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"The StompMix 4 is a Game Changer for Acoustic Guitarists using multi-source pickup systems. It's a feature rich mixer pedal that fits in your hand" Don Alder, Multi-Award Guitarist

THE QUIET ROOM: DON ALDER

a touch of genius

Don Alder

Guitar Interactive is proud to welcome Canadian fingerstyle maestro Don Alder for a revealing interview with our own Giorgio Serci, plus a series of exclusive video performances. And don't miss our next issue when Don joins us for a short series as a guest Quiet Room columnist!

Gary Cooper profiles the man widely acknowledged as one of the world's finest and most musical fingerstyle guitarists.

It's offering a unique reference to describe any genre as 'in good or in great' (there's always more than just a note in the context) but it's an elusive, intangible quality in having Canadian fingerstyle guitarists Don Alder. He's not a concept to me which has, but if it were - well, the list of guitar competitions Alder has won stretches back to 2006, when he swept the board in the main Vancouver, managed a creditable fourth in Germany's Olympia International Fingerstyle Competition and then went on to grab prizes in competitions and tournaments held in the USA, including the International Guitar Competition in London in 2011. Don has won more than 20 international guitar prizes, including the 2010 North American Guitar Competition and the 2007 International Fingerstyle Championship. Meanwhile, praise has been bestowed on Don's technique and musicianship have been seen to keep him up at an endgame - including both his live performances and YouTube channel uploads.

Henry Swales 2015

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Don Alder, "Armed & Dangerous," 2015

Don't let the cover art of Don Alder's *Armed & Dangerous* CD throw you. It pays homage to the cast of the *Walking Dead* TV series and features a trench-coated zombie slayer armed with a fan fret of the acoustic guitar equipped with optional head stock blade, body blade, variable angle chainsaw and a flame thrower whammy bar. Scary as that might be, musically there is nothing dead about this vibrant collection of 12 original compositions. In fact, the only scary thing here is that Alder's infectious collection of 12 original compositions. In fact, the only scary thing here is that Alder's infectious collection of 12 original compositions. In fact, the only scary thing here is that Alder's infectious collection of 12 original compositions.

throughout this album, "Love & Life," would be my favorite track. Something tells me that Don Alder a Grammy ward winning singer/songwriter CD in his future. As he has proven before, the man can flat-out sing! "Dancing with Spin Doctors," adds a whole new aspect to Alder's repertoire. He lays down and electric finger-style groove with help from Billy Sheehan on bass and Sam Cartwright on drums that has Eric Johnson-esque overtones and feels completely at home nestled in amongst the acoustic bulk of this collection. For sheer beauty both "Sophtrosyne" and "Precious Moments" show the delicate side of Alder's fretwork as he coaxes sweetness from a baritone guitar that I haven't heard since Pat Metheny's *One Quiet Night*. Other highlights include "Circuitous," a fingerstyle gem and the spirited "Three Good Reasons To Play," a duet written and with Luca Francioso. Not surprisingly, the release of *Armed & Dangerous* coincides with Don Alder's name appearing on the cover of *Guitar Player Magazine*. Go figure...

© James Filkins

DON ALDER

8. April 2016

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FEATURED VIDEOS

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TOUR DATES

DON'S BIO

Don Alder is one of those acoustic guitar magicians that leaves you wondering "How is he making all that sound. Ray Danalis, Mgr of Rush says "Alder is one of those guitarists that should be famous around the world his performances are jaw dropping". Alder is often referred to as the Hendrix of acoustic guitar and while honored and humbled by those words aspires to be the "Jeff Beck" of acoustic guitar. As winner of the 2011 Worldwide Guitar Idol, 2010 Guitar Superstar North America, and 2007 International Finger style Champion, Alder's accolades puts him as one of the top acoustic guitarists in the world. Alder has been featured in numerous guitar magazines, has over 3.5 million youtube views and has been in shows that included artists such as Andy Mckee, Tommy Emmanuel, Phil Keaggy, Lawrence Juber, Lee Ritenour and Billy Sheehan. It was at one of these shows that Lee Ritenour hand picked Alder to be on the advisory judge panel for the highly touted Six String Theory Contest. His last CD titled "Not a Planet" received two industry nominations as instrumental CD of the year. He continues to perform around the world entertaining audiences and inspiring guitarists wherever he goes.

DON ALDER ON TWITTER

"Performing tonight at the Zimmer 16 theatre in berlin. #berlinmusicscene #berlinentertainment"

CONNECT WITH DON ALDER

GITARREN & BÄSSE

TOP SECRET!

Das bestgehütetste Geheimnis von Vancouver

Als Gewinner des Worldwide Guitar Idol Wettbewerbs (London/UK 2011), des Guitar Superstar Wettbewerbs (LA/USA 2010) und der International Fingerstyle Championships im Jahr 2007 hat sich Don Alder, der oft auch als „Hendrix der Akustikgitarre“ bezeichnet wird, einen Top-Rang unter den Akustikgitarren der Welt verdient.

Don Alder stammt aus Vancouver/Kanada und ist als Fingerstyle-Gitarrist, Sänger/Liedermacher und Komponist tätig. Neben seinen sehenswerten Bühnenauftritten arbeitet er auch regelmäßig an Alben und als Studiomusiker. Seine Spezialität ist die Kombination der Fingerpicking-Technik mit gleichzeitiger Nutzung der Gitarre als Perkussionskörper, um so quasi eine Wand aus Tönen zu erschaffen. Alder selbst komponierte Stücke sind eine einzigartige Kombination aus tief verankerter Melodie und Rhythmus, womit er bei seinen Auftritten eine einmalige dynamische Intensität auf die Bühne bringt.

Eben jene Bühnenauftritte versetzen die Zuschauer regelmäßig ins Staunen, man nennt Don Alder auch „das bestgehütetste Geheimnis von Vancouver“. Aber das gilt wohl nicht mehr angesichts der vielen Clicks seiner Videos auf YouTube (ca. 3 Millionen). Nicht zuletzt, da er einer der versiertesten Harp-Guitar-Spieler ist, hat er Gitarristen weltweit inspiriert.

Internationale Zusammenarbeit und Auszeichnung

Als Top-Akustik-Gitarrist repräsentiert er Yamaha Guitars International und man berichtet über ihn in den Yamaha All Access Publikationen, neben Künstlern wie Jason Mraz, Herbie Hancock oder Sarah McLaughlin. Insgesamt arbeitet er mit einer Vielzahl von Gesellschaften der Musikindustrie zusammen, darunter außerdem Greenfield Guitars und Dicker Guitars.

Durch seinen Einsatz erreichte Don Alder, was sonst nur wenige schaffen: Im Frühjahr 2013 wurde ihm der Brand Laureate Award in Malaysia verliehen. Er ist nach Astronaut Chris Hadfield der zweite Kanadier, der diesen Preis erhält. Der Award wurde ihm als Anerkennung seines einzigartigen Beitrags verliehen, die Gitarre und seine Musik zu nutzen, um anderen Menschen in der Welt zu helfen und um sie zu inspirieren.

Alder ist ein hochgradig unterhaltsamer Musiker, der gern auch mal zur Einleitung seiner Stücke humorvolle Anekdoten erzählt. Besucher seiner Konzerte sind auch Tage danach noch von den Eindrücken hingerissen. Der Kanadier ist unkompliziert im Umgang mit Fans und wer ihn persönlich kennengelernt hat, weiß, dass sein Herz ebenso groß ist wie sein Talent.

Termine

- 08.11.2014 Densborn, Musikaler Klipper
- 11.11.2014 Wetzlar, Franzis
- 12.11.2014 Hamminkeln, Kulturbahnhof Niederhein
- 13.11.2014 Aachen, Musikbunker
- 14.11.2014 Hemer-Deilinghofen, Stephanus-Kirche
- 15.11.2014 Eifel, Kulturzentrum
- 16.11.2014 Buchal, Theater im Rill
- 17.11.2014 Bern ICH, Divo

Das Video zu Don Alder - Choharu ist auf YouTube

www.donalder.com

www.musikkompass.com

ALTERNATIVE DON ALDER

DON ALDER

Canada's fingerstyle Guitar Idol

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ACOUSTIC

Acoustic UK Magazine Don Alder Interview

WORLD MUSIC

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Lee Ritenour's Six String Theory Music Competition 2018

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Eric Burdon	John Williams	Don Alder	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams
John Williams	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams	John Williams
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FOR CONTEST REGISTRATION & INFORMATION: WWW.SIXSTRINGTHEORY.COM

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Don Alder
Canadian Fingerstyle Master

Don Alder is a noted fingerstylist from Vancouver, British Columbia. Though his is not a household name, Alder has been a mainstay of the acoustic universe for quite awhile — a few years ago he even won the prestigious International Fingerpicking Championship in Winfield, Kansas. The guitarist is a multi-faceted player, able to blend soulful, melodic passages with fast runs, banjo rolls, and percussive bongos hits on the body. Let's check in with this acoustic ace and grab a few tips.

Don Alder

Interviewed by Andy Higgins, photography by Kent Walker

We all love music. It's true to say that it's our passion, but it's nice to do something away from music — it keeps us fresh and motivated when we come back to our beloved guitars.

Do you see composition as either a hobby or a job?

I see it as a hobby. I don't see it as a job. I see it as a hobby that I do when I have time. I see it as a hobby that I do when I have time. I see it as a hobby that I do when I have time.

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