



La Voix du Luthier

Give the sound of a luthier to your instrument

La Voile Installation Notes

Resonators from La Voix du Luthier

Like any **handmade acoustic instrument**
Each resonator is **signed and numbered**

The resonators from La Voix du Luthier are real **handmade instruments** built using the traditional **craftmanship of stringed instrument makers**, augmented with the expertise of **electronic instrument maker**.



Feel the acoustical vibrations while playing your electronic instrument due to direct acoustical coupling, bringing to electronic musician this **subtle yet significant playing experience** that naturally occurs in traditional acoustic instruments.

If you have a question not answered in this manual, please send a mail to contact@la-voix-du-luthier.com



Resonators from La Voix du Luthier

They generate a 3D auditory space, just like a traditional acoustic instrument (as opposed to traditional speakers being very directional).

They are not sonically «neutral», but are not meant to be: they offer a colored sound carefully tuned by the luthier.

They offer a highly dynamic sound: transients, like the attack of sounds, mechanical noises, etc. are of incredible quality (prefer dynamic sounds to feed the resonators, rather than highly compressed ones, and it will shine)

They enhance any electronic signal, imparting a carefully balanced acoustical environment into the source, immersive like an acoustic instrument.

They have two fine wooden soundboards with oppositional placement that are complementary sounding, further enhancing the 3D experience. Each soundboard has a separate volume control allowing for fine-tuning of the tonal balance.

They offer a high number of possible mounting options including DIY Like acoustic instruments, they are deeply interacting with their environment, allowing to fully take advantage of the specific tonal characteristics of a venue.

They perfectly integrate with an acoustic ensemble.

They offer a very elegant wooden design (different finishing are available).



Technical details – The La Voile

58.5 cm high (+feet), 58.5 cm width, 18 cm depth, 5 kg weight.

2x30W Class D amplifier driving 2 carefully selected wideband transducers.

Built following the traditional stringed instrument maker's know-how, integrating two sonically complementary soundboards.

Separated volume control for each soundboard.

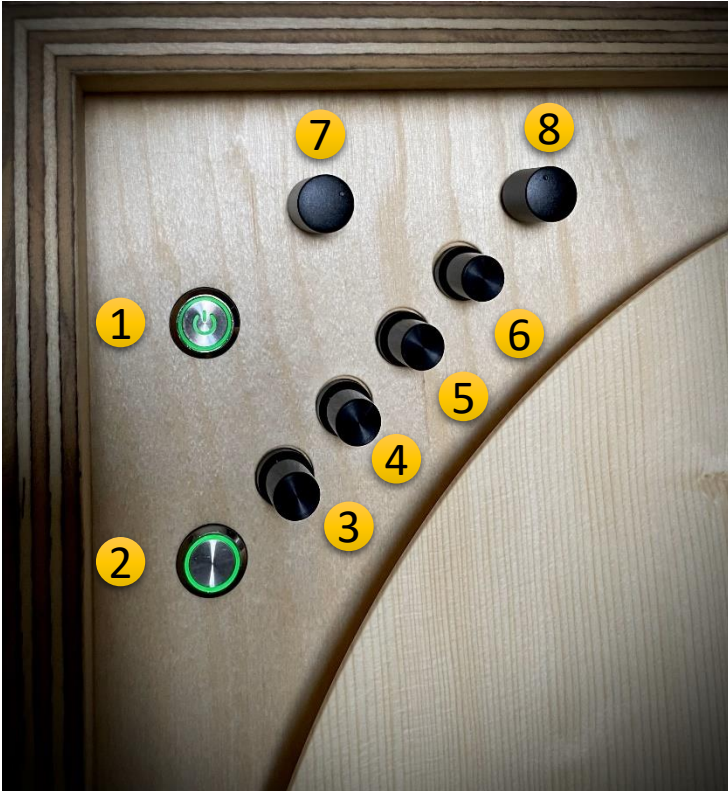
Line level stereo in (two 6.36 mono jacks), or preamplified stereo input (option) with Gain and High/Mid/Low frequency correction.

Bluetooth Audio (and APTX). Line level and Bluetooth can be mixed together.

Battery-powered (3x18650 3.7 Volt Li-ion rechargeable batteries: not provided, see later in the document)

Integrated power supply.

Control and connections

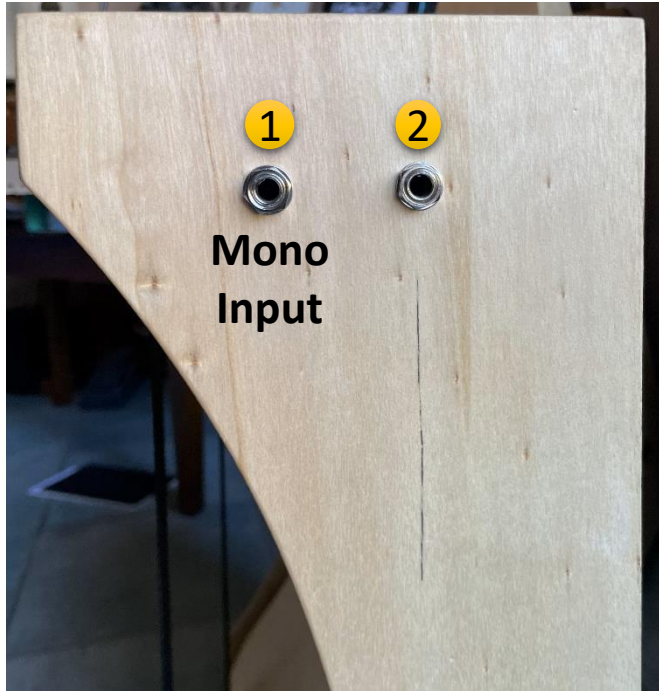


- 1 On-Off button
- 2 Bluetooth audio, connection indication (*appears with Bluetooth device name La Voix du Luthier*)
- 3 Preamp: Input gain (only active on jack analog inputs, not on the Bluetooth input)
- 4 Treble frequency control (middle position is neutral, go left for less and right for more)
- 5 Medium frequency control (middle position is neutral, go left for less and right for more)
- 6 Low frequency control (middle position is neutral, go left for less and right for more)
- 7 Front Soundboard volume
- 8 Back Soundboard volume

The front soundboard is tuned to complementary to the back soundboard is tuned for low frequencies. Therefore, adjusting the relative volumes is a great way for defining your own sound color.

Remember that the preamplifier and tone correction is only acting on the Jack input, not on the Bluetooth input.

Audio input



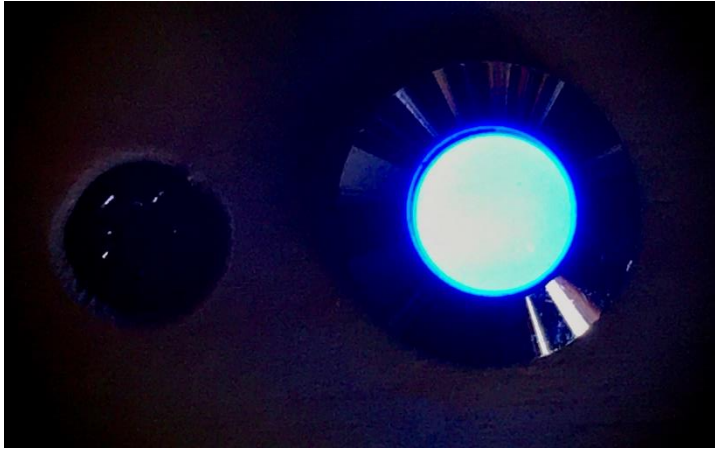
La Voile has 2 audio inputs (6.35 mm audio jacks). When La Voile has the preamplifier option, these inputs are processed by the preamplifier.

- 1 The Left jack when used alone (as shown in the lower picture) is the MONO input and the input signal is then distributed to both soundboards. When both jack are connected, the Left jack input drives the back soundboard,
- 2 The Right jack drives the front soundboard



In some situation, it may happen that a “hum” noise appears: in such case it may be useful to try inserting a ground isolator (the figures on the right provides example of very cheap ones),



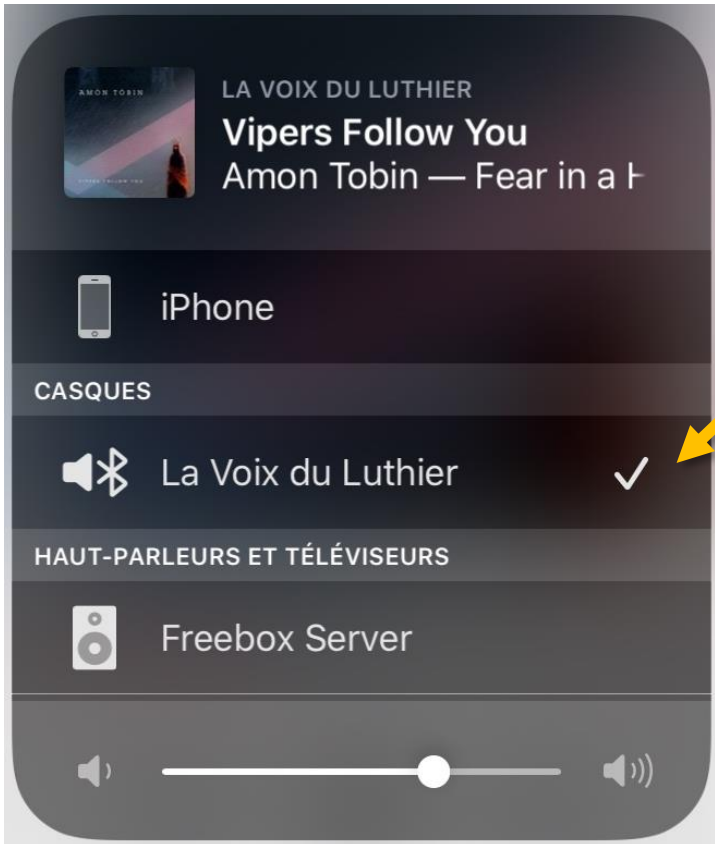


Bluetooth Connection

La Voile is Bluetooth Bluetooth V 5 .0 and apt X HD compliant

The Bluetooth connection to La Voile is just like the connection to any Bluetooth device:

1. The La Voile will show up as “*La Voix du Lutier*”, connect to it, from you smartphone, tablet or computer, as to any Bluetooth device
2. Select “*La Voix du Lutier*”, as output device
3. The output level will depend on your device volume and the La Voile volume knobs: we recommend to have the highest possible volume on the device and to adjust it on the La Voile itself.



Note that the 6,35 mm jack audio inputs are still available while playing Bluetooth, meaning that you can play backtracks via Bluetooth.

Some recommendations and Q&A

The typical usage environment of La Voile shall be the same as any acoustic instrument: avoid too dry or too wet environment the most dangerous being too dry, which may result in cracks on the soundboard. Also be aware that different humidity environment will result in different sonic behavior, that's normal. If you feel comfortable, La Voile will feel comfortable,

Don't let La Voile under the direct light of the sun (in the back of a car for example or near to a window), or close a to very hot object (wood-burner, radiator, etc.)

As for any acoustic instrument the sound of your La Voile will evolve over the time, usually in a good direction, and the more you play it, the better it will become !

You can carry La Voile like you would carry a guitar. The most fragile areas are the soundboards: don't put any weight or pressure on them, don't put water, coffee, soda or anything on it, it's not a cooking surface (furthermore: any object, even very light, touching one of the soundboards, will invariably be the source of unpleasant and noisy vibrations).

Please, only use your La Voile as a resonator and in secured conditions (securely attached, sufficiently away from any fireplace and any source of water, etc.) any other use will be under your own responsibility.

It's not really fragile, but it's an acoustic musical instrument: please take care of it !



La Voile : some recommendations and Q&A

How to take care of it ? Clean it with a dry cloth, avoid any household product.

About vibrations: as any acoustic instrument, the La Voile has a set of resonance frequencies (that's part of what makes its own color). Playing these resonance frequencies at high level may result in some annoying vibration noises. If this happens, lower the volume or try to put less input power on these frequencies. In a general way, don't play it too loud: that does not make the sound better.

Input levels: the 6,35 mm audio inputs are expecting to receive a Line-Level input if you don't have the preamplifier option, and most input will work if you have the preamplifier (even lox level input, like a îezzo microphone). However, some synthesizers may provide a very high level on their output: therefore we advise, when connecting a new instrument, to start with the volume knobs at the minimum and then raise them progressively to a reasonable level.

6.35 mm audio inputs can be used simultaneously to the Bluetooth input. Also note that you will manage to get higher volume level with the 6,35 mm jack input (so be careful). Also note that, as all Bluetooth audio, wireless transmission result in an additional playback latency: therefore the 6,35 mm jack input is much more suitable to connect live instruments.

The audio input IS STEREO, and left/right will be distributed to the front and back soundboard, resulting in a very nice spatialized sound (but different from traditional left/right). To use the La Voile with a monophonic instrument, use the left sided Jack input alone (the signal will be distributed to both soundboards).



La Voile : some recommendations and Q&A

In some rare circumstances, you may get some buzz noise. If this happens try to:

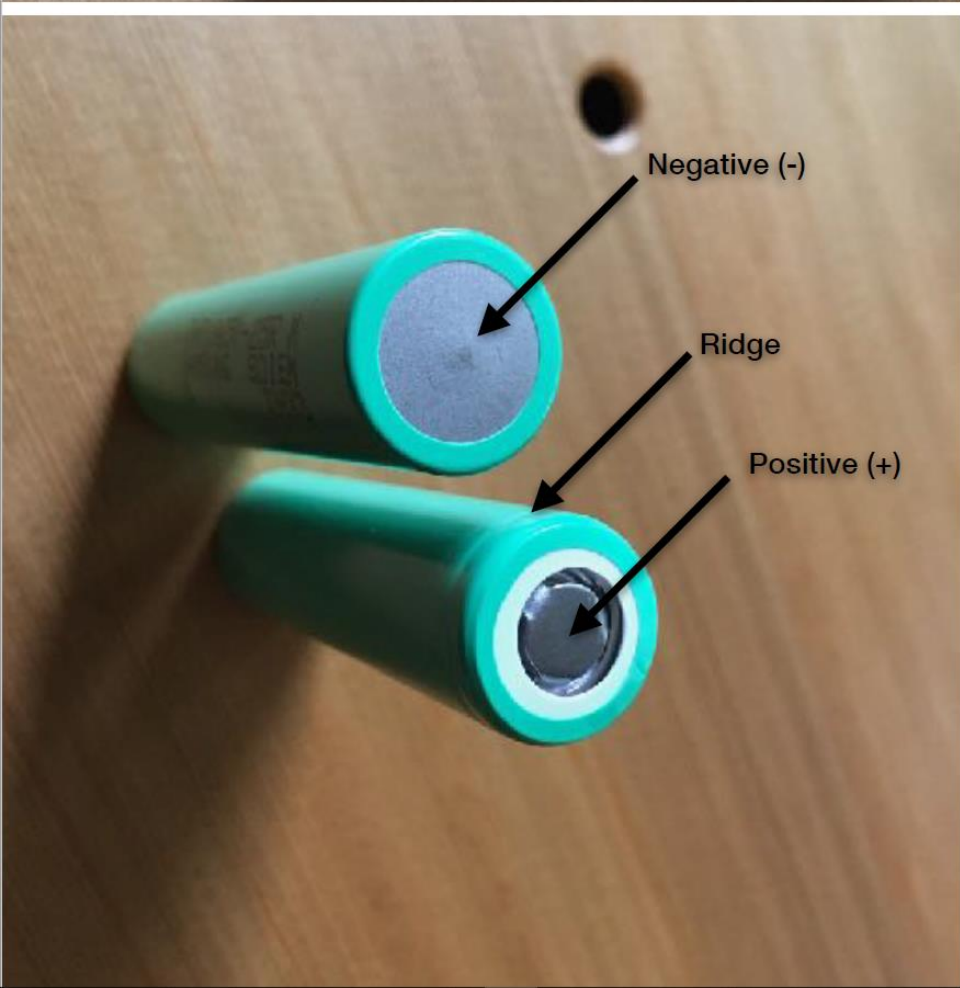
- If you are using a 6.35 mm jack input, first check your cable !
- Insert a ground loop isolator on the 6.35 mm jack input (it's cheap and easy to find)
- Lower the volume on the La Voile
- Unplug the DC adaptor (only if you are using batteries of course)
- If you are using batteries: turn off the La Voile and connect it to the DC adaptor (when the battery is low, you will progressively get distortion when requesting more output level)
- Move the La Voile away from any electro magnetic radiation source
- Connect a Bluetooth device (if not already done)
- If none of the above works, fire a mail at contact@la-voix-du-luthier.com

Check <https://www.la-voix-du-luthier.com/faq> for additional Frequently asked questions. The site also provides a lot of demonstration videos,

Make sure to check our terms and conditions on <http://www.la-voix-du-luthier.com/cgv>



Batteries



The La Voile Batteries

Three 18650 3.7 Volt Li-ion flat head rechargeable batteries required (*very common since they are also used for electronic cigarettes*).

Due to shipping restrictions La Voile does not come supplied with internal batteries. They will need to be purchased separately. However, all La Voile s are equipped with a battery compartment and, when present, batteries will automatically charge when the La Voile is connected to its power adapter. The 3 batteries that the La Voile requires are easily available online and are quite common.

We have had success using the Samsung version of these batteries, INR18650-25R (2500 mAh) and Panasonic NCR18650B (3400 mAh) which are more expensive but last much longer.

18650 mean 18 mm large an 65 mm long. Be aware that some batteries are said to be 18650 but are longer than 65 mm: don't use them, they won't fit in the holder

When looking at the batteries it is important to identify the positive and negative ends, as it is not always marked on the outside case. It is quite easy to distinguish the two. The positive end has a smaller exposed contact, while the negative end is much larger. The positive end also has a ridge around it's perimeter.



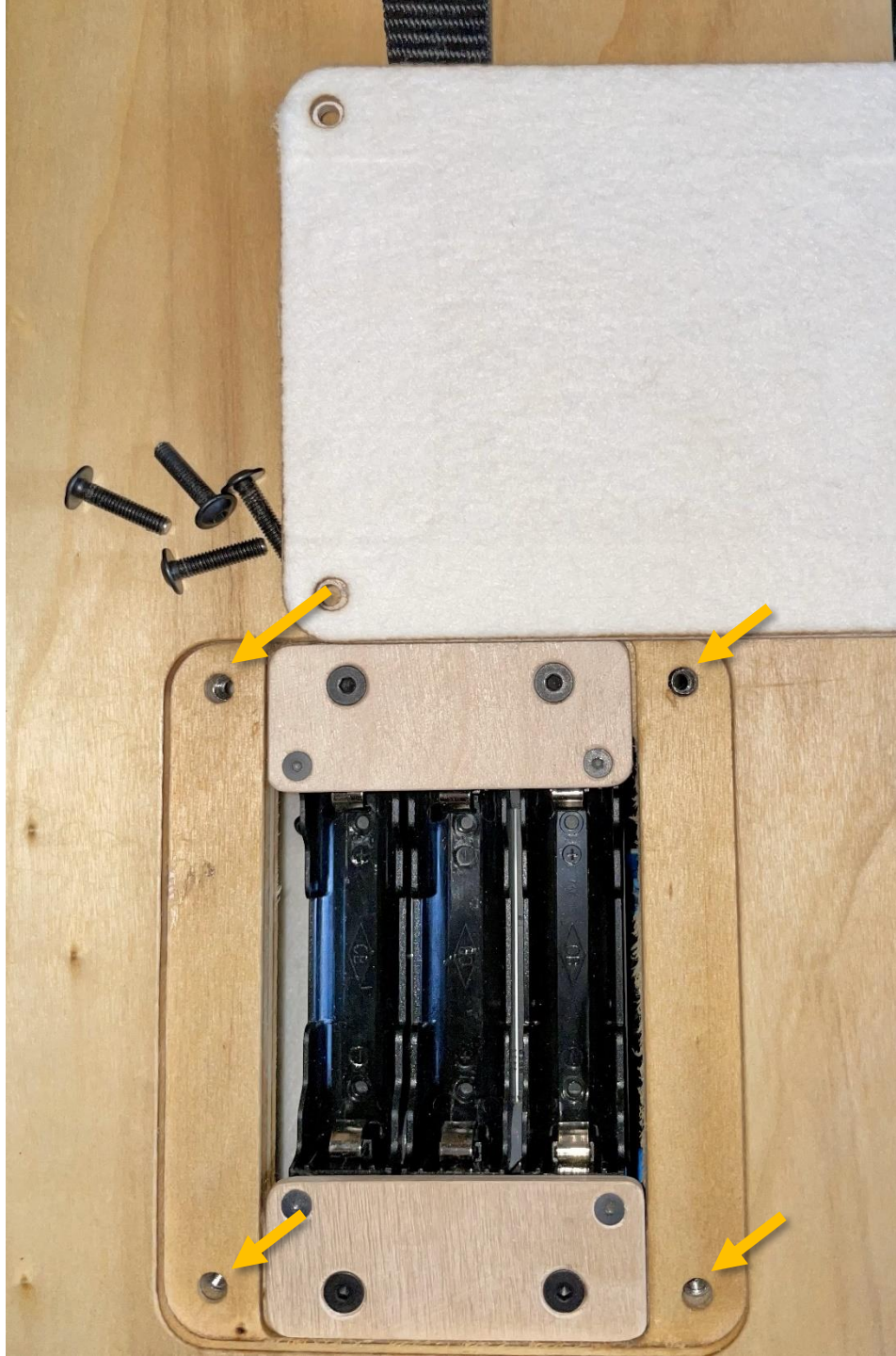
Inserting the La Voile Batteries

Tool required: Allen hexagonal 2,5 mm screwdriver

Step 1

Place the La Voile on a flat surface (like the floor), with the back braced against something that will prevent it from falling sideways (such as a couch, pictured). The control panel should be facing up, with all connections removed.

Be careful not to scratch any of the La Voile's surfaces.



Step 2

Remove the four corner screws that attach the battery compartment to the La Voile.

Place the screws aside.

Step 3

Remove the cover of the battery compartment



Step 4

Identify the battery compartment and the polarity of the batteries. The left and right ones (on the picture) have the positive on the top, while the middle one has the positive on the bottom. This polarity is marked on the battery compartment.



Step 5

Place the batteries inside the battery compartment, being careful to observe proper polarity.

Step 6

When the batteries are correctly in place close the battery compartment.

Step 7

Replace the four screws. Do not overtighten.



Note

Due to legislation, you will have to remove the batteries before traveling with the La Voile in the hold of a plane (or shipping by air).

Also note that an impact on La Voile may move the batteries a bit out of their compartment: therefore after an impact on the La Voile (due to travel of whatever other reason), if the batteries are not working anymore, just reopen the amplifier drawer to check and to put them back in place.

Soft Cover



Soft cover for traveling

As an option, the soft cover is a good way to protect La Voile when not using it or when traveling



Have fun with La Voile!



Please note that none of the pictures in the document are contractual: La Voile is hand made and we are always improving our production process ! Therefore there may be slight differences from one Voile to another