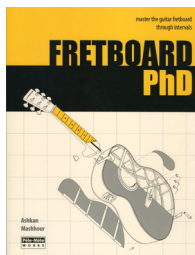


**The Martin Archives: A Scrapbook of Treasures from the World's Foremost Acoustic Guitar Maker**  
**Jim Washburn & Dick Boak**  
(Hal Leonard)

## A LITERAL TREASURE HUNT FOR MARTIN FANS

With more than two millions guitars made and 200 years of history under its belt, C.F. Martin & Co. has been around for a long time. To give you an idea of just how long, Martin guitars predate the typewriter, electric lights, and even the steam locomotive. As Graham Nash writes in the foreword, “The breadth and depth of the Martin archives is so vast that it can only be partially addressed in a book like this.” To that end, documenting its history is a behemoth of a task, but authors Jim Washburn and Martin historian Dick Boak sure do have a lot of fun with it in *The Martin Archives: A Scrapbook of Treasures from the World's Foremost Acoustic Guitar Maker*. A compendium of many unseen Martin artifacts, company records, and stories from the pre-Civil War era to Woodstock to Coachella and beyond, *The Martin Archives* really is like a treasure hunt, literally stuffed to the gills with symposium posters, pockets of 1920s hang tags, ukulele postcards, pre-war catalogs, letters from stars such as Gene Autry and Jimmie Rodgers, the purchase order for the first D-45, promotional silk banners, and so much other ephemera. Martin fans will surely geek-out over all the goodies of yesteryear, and acoustic-guitar enthusiasts in general will marvel at the sheer depth and unique role Martin has played in America's musical culture. —A.P.

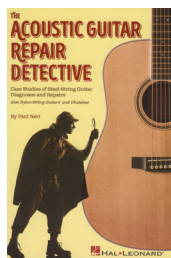


**Fretboard PhD**  
**Ashkan Mashhour**  
(Pele-Mele Works)

## DON'T FRET: THIS GUITAR COURSE IS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Ah, the humble fretboard. Such a vital part of making the acoustic guitar sing, yet also easily overlooked. *Fretboard PhD: Master the Guitar Fretboard Through Intervals* aims to change that in a book that delivers precisely what it promises: an in-depth study of the fretboard with an emphasis on intervals. The “PhD” part of the title may sound daunting, and basic knowledge of music theory is a prerequisite to

understanding this instructional book, but the hundreds of visual examples and diagrams included help to offset some of the more dense written material (a la linearity of inversion math formulae)! Topics covered in this course include an introduction to the fretboard, tunings, interval additions, fretboard geometry, harmonics, the CAGED system, anchoring, mirroring, transposition, and more. Written by Ashkan Mashhour, *Fretboard PhD* has its roots in lessons Mashhour took with guitarist Davis H. Murdy, who also coauthored his first book, *Intervallic Fretboard*. Though not for beginners, by the end of *Fretboard PhD*, most guitarists will have a comprehensive view of all things fretboard, from its physical layout to its properties, to ways to visualize and organize it in connection with overarching musical concepts. —A.P.



**The Acoustic Guitar Repair Detective**  
**Paul Neri**  
(Hal Leonard)

## HOW TO SLEUTH REPAIR PROBLEMS

Have you ever wanted to be able to assess your acoustic guitar's problems without having to take it into the shop? *The Acoustic Guitar Repair Detective: Case Studies of Steel-String Guitar Diagnoses and Repairs* aims to arm players with knowledge of common guitar problems (as well as nylon-string guitars and ukuleles), including issues relating to adjustments, upkeep, and repair. Author Paul Neri knows his stuff. He's repaired more than 15,000 guitars, and has 35-plus years of experience fixing and restoring fretted instruments at Neri Lutherie in Connecticut. Make no mistake, Neri's not trying to put himself out of business or suggesting players attempt to tackle all their own repairs. Instead, *Repair Detective* offers a basic framework in which to approach a guitar's playability, as well as building an understanding, addressing common questions and myths, and preventing easily avoided problems, such as those relating to humidity, cracks, pickups, cleaning/polishing, intonation, how to buy a used guitar, and so on. Written in an easy to understand and colloquial manner, *Repair Detective* won't solve all your guitar problems in its 78 pages, but it will bolster players' understanding in addressing recurring issues, and includes dozens of illustrations, a comprehensive troubleshooting chart, and a glossary. —A.P.

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