

Magazine Cover Feature - Don Alder

April - Juni 2023

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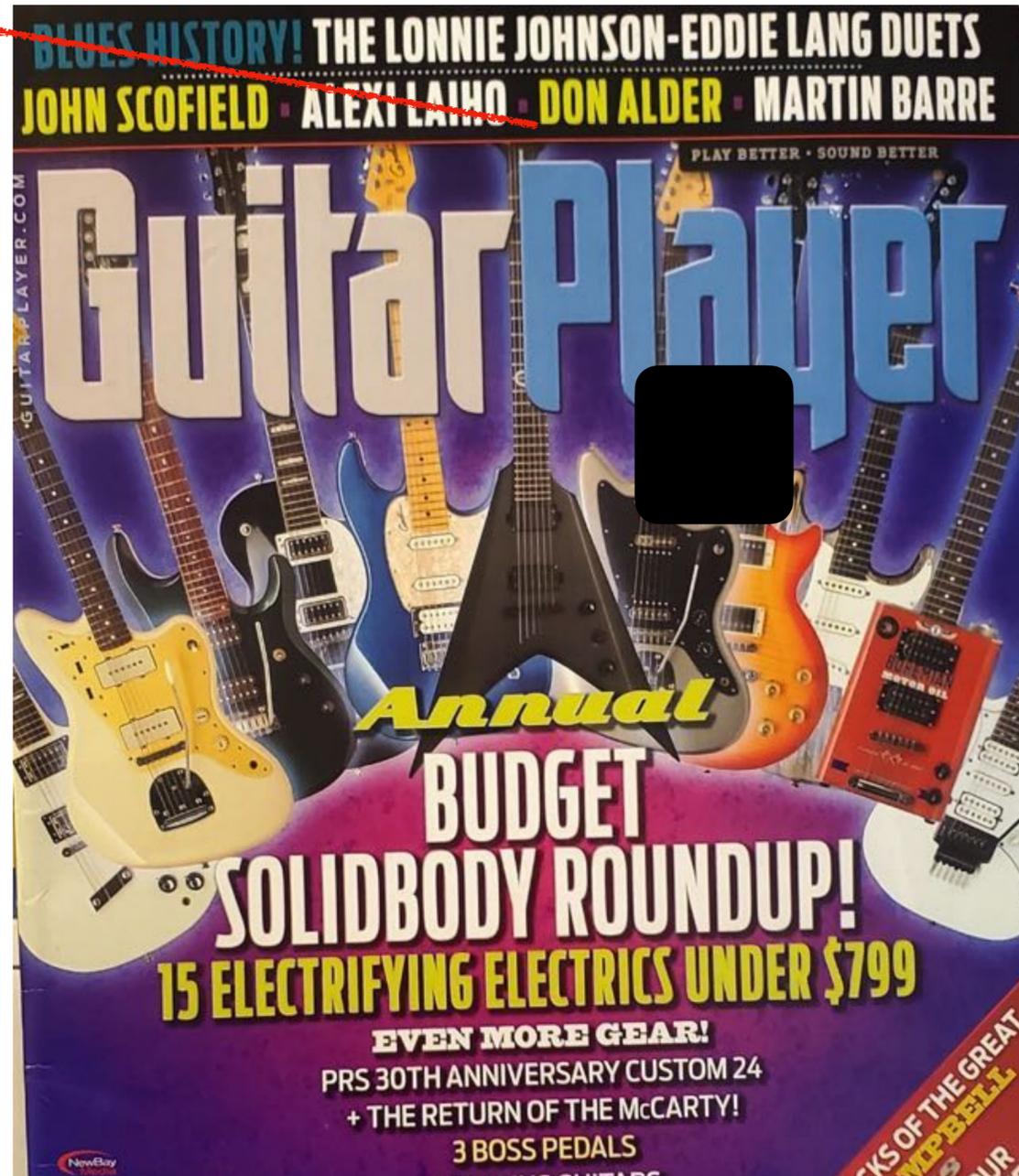
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Guitar Player Magazine Feature



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Don Alder Inducted into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame

Don Alder



Native Vancouverite, Don Alder is true BC gem. He is a Three-time World Champion, Multi-Awarded Acoustic Guitarist and one of the pioneers of the solo percussive acoustic guitar style. He performs with a passion rarely seen and is one of those acoustic guitar magicians with a signature style that leaves you wondering how he is making that wall of sound. He is also recognized as one of the world's top harp guitarists.

Don's early influences include Bruce Cockburn, Joni Mitchell and Wishbone Ash. Ray Daniels (Rush, Mgr) said, "Alder is one of those guitarists that should be famous around the world." Both Grammy Guitarist Lee Ritenour and Classical Guitar Master Leo Brouwer quoted "Alder is one of the most original guitarists I've seen."

Don's heart is also as big as his talent. In 1985 he put his music career on hold for 2.5 years to help his life-long friend Rick Hansen on his "Man in Motion World Tour" an epic journey, now part of Canadian History. Don was the only member to complete the entire gruelling tour. This experience set the stage for Don to become the wheelchair tech for the Canadian Paralympic team and to represent Canada at the 1996 and 2000 Paralympic Games. Don was also a member of "Spinal Chord", the awareness band for the Vancouver Adapted Music Society.

He currently sits on the Board of Directors for "Empower Through Music" a Vancouver organization that donates instruments and music lessons to underprivileged children. Don received the "Brand Laureate Award" from the country of Malaysia for his contribution to the world by using his musical gifts to serve, help and inspire others to create a difference in their own communities. Only three Canadians have received this award, one being Astronaut, Chris Hadfield.

Alder is currently the only guitarist on the planet to have won all the top modern guitar competitions including a long list of accolades. Often referred to as the "Hendrix" of Acoustic Guitar, He continues to wow audiences around the world with his jaw-dropping performances and volunteer his time to charitable causes.

Honours

- BC Entertainment Hall of Fame Star Meritus 2021
- Vancouver Island Music Awards – "Artist of the Year" 2017
- Domenic Troiano Award 2015
- International Brand Laureate Recipient (Malaysia) 2013
- Worldwide "Guitar Idol" Champion, UK 2011
- "Guitar Superstar" Champion, Guitar Player Magazine 2010
- "International Fingerstyle" Champion (Winfield, Kansas) 2007
- Canadian Guitar Festival Champion 2nd place 2006
- International Fingerstyle Champion 2nd place (Winfield, Kansas) 2006



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Don Alder

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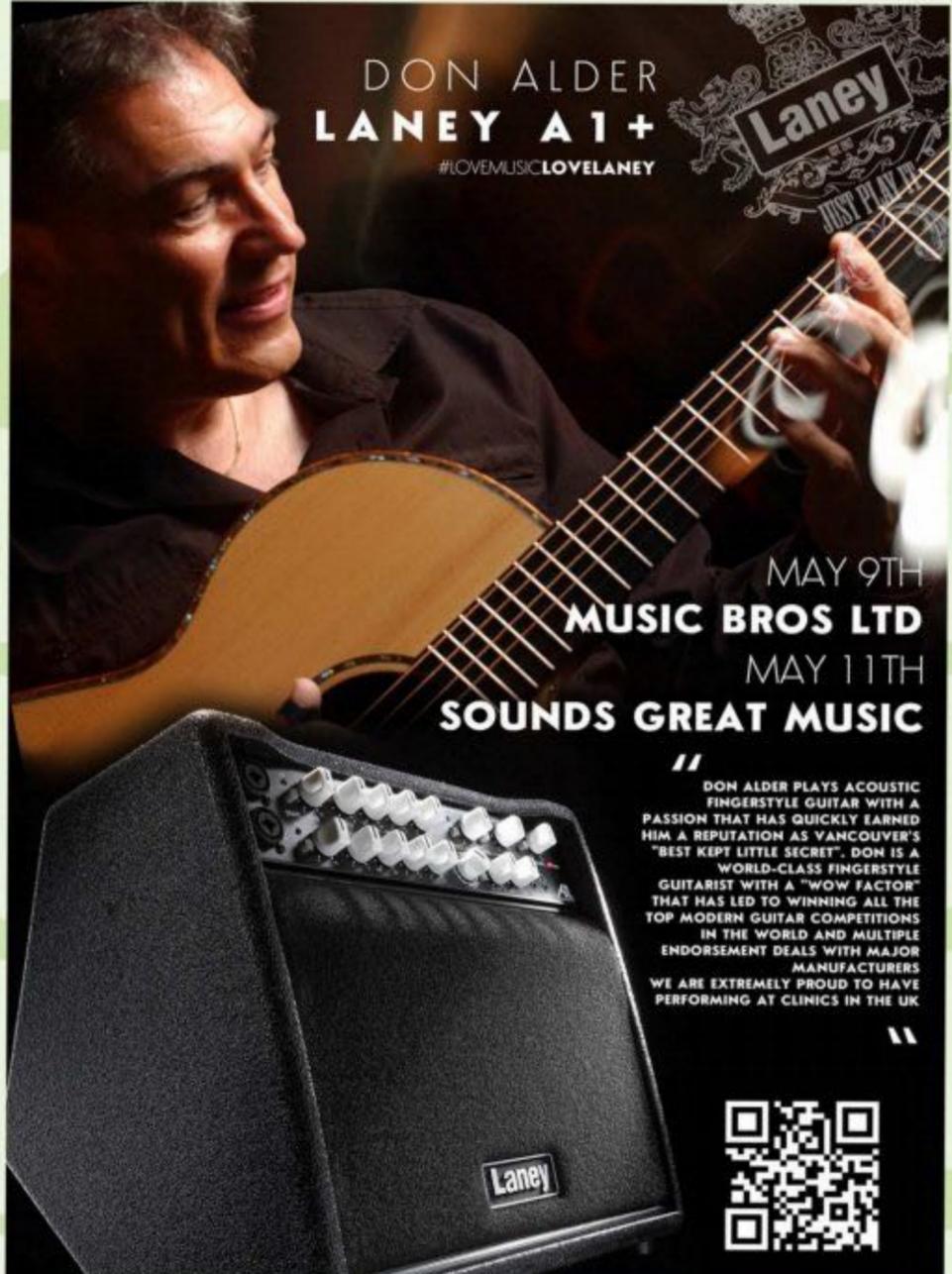
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Magazine “Won’t Be Home” CD review

Won’t Be Home CD Review in European Music Magazine





DON ALDER// DON ALDER

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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 & BASSE



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 verankelter 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 McLoughlin. Insgesamt arbeitet er mit einer Vielzahl von Gesellschaften der Musikindustrie zusammen, darunter außerdem Greenfield Guitars und Dickert Guitars.



Das Video zu Don Alder - Chokwaru ist auf 50PC

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.

Termine

- 08.11.2014 Denzorn, Musikaler Klipper
11.11.2014 Wetzlar, Franzis
12.11.2014 Hamminkien, Kulturbühne 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 Bam ICE, One

www.donalder.com

www.musikkompass.com

Acoustic UK Magazine Don Alder Interview. Includes a large photo of Don Alder playing guitar and several columns of text.

Lee Ritenour's Six String Theory Music Competition 2018. Includes a grid of judges' photos and logos for sponsors like Yamaha, Berklee, and D'Addario.

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First Fret

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 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.

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OUT & ABOUT
Production Herald, Thursday, August 16, 2006

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“Dons Path” Short Film Review in European Music Magazine

Short film by Martin Herman - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNKy9nOunNw&t=3s>

AG NEWS



Don Alder



Vicente Patiz



Neue Single von Malte Vief & J

Don-Alder-Dokumentarfilm

Während seiner letzten EU-Tournee hat sich der kanadische Ausnahmegitarrist Don Alder Zeit für ein ausführliches Videoporträt genommen. Der Musiker und Filmemacher Martin Hermann hat einige nicht ganz alltägliche Fragen gestellt, zu denen Don Alder einiges über seine Innenwelt erzählen konnte. Auf seine sympathische und authentische Art gibt der Gitarrist Einblicke in das, was ihn über sein künstlerisches Schaffen hinaus bewegt. Schlüsselerlebnisse in seinem Leben sowie der Unterschied zwischen Alleinsein und Einsamkeit waren ebenso Thema des Gesprächs wie die Verbindung zwischen dem Körper des Künstlers und seinem Gitarrenspiel. Im Rahmen dieses Porträts kann Don Alder sowohl live wie auch während des Interviews beim Spielen beobachtet werden. Herausgekommen ist ein Film mit einer besonderen Ästhetik, bei dem der Zuschauer eine Vorstellung davon bekommen kann, wie ein Lebenslauf zum Nährboden wird, auf dem sich ein großartiger Musiker entwickeln kann. Ein inspirie-

render Film, nicht nur für Musiker. Zu sehen ist der Film hier: youtu.be/GNKy9nOunNw
Info: www.donalder.com

Neue CD und live auf Tour: Vicente Patiz

Vicente Patiz geht mit seiner bereits elften CD „Adventures“ auf klingende Weltreise und ist dieses Jahr auch noch live zu erleben. Seine Musik ist eine charmante und hochgradig kurzweilige Mischung von Klanglandschaften und virtuosen Instrumentals, teils haarsträubend und verrückt, voller schöner Geschichten und Gänsehautmomente von Tibet bis Kuba. Beim Hören genießt man das romantische Flair von Paris, das Feuer Andalusiens, den Zauber der Wüste und die endlose Weite Australiens.

Tour-Termine:
27.11.23 Rietberg, kulturig e.V.
08.12.23 Spremberg, Aula Oberschule
15.12.23 Spandau, Kulturhaus
16.12.23 Lauter (Erzgebirge), Kulturhaus
26.12.23 Dessau, Villa K...

27.11.
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Queen's 75th Platinum Jubilee Award

Don Alder one of six musicians to receive Gov Generals Award

The Lieutenant Governor's Arts and Music Awards

ltgov.bc.ca/the-lieutenant-governors-arts-and-music-awards/

View site information

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LE JUBILÉ DE PLATINE DE LA REINE 70 ans de service

Lieutenant Governor's Arts and Music Awards

As part of celebrations in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, the Honourable Janet Austin, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, has awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Arts and Music Awards.

The Awards

These one-time awards recognize individuals, groups, and organizations throughout British Columbia who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, creativity, community engagement, and commitment through fostering and mentoring others in the fields of Visual Arts, Music or Performance. The Lieutenant Governor's Arts and Music Awards celebrates artists whose work promotes social equity, equality, inclusion, and enhances the well-being of communities of all sizes and citizens of all ages.

The Recipients

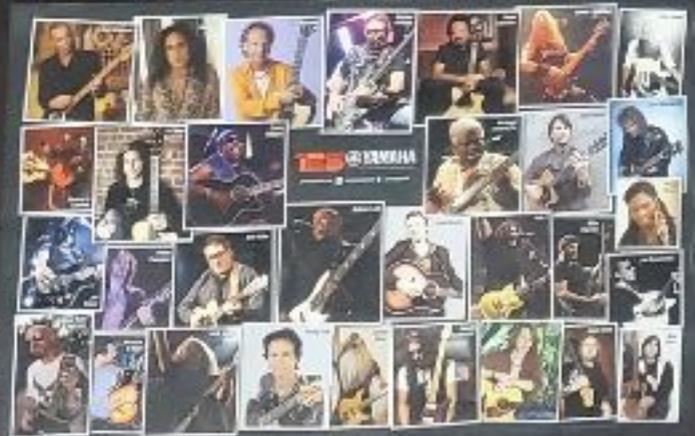
Individuals

Performing Arts

- Alexandra Lainfiesta - Vancouver
- Amanda Shatzko - Vernon/North Okanagan (UBC)
- C.E. Gatchalian - Vancouver
- Valerie Sing Turner - Vancouver

Music

- Don Alder - Vancouver
- Jodi Proznick - Port Coquitlam/Metro Vancouver
- Joelle Rabu - Nanaimo
- Timothy Verron - Victoria
- Ruby Singh - Vancouver
- Russell Wallace - Vancouver



Richmond Sentinel feature article

Don Alder in the News

14 | ARTS & CULTURE Oct. 11 - 24, 2022 RICHMOND SENTINEL

World-class guitarist back on tour

By JIM GORDON & LEETA LIEPINS
Contributors

Don Alder is an award-winning world-class Canadian finger-style guitarist who has been playing since he was 11 years old. Alder is also a singer, songwriter, composer, and public speaker.

In 2022, as part of the celebrations in honour of Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, Lt-Gov Janet Austin named Alder one of the recipients of the Lieutenant Governor's Arts and Music Awards. Alder was previously a StarMeribus inductee into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame. The Our City Tonight team recently sat down with Alder to discuss his career.

OCT: COVID-19 hit us all hard and presented so many challenges. What have you been doing during and after the pandemic?

DA: During the pandemic there was lots of isolation and lots of eating. But it was a positive time for me because I was primarily doing only instrumentals on my CDs, and I have tons of old songs that I have never released that are singer-songwriter tunes. This time gave me the opportunity to dive in and look for band members, and by the time we were done we had 30 local and international musicians playing on the new CD (*Won't Be Home*).

OCT: You are certainly no stranger to touring, and now that the world is opening up globally (we understand) you will be going back on tour, touring in Europe and primarily Germany.

DA: Mostly we will be touring in Germany, but we also have several dates in the Netherlands as well as a stop in France. Each year we try to spread out a little bit but obviously COVID-19 made it more difficult these last couple years. I was extremely fortunate in February to be able to go to Germany for a couple of months. That worked out well although attendance was down a little bit, and we do hope that attendance will be up now. I'm really looking forward to getting back on the road.

OCT: For those who are not familiar with your style of guitar playing can you describe it for us?

DA: It's like a little kid that has been in a bedroom locked up with a guitar for a long time. Actually, it is called "finger style" but that's a generic term because you've got classical, you've got flamenco, to just name a few. Like anything on this planet, it keeps evolving and so does acoustic guitar. The finger style has taken whole new leaps and bounds. In the old days a player would just work their left hand with the right hand. Nowadays, most guitar players doing instrumentals are acting like piano players and even adding percussion where there's multiple parts going on. I find it a lot of fun.

OCT: You (won) Guitar Idol in London, England, even with a damaged guitar—it's a very cool story.

DA: That was fun. This contest was worldwide, and I had (sent) a submission. Oddy with this one it started off with popular votes and I went back and looked after a couple of weeks as I had submitted late. I had a lower popular vote posted but I thought I was doing okay. When I looked at the other guys that had submitted, they had a significant amount more of the popular votes. I figured there was no way I was getting in. The interesting part is the judges of the contest had reserved one or two spots in the contest for who they thought should be in. And that was my entry into the contest, they chose me, and I got to go live. I had a terrible sounding stage but I told the sound guy to crank it up and then they handed me the top prize at the end of it all.

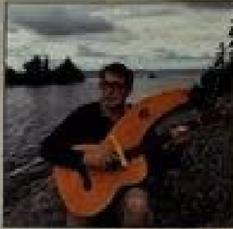
OCT: Your skills have been recognized throughout the music industry—in fact, you've had several guitars manufactured and dedicated to you as signature models. Can you describe these guitars?

DA: I had one back in 2005, a Luther Michael Greenfield guitar which is Canadian made. Recently, one was made by a company called Mayson Guitar Company out of China. They made a special signature guitar where the frets are not normal, they're actually angled. This shape gives you a completely different pallet of colours to work with. It is called the Signature Don Alder "Duke" Model. They also put my initials on the guitar, so that was nice.

To watch the full video interview, visit richmondsentinel.ca/videos. Jim Gordon and Leeta Liepins are contributing writers to the Richmond Sentinel.



Photo courtesy Don Alder
Canadian guitarist Don Alder is currently touring in Europe.



Live Show Review

Live show review German Media

Lippes Landschaft in abstrakt

Don Alder, ein Virtuose an der Gitarre

Der Kanadier hat im Kaiserkeller unter anderem sein neues Album „Won't Be Home“ vorgestellt.

Detmold (krü). Numerous Kaiserkeller guests saw the Canadian guitar virtuoso Don Alder on stage, who opened his European tour in Detmold. Having just flown in from Vancouver, he played three different guitars, all with steel strings, including the rarely heard harp guitar, whose six additional bass strings on a side neck reinforce the sound spectrum. Alder entered the stage with a humble aura that electrified his guitar. From the first minute it was clear that a musician with exceptional talent was at work here. His fingers glided seemingly effortlessly over the strings and his music unfolded a variety of timbres and emotions. Don Alder has been touring the world internationally since 2007, was in the Kaiserkeller last year and is easy to deal with his fans. He combines fusion and pop with complex fingerpicking and processes elements from rock, jazz, folk, roots, blues, bluesgrass and world music in a very personal sound language with his guitars.

His compositions are sometimes melancholy, mild, sometimes rebelliously wild. Instrumental works and his own songs, which he sang with soulful voice, filled the evening. As an entertainer and story teller, he always lightened up his show with appropriate anecdotes that made the guests laugh.

The award-winning Canadian fingerstyle guitarist, singer-songwriter and composer, who has already recorded six CDs, presented, among other things, his new album "Won't Be Home", which he dedicated to all truck drivers who have many lonely days on the road.

His special fingerstyle and percussion technique comes close to the sound of an entire band. He plays so virtuoso that you think you have several musicians.



In the sensitive ballad "Marshals's Lanai" he brought complex chord changes in controlled dynamics up to the top notes in the harmonic in the melodic guitar solo. "I heard that you like to sing?" he asked the guests, who he got to sing along to the spirited "Calling". He beat the rhythm with his right hand while his left hand darted across the fingerboard. At the end he elicited the last touch of vibrato from his instrument by gently moving it back and forth. Wild fingerpicking in a shimmering silver sound and percussive slapping were mixed in the track "Armed & Dangerous" from 2015. The fact that men and women perceive time differently was the subject of the happy piece "He Said, She Said" from 2008 and in The piece "The Wall", which was inspired by the Chinese Wall, was played with passion. He dedicated "Early Riser" to all early risers on the sonorous harp guitar. Don Alder showed his mastery and passion for playing the guitar in every bar. The concert ended with thunderous applause and calls for encores, followed by the artist with the calm "Mrs. Diana" and the groovy "DRDR" were happy to oblige.

Rare harp guitar. Don Alder also captivates his audience in the Kaiserkeller on the electrically

Don Alder in the News

Williams Lake Tribune article

wltribune.com/entertainment/don-alder-inducted-into-bc-entertainment-hall-of-fame/

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Don Alder was recently inducted into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame. (Photo submitted)

Don Alder inducted into BC Entertainment Hall of Fame

The guitarist writes and performs all his own music

MONICA LAMB-YORSKI / Feb. 13, 2021 5:30 a.m. / ENTERTAINMENT / LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT

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EIGENWILLIG

Don Alder - Fingerpicker lernen meistens autodidaktisch – weswegen jeder anders klingt. Doch dieser Kanadier ist nochmal anders – in Stil, Tonbildung, Zupftechnik, Perkussion. Inzwischen hat er damit weltweit Preise gewonnen und sich ein großes Publikum erspielt.

All das verdankt Don Alder einer Kette von Zu- und Unfällen.

Bezeichnet als „Jimi Hendrix der Akustikgitarre“, vom kanadischen High-End-Gitarrenbauer Michael Greenfield „Schlangenmensch auf der Gitarre und Verrückter“ genannt, Alder war laut Selbstaussage „ein scheues Kind“ – was ihn später nicht daran gehindert hat, einen querschnittsgelähmten Freund bei einer zweijährigen Erdumrundung im Rollstuhl zu begleiten. Mit elf auf unabsehbare Zeit krank zu Hause, bekommt er eine Gitarre und entwickelt – sich selbst damit überlassen – sein Gitarrenspiel mittels Versuch und Irrtum, kommt auf Umwegen darauf, beim Zupfen das rechte Handgelenk zu drehen und den kleinen Finger auf der Decke aufzusetzen. Die Drehbewegung lässt auf der einen Seite den Daumen beim Anschlag der Bässe auf die Decke tref-

fen und auf der anderen Seite die Fingerknöchel auf das Holz. Unbeabsichtigt integriert er so automatisch perkussive Effekte.

Das hat Vor- und Nachteile: „Einerseits befreite das von Anfang an die Hand; ich steckte nie in Mustern, von denen ich wieder freikommen musste. Andererseits klingt das einfach viel härter“, sagt Don Alder. Als Arch-Schlagzeuger ist er die Koordination verschiedener Bewegungen der Gliedmaßen gewöhnt; so gelangt er mit komplexeren Abläufen als üblich ins Gitarrenspiel. Damit nicht genug der Eigenheiten: Als Progressive-Rock-Fan steigt er nicht über Folkmusik in die Akustikgitarre ein; das Instrument dient ihm lediglich als Werkzeug, um gute Songs zu schreiben. Dieser nicht unbedingt außergewöhnliche Ansatz hat in seinem Fall überraschende Konsequenzen. Zunächst zählt nur das Lied selbst, „erst dann kommen Verzierungen ins Spiel“. Keine Sekunde hält er sich mit Spieltechnik und Skalen auf; „ich habe niemals geübt. Ich hatte nie Disziplin – nur die Leidenschaft, im endlosen Dudeln Melodieketten und Licks zu finden.“ Bis heute versucht er, „diese Geschenke zu Songs auszuarbeiten. Ich habe noch etwa 150 bislang unbenutzte, teils uralte Ideen aufgenommen. Die schienen mir damals gut

heute fehlt mir daran immer wieder etwas. Ich hätte zwar nun mehr Zeit, sie auszuarbeiten – aber dafür werde ich immer wählerischer.“

Irgendwann entdeckt er die Landsleute Bruce Cockburn und Don Ross, das Dropped-D-Tuning und das „neue“ Gitarrenspiel: „Statt beim traditionellen Gitarrenspiel beide Hände zusammenarbeiten zu lassen, um eine Sache zu erzeugen, spielen die Hände wie auf dem Klavier ganz verschiedene Dinge gleichzeitig.“ In Sachen Rhythmik („dem Herz der Musik“) legt er Gitarrenisten die rhythmische Unabhängigkeit von Abläufen ans Herz. Trotzdem stört ihn bei vielen Tappern ein unterentwickeltes Melodiegefühl: „Sie reißen oft einfach Licks aneinander.“ Und obwohl ausgerechnet der ins perkussive Spiel hineingewachsene Kanadier nicht glaubt, „dass Akustikgitarren fürs Tappen auf dem Griffbrett gemacht sind“, verübelt er es jungen Leuten nicht: „So etwas wirkt cool, und Coolness kommt an – sie machen, was Ruhm verspricht.“ Und Harmonien? Fühlen und spielen kann Don Alder sie, aber: „Im Notenlesen, diesem richtig nützlichen Werkzeug, bin ich funktionaler Alpha, was ich durch Gehör ausgleiche. Ich kann Akkorde nicht benennen und gebe den einzelnen Noten Farben.“ Das reicht ihm. Zwar hat er bei „Summertime“ mal nur falsche Töne fürs Solo gefunden. „An so etwas müsste ich arbeiten – aber ich möchte nur komponieren; für Covers und Jazz-Standards kann ich keine Leidenschaft aufbringen. Und überhaupt – wenn ich höre, dass ein Gitarrist einen Jazz-Standard arrangiert hat! Arrangement heißt doch: Ein Stück musikalisch ganz anders und doch wiedererkennbar aufzuziehen. Viele Gitarristen arrangieren nichts – sie spielen den Titel einfach nur auf der Gitarre.“

Durch Cockburn und Ross ist Alder auf Tunings gestoßen und verwendet inzwischen so viele, dass er Bühnenprogramme strategisch plant: „Jimmer drei Songs hintereinander im gleichen Tuning, damit ich nicht allzu viel umstimmen muss.“ Die Tuning-Vielfalt erwächst aus seiner Kompositionsmethode: „Jedes Tuning schenkt dir eine Handvoll Melodien; das wars. Nun musst du dich davon lösen, etwas anderes ma-

AKTUELLE PRODUKTION

Don Alder: Armed And Dangerous (2015, Selbstverlag)

Sich als sensible Natur darstellen? Nein. Die Gitarre dient auf dem Cover als vielseitige Zombie-Abwehrwaffe in einem Horrortrip. Die wild-monströse Virtuosität des instrumentalen Openers „Going Rogue“ passt da ins Bild. Gleich danach zieht Alder mit Band-Begleitung im nachdenklichen Song „Love & Life“ ganz andere Saiten auf – um solo mit „Armed & Dangerous“ wieder dunkleren Fantasien zu folgen, mit denen sich trotz purer Akustikgitarre auch Metal-Fans anfreunden könnten. „Dancing With Spin Doctors“ bietet wiederum anspruchsvollen, hochintelligent-treibenden Band-Rock. Und so geht es weiter: mal solo, mal mit Band, mal zart, mal heftig, nicht immer leicht verdaulich, aber unglaublich vielfältig und tiefgründig mit schier unerschöpflichem Futter für Ohr, Herz und Geist des Hörers. So als könne eine CD gar nicht alle Ideen und Facetten dieses Ausnahmegeritarren aufnehmen. Wahnsinn! Besonders Schamanker: Wer die CD in Band-Besetzung kauft, kann von Don Alder eine Solo-Instrumentalversion unversehrt anfordern. *Michael Lohr*

MEDIA
Track 8 beginnt CD

NEWS

Don Alder honoured with Brand Laureate award

Gaeil Farrar
Tribune Staff Writer

Williams Lake son and now internationally acclaimed acoustic guitarist Don Alder was recently presented with the Brand Laureate Award.

"I'm totally honoured about getting the award," Alder said in an e-mail conversation with the *Tribune* Tuesday explaining the award.

Alder is the second Canadian to receive the prestigious Brand Laureate International Brand Personality Award as a world-leading finger-style guitarist and for his significant contributions to the lives of people around the world.

The Brand Laureate Award is a distinctive award from the Pacific Asia Brands Foundation in Malaysia which is endorsed by many dignitaries including the King of Malaysia.

Alder says the Brand Laureate award is presented to individuals who have contributed significantly to the lives of people around the world through their areas of expertise.

Past recipients include Nelson Mandela, Hillary Clinton, Steve Jobs, Mark Zuckerberg and Canadian Astronaut, Chris Hatfield.

Some of the renowned musicians to receive the award include



Photo submitted

Dr. K.K. Johan, president of the Brand Laureate Awards (left), presents Don Alder (right) with a 24-carat gold plated trophy on being honoured by the Pacific Asia Brands Foundation in Malaysia.

Deep Purple, Kenny G, Earth Wind and Fire and Chaka Khan.

Alder is the second Canadian to win the award after astronaut Chris Hatfield who received the distinction on March 27, 2013 for his achievements "a world-leading finger-style guitarist" along with his crucial role "as a global ambassador for its practice."

Alder believes part of the reason he received the award, in addition to his music, is for his work to help people.

"Most of my adult life has been in the service of others to help make a difference in the lives of others, at first with Rick Hansen, then with the Paralympic Team as the equipment manager in 1996 and then in 2000, then with Sam Sullivan as part of the Vancouver

Adapted Music Society."

In 2012, Alder says there was a restructuring at the Rick Hansen Foundation which allowed him to blaze forward as a musician and to use music to continue making a difference in people's lives.

"Fortunately my guitar travels have taken me to many countries where I try to inspire

younger and older players and share whatever I can with them," Alder says.

"So I believe having notoriety around the world as an acoustic guitarist along with the lessons I've learned about giving back to the community from my previous relationships helped me get this award.

"They have a lengthy

process to get this award. I'm guessing they heard I was going to be in Malaysia about a year ago so they started the process to see if I was an eligible candidate."

However, Alder says he knew nothing about the award until the day of presentation.

"This only goes to show you once again that anyone can be a recipient for this type of award regardless if you come from a small town like Williams Lake or mega city like Toronto," Alder says.

Alder says he will be on a two-week concert tour in the UK in July and a two-week tour up the west coast of USA in August.

Alder says he has lots of new material for three CDs and hopes to complete a new CD by the end of the year. He is also hoping to have a concert in Williams Lake this year if he can find a promoter for the concert.



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Don Alder –Bio

Don Alder plays with a passion rarely seen and is one of those acoustic guitar magicians with a signature style that leaves you wondering “How is he making that wall of sound? Ray Danials, Mgr of Rush says “Alder is one of those guitarists that should be famous around the world”. Guitar Player Magazine Senior Editor, Michael Molenda says “Alder is a Guitar Star in the making and can hold an audience with the best of the seasoned pros”. Alder is currently the only guitarist on the planet to have won all the top modern guitar competitions and his long list of accolades puts him alongside the top players in the acoustic genre. Lee Ritenour 18 time grammy winning guitarist says ” Alder is one of the most original guitarists I’ve ever seen“

Alder has been featured in numerous guitar magazines, has millions of YouTube views, performed duets with Grammy Winners Angelique Kidjo and John Parr, and has been in shows and festivals that included artists such as Steve Vai, Lee Ritenour, David Foster, Victor Wooten, Sarah Mclaughlin, Andy Mckee, Tommy Emmanuel and Billy Sheehan (Mr.Big). It was at one of these shows that Lee Ritenour hand-picked Alder to be on the advisory judge panel for the highly touted International Six String Theory Contest. His music also speaks for itself as his previous two CDs each received nominations for "Instrumental Artist of the Year", at the Western Canadian Music Awards and the Canadian Folk Awards. His music combines deeply textured melody and rhythm, soulful singing with haunting lyrics, and his guitar fireworks and fabulous storytelling make his shows highly entertaining and talked about for days. And, Don’s heart is as big as his talent. In 1985 he put his music career on hold for 2.5 years to help his lifelong friend go around the world in a wheelchair, an amazing journey with a story that has become part of Canadian History. In 2006, Director Michael French produced a feature film about the story, www.heartofadragonmovie.com which includes Don as one of the main characters portrayed by actor Andrew Lee Potts. Alder continues to perform around the world entertaining audiences and inspiring people and guitarists wherever he goes.

Performances /Accolades

2022 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Lieutenant Governors Award

2021 “Star Meritus” Inductee, B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame
2017 “Artist of the Year” Vancouver Island Music Awards
2016 Canadian Folk Music Awards “Instrumental Artist of the Year” Nominee
2016 Western Canadian Music Awards “Instrumental Artist of the Year” Nominee
2015 Domenic Troiano Award (multi-genre category)
2013 International Brand Laureate Award Recipient (Malaysia)
2009 Canadian Folk Music Awards “Instrumental Artist of the Year” Nominee
2009 Western Canadian Music Awards “Instrumental Artist of the Year” Nominee
2011 Worldwide Guitar Idol, UK Winner
2010 Guitar Superstar Champion, North America
2007 International Fingerstyle Champion (Winfield, USA)
2007 Canadian Guitar Festival Champion 2nd
2006 International Fingerstyle Champion (Winfield, USA)
2004, 2005,2006 Winfield Song Showcase Best Instrumental
Vancouver Folk Slam 1st
Semi-Finalist Canada’s Got Talent

Duet with Space Station Commander Chris Hadfield, Duet with Shayne Koyczan at PNE Coliseum,
Duet with Angelique Kidjo at Rogers Arena, Performed at the Vancouver Olympics (Olympic Village), NAMM All Star Guitar Nights (Nashville Rymon Theatre and Anaheim California), NAMM Breakfast of Champions, TEDx Vancouver performance, Sam Sullivan’s Public Salon (speaker/performance).

Performed at festivals around the world, and has toured in the USA, Europe, and Asia. 2016 “Armed & Dangerous” received two nominations in Canada for Instrumental CD of the Year at WCMA and Canadian Folk Awards. 2009 “Not A Planet” receives two nominations in Canada for Instrumental CD of the Year at WCMA and Canadian Folk Awards Columnist for IGuitar Magazine (five issues)

|

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MAGAZINE FEATURES

<https://donalder.com/press.htm>

QUOTES

"Alder is one of the most original guitarists I've seen" Lee Ritenour, 18 time Grammy Winning Guitarist

"Even though Don stepped onto the Guitar Superstar stage as a solo acoustic performer, he played with ferocity and charisma, and owned the audience and that's what a guitar star does. You have to deliver something so thrilling that people can't help but stand up and cheer. Don nailed it." Michael Molenda, Editor in Chief, GUITAR PLAYER magazine

"Alder is one of those guitarists that should be famous around the world" Ray Daniels - Manager for "Rush"

"Don Alder you just took everybody to school, your performance was transcendental" George Lynch - Dokken

"Alder! Not only did you just play some amazing guitar but you entertained us, simply amazing,"

Elliot Easton - The Cars "The World needs to see you !" Gary Hoey

"I watched the most amazing guitarist last night, still shocked by Don Alder's talent this AM." - Carly Rae Jepsen (Call Me Maybe, Pop Superstar)

"Guitar Hero" Penticton Herald

"Almost Unknown at home, Vancouver's Don Alder might be one of the best acoustic guitarists in the world" - Vancouver Courier

Don Alder, is truly a wonderful player, with really great tunes, amazing technique, and very musical Andy Timmons, Guitarist/Arranger "Olivia Newton-John"

"Alder can make a single instrument sound like a 4 piece band. The Guy's like the acoustic Hendrix". Picque News Magazine

"Don is Canada's secret fingerstyle weapon...it's only a matter of time until everyone discovers this world-class player. World Class Luthier, Michael Greenfield

"Don is an amazing guitarist, a one-man mosh-pit. If you're within 100 miles of a performance, go see this guy". Master Luthier, Matt Mustapick

"Congratulations. What a great achievement Don, you are at the top of your game and deserve every success!" Nick Campling, G7th capo inventor.

CURRENT ARTIST ENDORSEMENTS

Yamaha Acoustic Guitars

https://usa.yamaha.com/artists/d/don_alder.html

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p23sjdKEBg>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdnM4Y_uJ1k

Ernie Ball Strings

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NF-17U2owhk>

<https://www.ernieball.com/artists>

Seymour Duncan Pickups

<https://www.seymourduncan.com/artist/don-alder>

Hughes and Kettner

<http://hughes-and-kettner.com/artist/don-alder/>

Timberline Harp Guitars

<https://harpguitarmusic.com/listings/hg-timberline.htm>

Kanilea Ukulele

https://www.kanileaukulele.com/featured_item/don-alder/

Virtual Jeff

<https://www.fomofx.com/50shadesofjeff>

NUX

<https://nuxthailand.com/artists-don-alder/>

Laney Amps

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2KF34g_EvQ

Riversong Guitars - Signature Don Alder Baritone Fanfret Acoustic

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8BzNZdxo2s>

Leviora Carbon Fibre Guitars

<http://leviora-guitars.de/en/don-alder-on-tour-with-leviora-3/>

Journey Travel Guitars

<http://www.journeyinstruments.com/don-alder/>

<https://youtu.be/OTHZGRKGXFw>

Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don_Alder

Rick Hansen Man In Motion World Tour

<https://www.rickhansen.com/about-rick/man-motion-world-tour/tour-team>