

Ye Old Bike

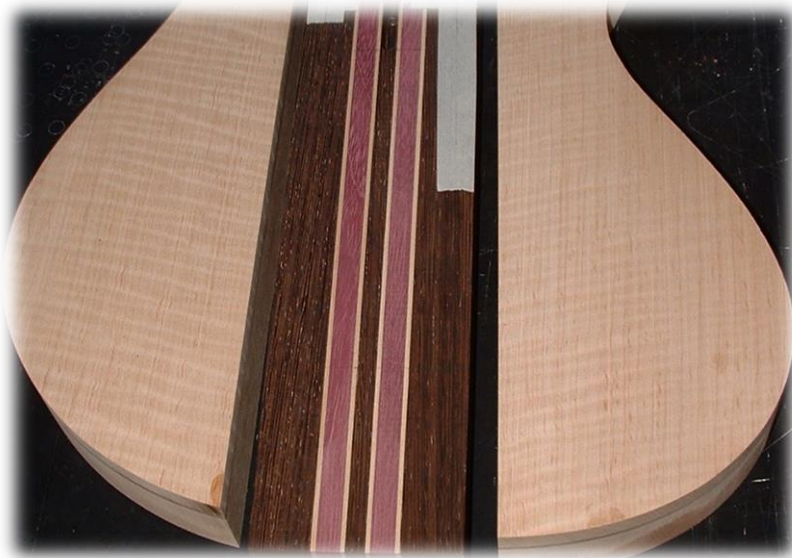
Many may wonder why this old beast is still on my website. It is lovingly referred to as “The Bike” by many, many artists - and I cannot bring myself to be rid of it. Despite its quirky looks and seemingly uncomfortable lines, it is one of the most comfortable basses I have ever made.

This design actually dates back to 1981, where it was first drawn on my trusty drawing board. I’m certain that with a few modifications and some attractive wood or colour combinations, this would prove to be a very popular design.

This old beast was actually built from left over pieces that I did not want waste. The neck was originally intended for a six string bass, the top was left over from another job, and the back was simply scrap. So I just hacked around until it resembled a bass. Fifteen +years later this old thing has been a constant loaner to artists in times of need. It has also suffered the odd re-fit on the surgery table.

Still it lives.

The neck is made from a Wenge, Purple Heart and Maple Laminate. It is also fitted with a dual action truss rod beneath the Ebony fingerboard. The side position markers are green L.E.D’s, with brass outer.



The body is Philippine mahogany which is what I had lying around at the time. It seemed to have an acceptable tap tone, despite being on the soft side. It is a Mahogany after all, so I figured why not?

The Top was a 20 year old piece of Curly Rock Maple, though I did nothing to emphasise the grain during finishing.

The Pickups were refitted with Delano SBC 4 dual coils along with a 3 Band Delano EQ. The pickup coils are also switchable. After the re-fit I was amazed how I could suddenly hear the Instrument itself-and this is when my association with Delano began.



This bass is still around and I gather it will be around for a long time yet, like a comfy old pair of jeans.