

About the inlay on Terry's Larry Sifel guitar:

There is an ancient legend from China (and a version of the story is told in many other parts of east Asia, too) which tells of two servants of the emperor who fell in love, and, though their love had been forbidden, they made plans for a secret rendezvous. She was the weaver who wove the royal garments, and he was the herdsman who cared for the emperor's flock. One day the emperor was out walking and he found the loom and flock both unattended. He sent his guards out to look for the two lovers and they were found making love near a beautiful pool. The emperor decided to punish the two lovers for their transgression and had his sorcerer cast a spell on them, turning them into stars in the sky. They became the stars we know as Altair and Vega, on opposite sides of the milky way. The emperor promised them that although they would remain there for all eternity, they would be allowed one night of love every year, the night of the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> moon. On that day all the magpies on earth would fly up into the heavens and spread their wings, forming a bridge across the Milky Way so the two lovers could meet. In the Chinese calendar, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> moon is August 7<sup>th</sup> and it is still customary in China for children to chase magpies away when they are seen on the ground that day, for they must fly up into the sky to fulfill their annual obligation to love. August 7<sup>th</sup> is also the day Terry and Greg chose for their wedding. Larry Sifel depicted the ancient legend in the fingerboard inlay of the guitar he made for Terry, with the stars at either end, the sorcerer weaving his magic, and magpies flying up into the sky between them.