluxe models — mid-depth or super shallow body. This year, the Celebrity Deluxe is available with a solid spruce top (CS247-4S).

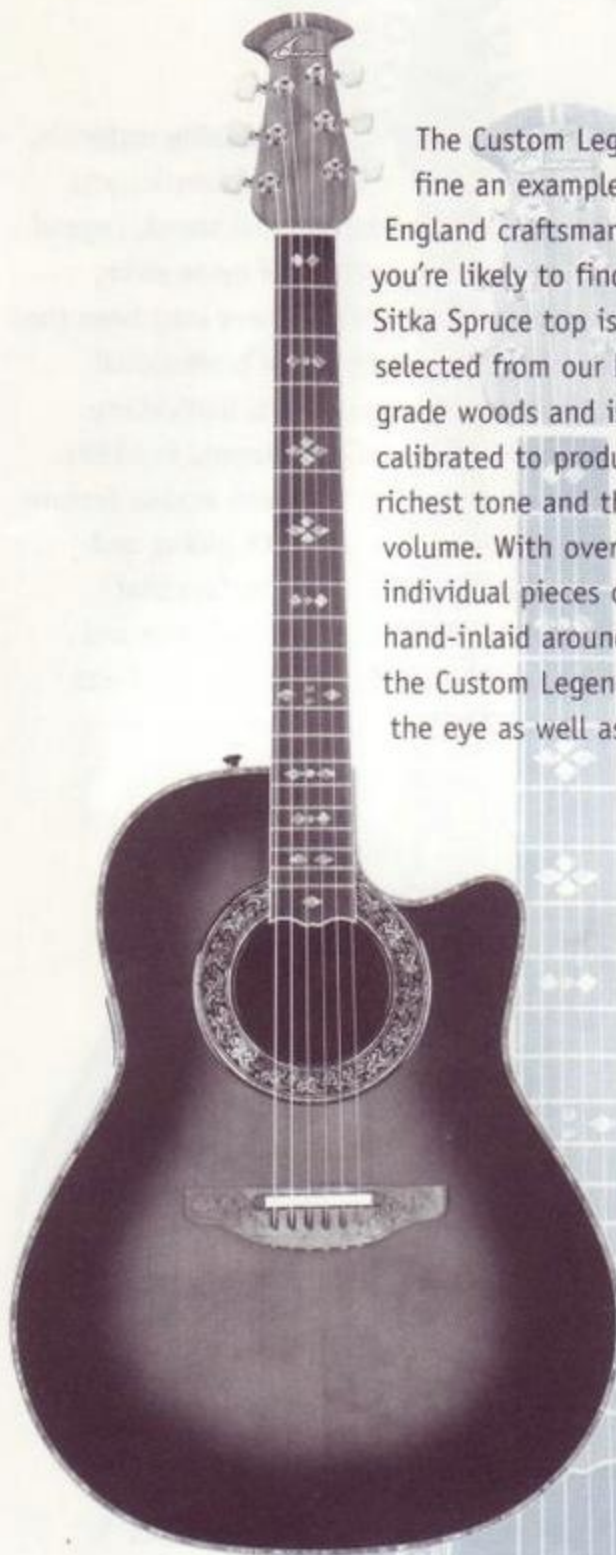
- OP-24Plus Preamp & Electronics •
- 2-piece Nato Neck •
- 23-fret Rosewood Fingerboard •
- Quintad Bracing Pattern •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
CS245	Mid-Depth C/A-12	12-String Ac/EI	
CS247	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/EI	
CS257	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/EI	

Finishes: See your dealer.

# Custom Legend

## Custom Legend



The Custom Legend is as fine an example of New England craftsmanship as you're likely to find. The Sitka Spruce top is hand selected from our best AAA grade woods and is carefully calibrated to produce the richest tone and the fullest volume. With over 200 individual pieces of abalone hand-inlaid around the top, the Custom Legend pleases the eye as well as the ear.

- Optima Preamp with Built-in Tuner •
- Solid AAA Sitka Spruce Top •
- 20-fret Bound Ebony Fingerboard •
- Inlaid Abalone Purfling & Position Markers •
- 24k Gold Plated Machines w/Pearloid Buttons •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
1869	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/EI	4,5,CCB
R869*	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/EI	4
1769	Deep C/A	6-String Ac/EI	1,CCB
1759	Deep-12	12-String Ac/EI	4,5

Finishes: 1-Sunburst; 4-Natural; 5-Black; CCB Cherry Cherryburst  
\*Includes factory-installed Roland GR series guitar synth pickup and mixer

# Legend *Legend*



With quality materials, tasteful cosmetics and exceptional sound, Legend steel and nylon string models have long been the choice of professional guitarists, particularly studio players. For 1998, two Legend models feature the HexFX pickup and preamp system that introduces unique and dramatic stereo effects.

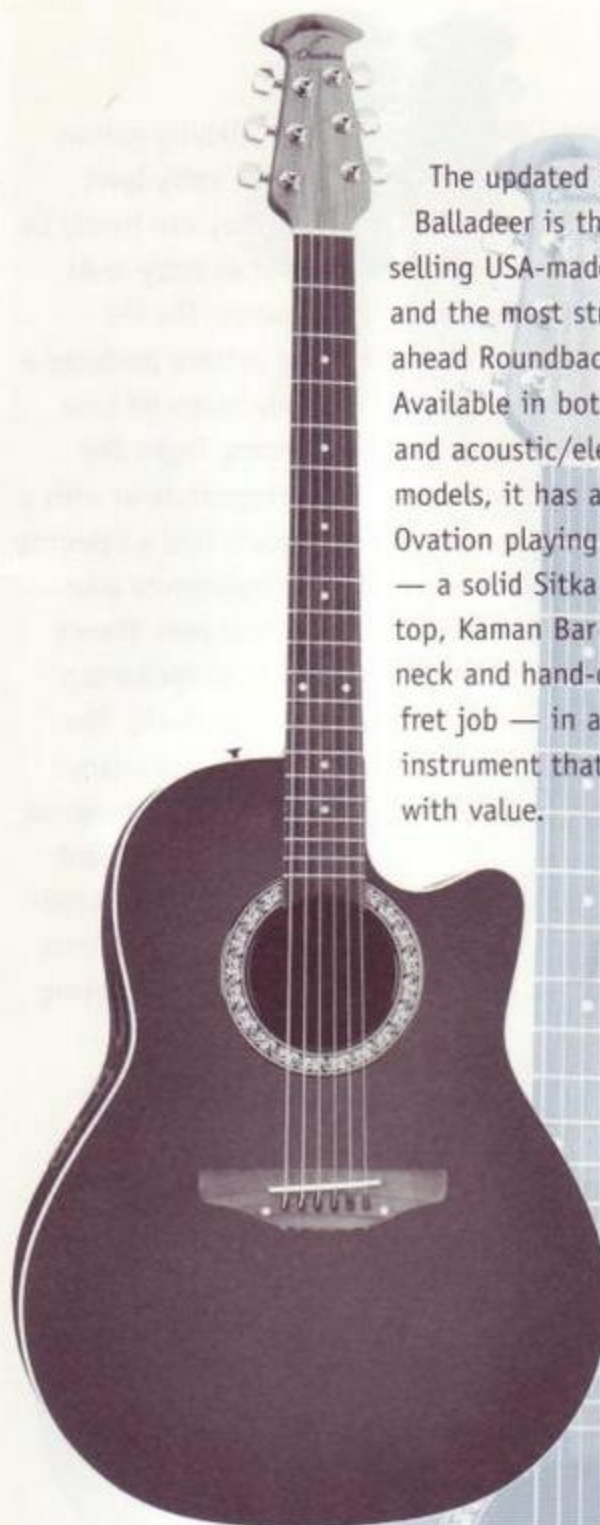
- OP-X, HexFX and OptiMax Electronics •
- Mahogany & Maple 5-piece Neck •
- Bound Ebony Fingerboard •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
1117	Deep	6-String Ac	4
1777	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/El	2,4,5
1777-4RM	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/El	4
1867	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/El	2,5,CCB,4HFX*
1866	S/Shallow C/A	12-String Ac/El	5,CCB,4HFX*
1763	Deep C/A	Nylon-Str. Ac/El	4
1863	S/Shallow C/A	Nylon-Str. Ac/El	4

Finishes: 2-Red Stain; 4-Natural; 5-Black; CCB-Cherryburst

\*Note: 1777-4RM is a Recording Model that features the OptiMax preamp/miking system. 4HFX features HexFX preamp.

# Standard Balladeer *Standard Balladeer*



The updated Standard Balladeer is the best-selling USA-made Ovation and the most straight ahead Roundback we make. Available in both acoustic and acoustic/electric models, it has all the Ovation playing features — a solid Sitka spruce top, Kaman Bar reinforced neck and hand-detailed fret job — in an instrument that's packed with value.

- OP-24Plus Preamp and Electronics •
- Solid Sitka Spruce Top •
- 2-pc Mahogany Neck •
- 20-fret Rosewood Fingerboard •
- Lightweight "X" Bracing •
- CP-100 Pickup •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
1111	Deep	6-String Ac	4
1151	Deep-12	12-String Ac	4
1711	Deep	6-String Ac/El	4,CG,CCB
1761	Deep C/A	6-String Ac/El	4,5,CG,CCB
1861	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/El	4,5,CG,CCB
1751	Deep-12	12-String Ac/El	4,CG,CCB

Finishes: 4-Natural; 5-Black; CG-Cadillac Green; CCB Cherry Cherryburst



# Celebrity *Celebrity*

# Viper *Viper*

**NEW FOR**  
**'98**  
**SOLID**  
**SPRUCE**  
**TOP**

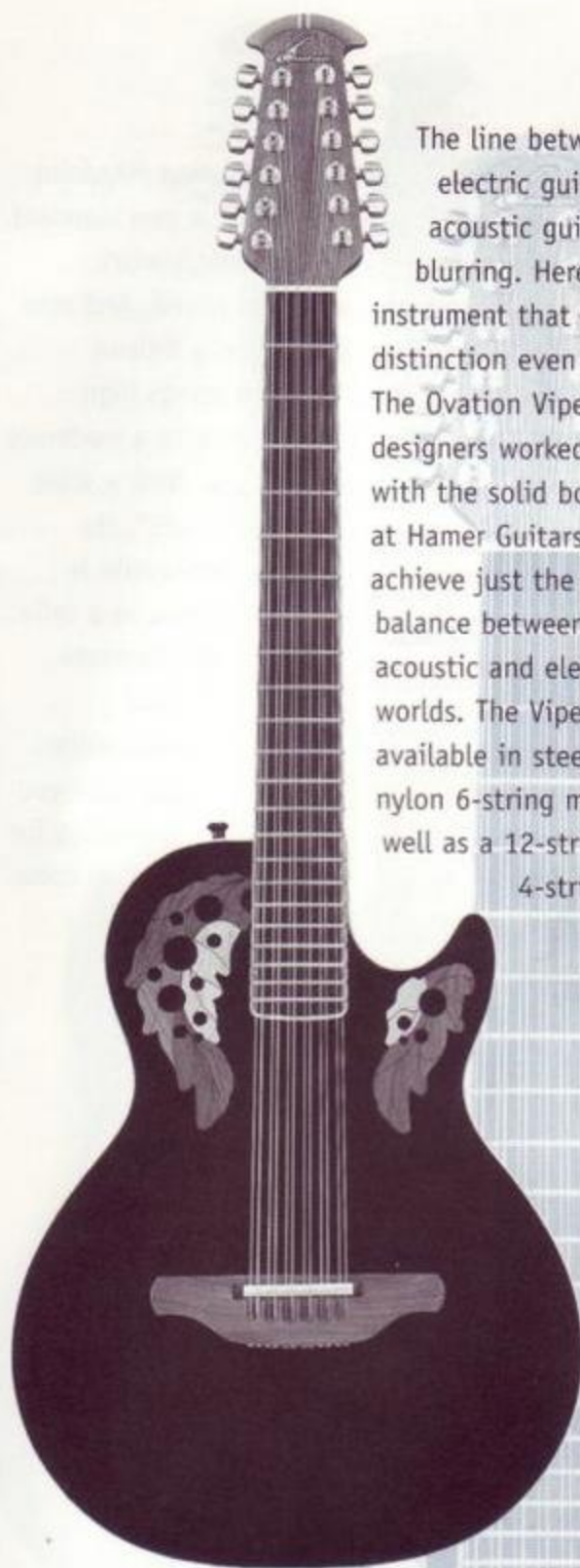


While Celebrity guitars have an entry-level price, they can hardly be classified as entry-level instruments. The K-3 bracing pattern produces a smoothly balanced tone with strong highs and lows. Fingerstyle or with a pick, you'll find a Celebrity that complements your music. This year, there's even a solid spruce top model (CS148-4S). The slim mahogany neck, rosewood fingerboard and 20 hand-dressed frets make playing almost effortless.

- OP-24Plus Preamp & Electronics •
- 2-piece Mahogany Neck •
- Rosewood Fingerboard •
- Nylon, Steel and Bass Models •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
CC012	Mini	6-String Ac	
CS167	Deep	6-String Ac/El	
CS148	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/El	
CS157	S/Shallow C/A	6-String Ac/El	

Finishes: See your dealer.



The line between the electric guitar and acoustic guitar is blurring. Here's an instrument that makes the distinction even finer — The Ovation Viper. Ovation designers worked closely with the solid body experts at Hamer Guitars to achieve just the right balance between the acoustic and electric worlds. The Viper is available in steel and nylon 6-string models as well as a 12-string and 4-string bass.

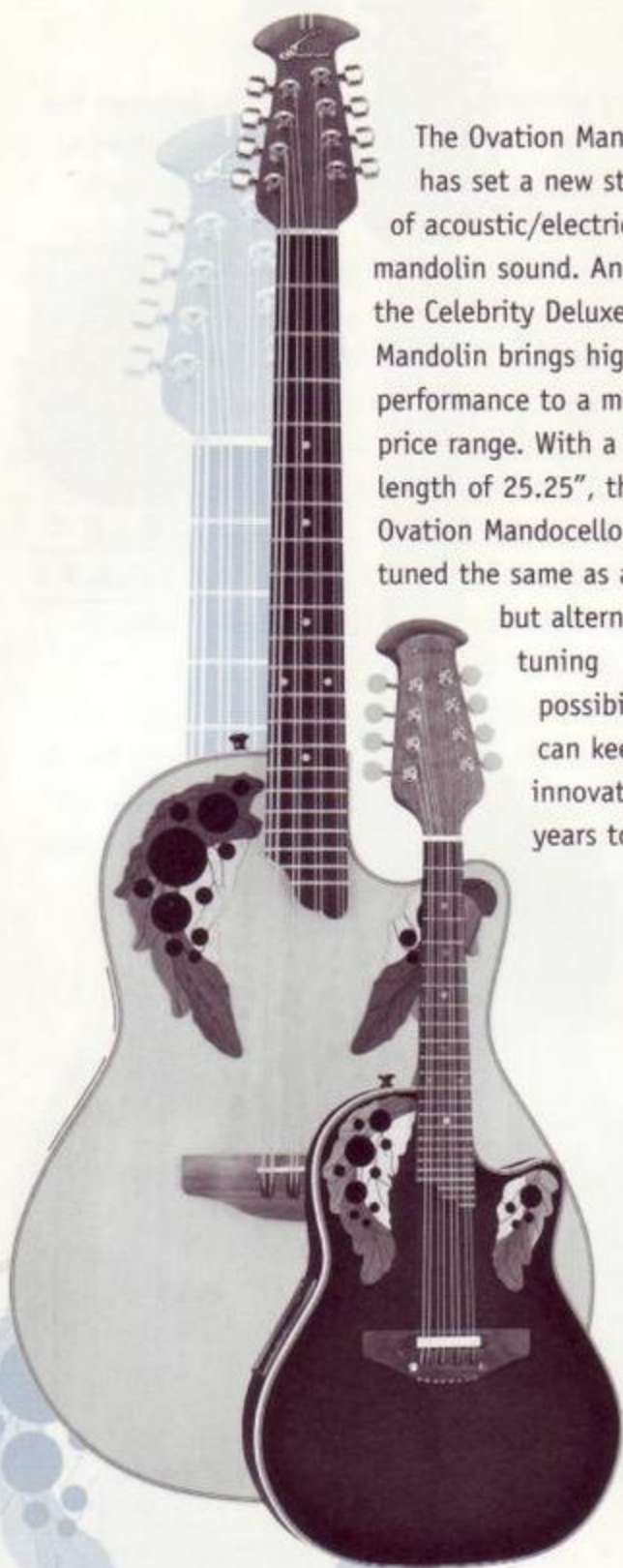
- Solid Sitka Spruce Top •
- Acoustically Carved Mahogany Body •
- 24-fret Bound Ebony Fingerboard •
- Custom Thinline Graphic EQ •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
EA68	Mahogany C/A	6-String Ac/El	4,5
EAB68	Mahogany C/A	4-String Ac/El Bass	5,CCB
EA63	Mahogany C/A	Nylon-Str. Ac/El	4
EA58	Mahogany C/A	12-String Ac/El	4,5

Finishes: 4-Natural; 5-Black; CCB-Cherry Cherryburst

# Mandolin & Mandocello

## *Mandolin & Mandocello*



The Ovation Mandolin has set a new standard of acoustic/electric mandolin sound. And now the Celebrity Deluxe Mandolin brings high performance to a moderate price range. With a scale length of 25.25", the Ovation Mandocello is tuned the same as a cello, but alternate tuning possibilities can keep you innovating for years to come.

- OP-24Plus on Mandolins •
- Optima on Mandocello •
- Mando-Quintad Bracing •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
MM68	Special C/A	8-String Ac/El	4,CCB
MC868	Special C/A	8-String Ac/El	4,5
MCS148	Special C/A	8-String Ac/El	RRB

Finishes: 4-Natural; 5-Black; CCB-Cherry Cherryburst; RRB-Ruby Redburst

# LongNeck

## *Long Neck*



The Ovation LongNeck is an entirely different idea in acoustic guitars. It has a 28.35" scale, so at normal string tension, it tunes a full step lower than a standards guitar. Chords are bigger and "chunkier". Bass lines are deeper and cleaner. The tonal possibilities in standard and varied tunings are phenomenal. Capo the 2nd fret and the LongNeck has a standard 25.25" scale length.

- Optima Preamp with Built-in Tuner •
- 28.35" Scale Length •
- Tuned Full Step Lower Than Standard •
- Mahogany & Maple 5-piece Neck •
- Quintad Bracing •
- Deluxe Gold Plated Hardware •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
DS768	Deep C/A	6-String Ac/El	4

Finishes: 4-Natural

# Specialty Acoustic

## Specialty Acoustic



NEW FOR

'98

PARLOR  
GUITAR

Originally introduced in 1979, the Folklore and Country Artist have been updated and re-introduced at the request of a legion of fingerstyle players. The 1 7/8" neck width is wider than a regular steel string, but narrower than a classic. Both feature a mid-depth body, 21-fret ebony fingerboard and OP-X preamp. The new Parlor guitar has a full sound that belies its narrow body.

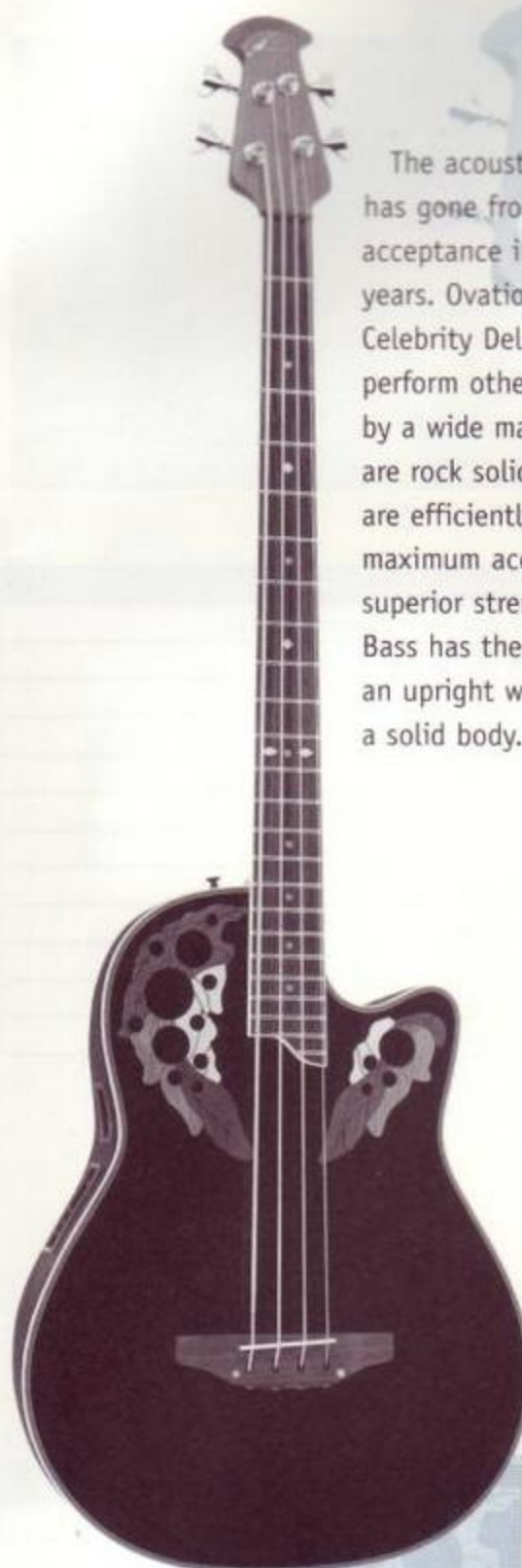
- OP-X/OP-24E Electronics •
- Solid Sitka Spruce Top •
- Mahogany & Maple 5-piece Neck •
- Inlaid Rosette •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
<b>FOLKLORE/COUNTRY ARTIST</b>			
6774	Mid-Depth C/A	6-String Ac/El	4
6773	Mid-Depth C/A	Nylon String Ac/El	4
<b>PARLOR GUITAR</b>			
5741	Parlor	6-String Ac/El	9

Finishes: 4-Natural; 9-Brown Sunburst

# Ovation Basses

## Ovation Basses



The acoustic/electric bass has gone from oddity to acceptance in a few short years. Ovation Celebrity and Celebrity Deluxe Basses outperform other acoustic basses by a wide margin. The necks are rock solid and the tops are efficiently braced for maximum acoustic output and superior strength. The Viper Bass has the woody tone of an upright with the punch of a solid body.

- Matched Preamps & Electronics •
- 34" Scale Length •
- Cutaway Body •

Model	Body	Type	Finishes
<b>ELITE BASS</b>			
B768	Deep C/A	4-String Ac/El	-4,-5
<b>CELEBRITY BASS</b>			
CS174	Deep C/A	4-String Ac/El	-4*
<b>VIPER BASS</b>			
EAB68	Chambered Mahogany	4-String Ac/El	-5,-CCB

Finishes: 4-Natural; 5-Black; CCB-Cherry Cherryburst  
\*See your dealer for additional finishes

# Cases and Accessories

## Cases and Accessories



### CASES

Model	Description
GBOV-10	Padded Travel Bag for Trekker (CC012)
9110-0	Deluxe Molded Case for Deep Body
9117-0	Deluxe Molded Case for Super Shallow Body
9158-0	Deluxe Molded Case for Mid-Depth Body
9163-0	Custom Hardshell Case for Parlor Guitar
9160-0	Deluxe Molded Case for Viper
9162-0	Deluxe Molded Case for Viper Bass
9157-0	Deluxe Molded Case for Mandolin
9117-0	Deluxe Molded Case for Mandocello
9161-0	Deluxe Molded Case for LongNeck
9155-0	Hardshell Bass Case for B768
9110-9	Cover for Molded Cases

### ACCESSORIES

Model	Description
9659-0	Activation Plug for Optima
FBR2	Feedback Buster for Roundhole Guitars
9836	Elite Style Truss Rod Wrench
9832	Truss Rod Wrench

Ovation has a worldwide service network supported by the factory warranty repair center in New Hartford, CT. Contact your authorized distributor for service information.

Visit Ovation Online at: [www.KamanMusic.com](http://www.KamanMusic.com)

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**IF YOU'RE GONNA PLAY OUT  
YOU GOTTA PLUG IN**

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1998

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BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002**

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