

W I L L I A M L A S K I N  
G U I T A R M A K E R

**DESIGN AND INLAY: A GUITARMAKER'S STORY**  
**JULY 9-13, 2012**

**Note: Previous Inlay experience will be helpful but is not an absolute prerequisite.**

**Syllabus:**

**Days 1 & 2**

After a general introduction to what will be accomplished over the week, the first 2 days will comprise a quick review of inlay techniques. To cover the bases a relatively simple sample project, utilizing Mother-of-pearl shell and one species of Reconstone, will be cut, inlaid and engraved.

The latter part of day 2 will begin our entry into the design process, with a review of slide images and discussion of layout and design properties on the depicted inlay art.

**Day 3**

Discussion of design principles and challenges begins in earnest, and actual examples of Grit's prep drawings and image assembling will be shown. Particular emphasis will be on the difficulties of designing to a restricted "canvas"—in this case, the narrow neck of a guitar, and how one adapts and develops one's concept to these kinds of limitations.

Grit will also take the class through his actual process, creating a concept and design with the class. Photographing, printing, drawing and design "assembling" will be experienced.

**Day 4**

The class completes this design, while examining variations and how each variable can have either a positive or negative affect.

**Day 5**

Students will commence working on their own design projects or continue working on projects they brought to class, with the input of Grit and through class discussion.

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**MATERIALS & TOOLS**

(all required materials, blades, cutters, etc. not listed here will be supplied by the school)

**Student to bring:**

- **Dremel & base & air pump (see note below\*)**
- **Jeweler's saw (4" cutting depth)**
- **Needle files, various**
- **magnifying glasses (prescription if applicable) or flip-down type magnifying goggles**
- **4H pencil + separate eraser**
- **small metal ruler, with divisions of 1/1000 or 0.5mm**
- **protractor**
- **metal-tipped scriber**
- **scalpel or Xacto knife, with spare blades (straight knife, ie. #11 style)**
- **desk / work lamp with flexible arms (clamp base is preferred)**

\* A hand-held Dremel Moto-tool, with router-style flat-bottomed base (note: NOT a plunge base) will be required during the inlay process. Students who own one should bring theirs along. Those who do not should consider purchasing or borrowing one in preparation for the class (and for future inlay work!). The ideal base can be obtained from the Stewart-Macdonald supply Co. ([www.stewmac.com](http://www.stewmac.com)). It's called the PRECISION ROUTER BASE, #5260.

*You'll also find their inexpensive little air pump extremely beneficial* (MINI AIR PUMP, #5262). They also have a jeweler's saw, which they call a PEARL CUTTING SAW, # 4611. The saw could also be purchased at any jeweler's supply--check your local yellow pages.