



## Teye La Azteca and Pistolero

TESTED BY ART THOMPSON

**THESE TWO NEW GUITARS FROM TEYE'S** Emperor and Super T Series showcase the fine workmanship, playability, and tone that have become hallmarks of this accomplished builder and guitarist. Our recent review of the Cleopatra (November, 2016) revealed an instrument that not only stood out visually

with its over-the-top metal work, but also had very impressive sonic qualities. The guitars on review here further the assessment that Teye is creating very special instruments aimed at pro players who appreciate being able to wring the most tone possible from humbucking pickups.

### EMPEROR SERIES LA AZTECA

With its blue mosaic top with acid-etched metal plates featuring stylized Aztec artwork (there's a plate on the back as well), this guitar looks amazing enough to hang in a fine-art gallery. Add to it the Super Sustain bridge and tailpiece, cast-metal knobs that look like Arabian minarets,

and Teye's "Shipwreck" treatment on the korina body and neck (a chemical process that brings out various colors in the wood), and the overall effect is pretty mindblowing. Of course, you can say that about any Teye guitar, and, outstanding as it is, the La Aztec only hints at what's available in the company's higher-tier models.

The headstock wears an engraved metal plate, and the three-point tuner buttons are custom-cast by Teye. Beautifully decorated

with Teye's "Bedouin" inlays rendered in white pearl, the bound ebony fretboard rides atop a fairly wide neck with a medium-thick profile that won't leave players with larger hands feeling shortchanged. The setup is great, the guitar intonates well, the hand-rubbed oil finish has a sumptuous feel, and the playability is very satisfying, despite the fret ends being a bit sharp.

Our three-pickup model has a wiring scheme that provides the following configurations:

### SPECIFICATIONS

#### EMPEROR SERIES LA AZTECA

CONTACT	teye.com
PRICE	\$6,500 street, with choice of SKB iSeries "gun" case or SKB Les Paul-style case
NUT WIDTH	1.75"
NECK	Select korina, hand-rubbed luthiers oil finish with Shipwreck treatment
FRETBOARD	Bound ebony with "Bedouin" inlay, 25.5" scale
FRETS	24
TUNERS	Grover Super Rotomatic with proprietary Teye Master-Series buttons
BODY	Korina with maple partial caps, and hand-rubbed luthiers oil finish with Shipwreck treatment
BRIDGE	Proprietary Teye SuperSustain bridge and tailpiece
PICKUPS	Three custom-wound Lollar humbuckers (2-pickup version also available)
CONTROLS	Two Volumes, Tone, Mojo, 5-way switch
FACTORY STRINGS	D'Addario EXL 110, .010-.046
WEIGHT	8.48 lbs
BUILT	USA
KUDOS	Amazing cosmetics. Huge range of deep, complex tones.
CONCERNS	Sharp points on bridge-height adjusting wheels.

#### SUPER T SERIES PISTOLERO

CONTACT	teye.com
PRICE	\$2,995 street (gig bag included)
NUT WIDTH	1.75"
NECK	Select mahogany
FRETBOARD	Bound ebony with "Teye" inlay, 25.5" scale
FRETS	24
TUNERS	Grover Super Rotomatic Imperials
BODY	Select mahogany, 3-piece
BRIDGE	Proprietary Teye SuperSustain bridge and tailpiece
PICKUPS	Two custom-wound DiMarzio humbuckers
CONTROLS	Two Volumes, Tone, Mood, 5-way switch
FACTORY STRINGS	D'Addario EXL 110, .010-.046
WEIGHT	7.9 lbs
BUILT	USA
KUDOS	Awesome look. Deep, complex tones. Amazing flexibility.
CONCERNS	Sharp points on bridge-height adjusting wheels.