

Godin Multiac Mundial Electro-Acoustic

Thirty years ago, Godin introduced the Multiac Nylon SA to the market, which quickly became a worldwide success and the flagship instrument of Godin Guitars. Launched earlier this year, **Nick Jennison** reviews the new Godin Multiac Mundial. If you are looking for a clean, uncluttered instrument with a natural amplified nylon string sound, look no further.

THE Godin Multiac is one of those “if you know, you know” guitars that most definitely deserves the adoration it receives from switched-on players, but equally deserves to be on the radar of more players than it is right now. If you’re not an “in the know” player, let me fill you in. First released in 1993, the Multiac is a “stage nylon” guitar that offers incredibly natural “plugged in” ny-

lon string sounds while being compact, exceptionally feedback resistant and easy to play in a way that so many conventional nylon string guitars just aren’t.

The new Multiac Mundial is a modern, elegant reskin of this classic design in a suite of clean finishes, along with a unique wood combination of Cedar top, Silver Leaf ▶

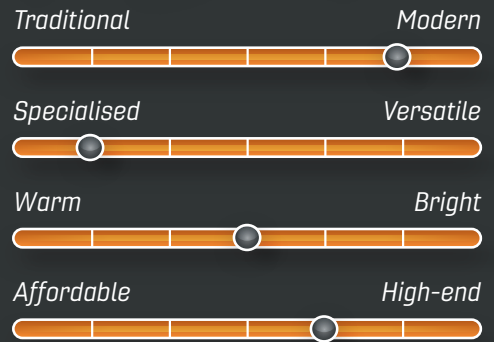


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The Breakdown



For fans of

- » Convincing nylon tones, without mics;
- » Supreme playability;
- » Modern, clean looks

For more information, please visit:

godinguitars.com



The first thing that might strike you about the Multiac Mundial - especially if you, like me, aren't a nylon string "native" - is just how well it plays

Maple body and Spanish Cedar neck. These lighter woods make for a guitar that's exceptionally lightweight, which is ideal for travelling and for long-live performances. It produces comparatively little acoustic volume, and that's the whole point - it's designed to be played plugged in!

The first thing that might strike you about the Multiac Mundial - especially if you, like me, aren't a nylon string "native" - is just how well it plays. With more traditional nylon string guitars, a certain degree of stiffness in the setup is necessary for projection and volume. This is usually in the form of higher string tension and higher action, which definitely add power to an unplugged nylon string, but they can be a real workout to play. Because the Multiac Mundial doesn't rely on acoustic projection, it means the setup can be way friendlier, and everything from complex jazz comping to intricate electric-style lead lines are all very easy to carry off, and hand fatigue is a non-issue. That's not to say that it "plays like an electric": it still feels very much like a nylon string thanks to the broad, flat neck shape - just one that's incredibly forgiving to play.

Sounds come courtesy of the Godin Double Source Custom preamp - the same one found on the Multiac Encore models. It incorporates an under-saddle piezo pickup and body sensors located within the fully hollow body, with a slider to blend between the two sources along with a master volume and a three band cut-and-boost EQ. Both sources sound very natural, with the piezo providing punch and definition while the body sensors provide air, size and realism, along with the ability to perform percussive techniques. Wherever you set the sliders, the tone feels and sounds like a great traditional nylon string, only louder. The dynamic range is responsive without being punishing, pick transients are soft and controlled, and you can lay in without fear of distortion or the dreaded piezo "quack".

The Godin Multiac is an all-time classic, and the new Mundial version continues this lineage with a modern look and a lighter body. It's incredibly rewarding to play, comfortable for long performances, and sounds very convincing indeed.



