

## PHILZ 1 “Elation”:

When the idea of naming each model was proposed, the rush of delight I felt upon hearing its first sounds made ‘Elation’ feel like the ideal name for what was my first build.

### Materials Used

#### Soundboard

**Material:** AAA Grade Alaskan Sitka Spruce (Bearclaw Figure)

**Reason:**

- Slow-grown in Alaskan climate for tightly packed growth rings
- Produces crisp tones and excellent sustain
- Bearclaw striations add unique visual variation

#### Back and Sides

**Material:** AAA Grade, Book-matched Indian Rosewood

**Reason:**

- Exceptional tonewood with deep, warm colour
- Richly figured grain enhances aesthetics
- Book-matching ensures symmetrical appearance

#### Neck

**Material:** Maple, laminated with Indian Rosewood mid-layer, shaped using hand-tools

**Reason:**

- Maple provides added crispness of sound
- Heavier than mahogany but tonally articulate
- Rosewood layer adds aesthetic contrast

#### Fretboard

**Material:** High-grade Ebony

**Reason:**

- Top-grade material for strength, hardness, and playability
- Preferred choice for its sleek feel and tonal clarity

#### Headstock Faceplate

**Material:** High-grade Ebony inlaid with “Mother of pearl” insignia and “abalone” decal.

**Reason:**

- Chosen to match the Fretboard

## Bridge

**Material:** High-grade Ebony

**Reason:**

- Top-grade material for strength,
- Colour matches the fretboard

## Strings

**Type:** Elixir, Phosphor Bronze, 13/56 Gauge

**Reason:**

- Known for long-lasting tone and smooth feel
- Excellent reliability and balanced projection

## Tuning Machines

**Material:** High-quality gold-plated “Grover” hardware

**Reason:**

- Offers consistent tuning stability
- Adds refined visual elegance

## Nut & Saddle

**Material:** Bone

**Reason:**

- Excellent tonal transmission
- Strong, wear-resistant material for lasting performance

## Edge Banding

**Material:** Curly Maple

**Reason:**

- Striking figure valued for aesthetic appeal
- Challenging to work with, but worth it for visual impact

## Rosette

**Material:** Custom-made from Indian Rosewood

**Reason:**

- Matches the back and sides for visual consistency
- Handcrafted detail adds unique character