

XOX Audio Tools

Musical Instruments



XOX AUDIO TOOLS brings high design and advanced technologies to the musical field to produce seductive musical instruments.

XOX Audio Tools started in 2006 from a meeting between a musician with a background in sales and marketing, a famous product designer, and two engineering and manufacturing experts.

"It all began with the quest to make a better guitar for the guitarist, better playability, better tone, better sustain, better resistance to the elements, better ergonomics. Having identified a material which greatly improves tone, sustain, and structure, over wood, I began exploring designs which could satisfy all aspects the guitarist desired in his dream guitar" states Peter Solomon, Design Director and CEO of XOX Audio Tools. "I wanted to create a new formal language for this guitar that would express its cutting-edge and innovative essence while also paying homage to certain elements of iconic electric guitars in order to create a comfortable familiarity for musicians. I delineated a sleek and organic form with distinctly carved out areas, but also something which felt like a guitar, and not an alien spaceship" stated Peter.

"Our mission was the development of a completely new electric guitar, different from any other previously seen models, not just a music instrument but also a seductive object characterized by its unique design and by the use of cutting edge technology and materials such as carbon fiber" explains Paolo Storti, Marketing & Sales Manager.

This is never a minor challenge, considering there are not a lot of new ideas and features in the musical instrument field.

"XOX will never produce a copy of another instrument. We are innovators and will always lead the way by designing our instruments from the ground up" continues Paolo Storti. "Our ideas are inspired by the musician's needs, what does he really want from his instrument? From there, using our experience, fantasies, and new technologies, we project the highest level of instruments for the connoisseur."



INDUSTRY

Musical instruments

CHALLENGE

Create a completely new electric guitar that looks as good as it sounds.

SOLUTION

Use solidThinking Evolve to model the smooth organic shapes required to create a beautiful and unique design.

RESULTS

- Organic modeling freedom
- High quality 2D curves translated into accurate 3D surfaces
- Broad design exploration with the use of design history
- Evolve model sent directly for rapid prototyping
- Design performed entirely on an Apple Mac

“We wanted to create a guitar inspired by organic shapes”
explains Emilio Cassani, Technical Department Director.
“solidThinking was the ideal tool for the development of Peter
Solomon's dynamic, organic, and very complex design.”

Paolo Storti adds: “It was important to find the ideal shape not just in terms of aesthetics but also in terms of functionality and performance.” The goal was achieved with the Handle, a revolutionary electric guitar.

THE HANDLE

A true high-tech design object, the Handle combines a striking formal identity with cutting edge technology. Its mono-chassis, hollow-sectioned construction favors direct transmission of acoustic vibrations and creates a resonance chamber for incredibly rich warm sound.

the Handle is made from carbon fiber, a material developed for the aerospace industry and used in F1 race cars. This ultra lightweight material is incredibly resilient and will not bend or deform when subjected to high temperatures or humidity. Also, carbon fiber offers a much wider harmonic range than wood.

the Handle was conceived as a single body from which superfluous material has been removed. Its concave form, thin profile, slim neck and light weight offer a truly pleasing experience to anyone who plays it.

the Handle was the winner of several awards including the Chicago Athenaeum Museum's Good Design Award 2006 and Guitar Jam Daily's Most Innovative Guitar of NAMM 2007, and Best Guitar of NAMM 2008.

THE RIGHT MODELING SOLUTION

“Using Evolve was extremely beneficial to our project because it allowed us not to worry about modifying our design in order to reach the perfect balance” explains Emilio Cassani. “As we now have plans to create variations of the Handle, we will save lot of time using our history based model without having to start modeling from scratch.”

“I really appreciate the quality of the 2D curves you can create with Evolve. They are as smooth as if you sketch them by hand but, at the same time, they grant the highest level of accuracy that is so important to create good 3D surfaces.”

The Evolve 3D model was directly sent to rapid prototyping for the creation of molds.

Thanks to the high quality photorealistic renderings, XOX Audio Tools could evaluate finishing alternatives and make the best choice.

ABOUT XOX AUDIO TOOLS

XOX Audio Tools bring high design and advanced technologies to the musical field to produce the most innovative and seductive instruments ever seen. All XOX Audio Tools instruments are designed in Italy and made to the highest world wide industrial standards.

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