

GUITAR GEAR PARTY



George Mason University Jazz Camp - June 22-26, 2026

Shawn Purcell, D.M.A. Jazz Guitarist, U.S. Navy Band Commodores
Adjunct Professor of Jazz Guitar and Jazz Arranging - George Mason University

The Equipment

- Instruments
- Effects
- Amplification
- Other secret weapons (picks, strings, etc.)



GUITARS, GUITARS, GUITARS!

(VARIOUS GUITAR CONSTRUCTION OFFERS A SEEMINGLY UNLIMITED AMOUNT OF TONAL COLORS)

- LARGE HOLLOW-BODY ARCH-TOP ACOUSTIC/ELECTRIC (TRADITIONAL RHYTHM - FREDDIE GREEN/COUNT BASIE, PETER BERNSTEIN, GEORGE BENSON, WES)
- SEMI-HOLLOW (MODERN - JOHN SCOFIELD/KURT ROSENWINKEL/MIKE MORENO)
- SOLID-BODY/CHAMBERED SOLID BODY (MIKE STERN/ED BICKERT/ALLAN HOLDSWORTH/PAT MARTINO)
- NYLON STRING GUITAR (BRAZILIAN STYLES)
- STEEL-STRING ACOUSTIC (USED SPARSELY, BUT ANOTHER COLOR IN THE PALETTE - PAT METHENY AND MIKE MORENO)

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HOLLOW-BODY ARCH-TOP ACOUSTIC/ELECTRIC

- In a rhythm guitar setting: great for LOUD Acoustic Rhythmic Strumming in the style of bands such as Count Basie Orchestra! Can be used in a solo setting for many different colors
 - These guitars can come with or without pickups (Amplification vs. NO Amplification)
 - Large Body (16-17-18") Arch-Top Construction (Solid Wood except Gibson ES175 (Laminated Wood Top = Less Feedback))



Stromberg Master 400
(Freddie Green)



Gibson ES175
(Pat Metheny/ Jim
Hall/Kenny Burrell)



Gibson L5
(Wes Montgomery)



Gibson Super 400
(George Benson)

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**HOLLOW-BODY ARCH-TOP
ACOUSTIC (No Amplification) in
a traditional “Basie” style
setting**

Kendor Presents . . .

Basie-Straight Ahead

composed & arranged
by Sammy Nestico

GUITAR
BRIGHT SWING 1=200
C (COMP.)

Handwritten chord chart for "Basie-Straight Ahead" by Sammy Nestico. The chart is written on ten staves of music notation. Above the staves are handwritten chord names and some performance markings. The chords include: C (COMP.), F6, F#0, C/G, Gmi7, C, F#A7, Fmi6, Emi7, Ebo, Dmi9, G7, C, Gmi7, C7(b9), F#A7, Fmi6, Emi7, Ebo, Dmi7, Dmi7/G, C6, F6, F#0, Gmi7, C7(b9), F#A7, F6, Fmi, Fmi7, Fmi6, Emi7, Ebo, Dmi7, Dmi7/G, C6, Dmi7, D#0, C6/E, Gmi7, F#0, Gmi7, Ami7, D7(b9), Gmi7, C9, Gb9, F6/G, Ami7, Abo, Ami7, D9, Dmi9, C#0, Dmi7, Ab9, G9, Gb9, F#A7, Fmi6, Emi7, Ebo, Dmi7, Dmi7/G, Fmi7/Bb, Gmi7/Bb, Abb, Abma7, Abb, Abmi6, Gmi7, Eb, F#0, Fmi7, Fmi7/Bb, Bb9, Eb6, Fmi7, Gmi7, Eb6, Bbmi7, Eb9.

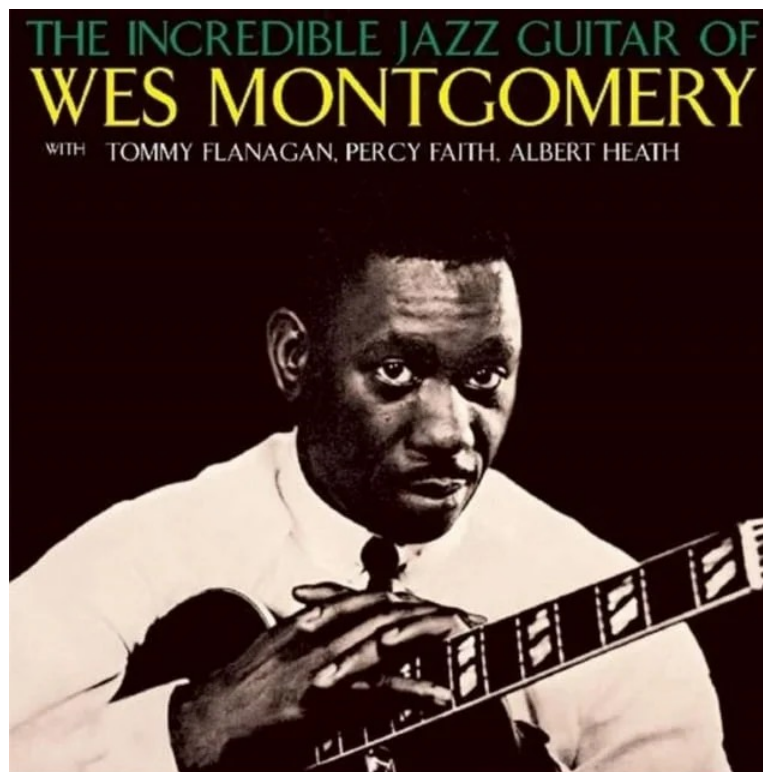
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SHAWN PURCELL, D.M.A., JAZZ GUITARIST - U.S. NAVY BAND COMMODORES JAZZ ENSEMBLE
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF JAZZ GUITAR AND JAZZ ARRANGING - GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

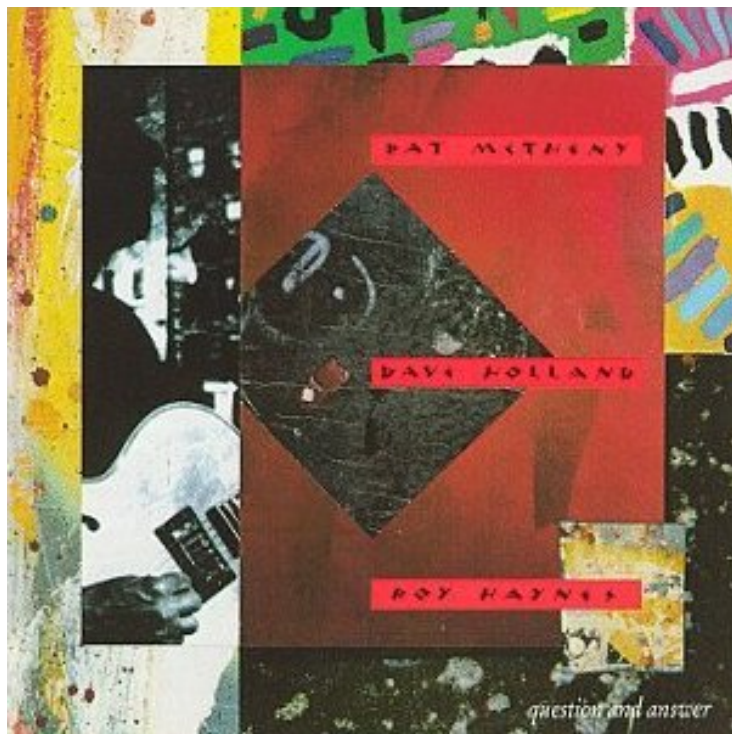
Freddie Green!



HOLLOW-BODY ARCH-TOP ELECTRIC (Amplification) - Wes Montgomery
“Four on Six” (Gibson L5)



HOLLOW-BODY ARCH-TOP ELECTRIC (Amplification) - Pat Metheny
“Solar” (Gibson ES175)



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HOLLOW-BODY ARCH-TOP ELECTRIC (Amplification) - George Benson “Ready and Able” (Gibson Super 400)



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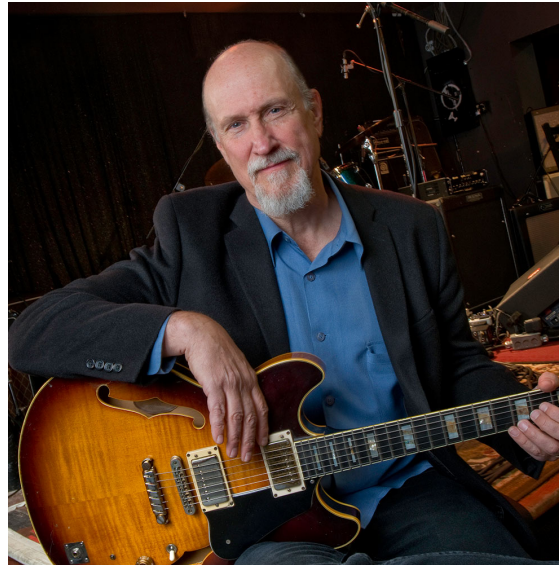
SEMI-HOLLOW

(Kurt Rosenwinkel/John Scofield/Mike Moreno)

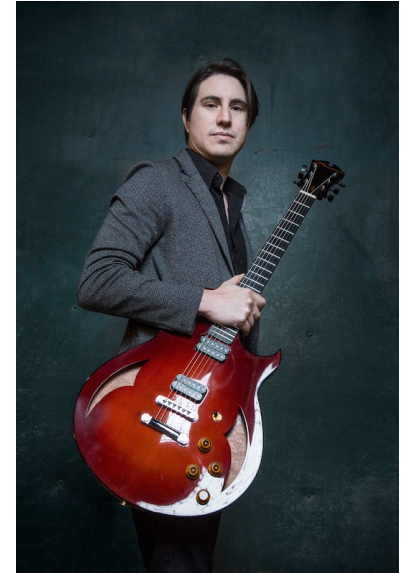
- Not as acoustically loud as the Arch-Top, but still has a nice un-amplified sound - Well suited for Amplification
 - Well suited for effects
 - Medium-Size (14-16") Semi-Hollow Construction (Laminated tops in general)



Kurt Rosenwinkel -
Gibson ES335



John Scofield - Ibanez AS200



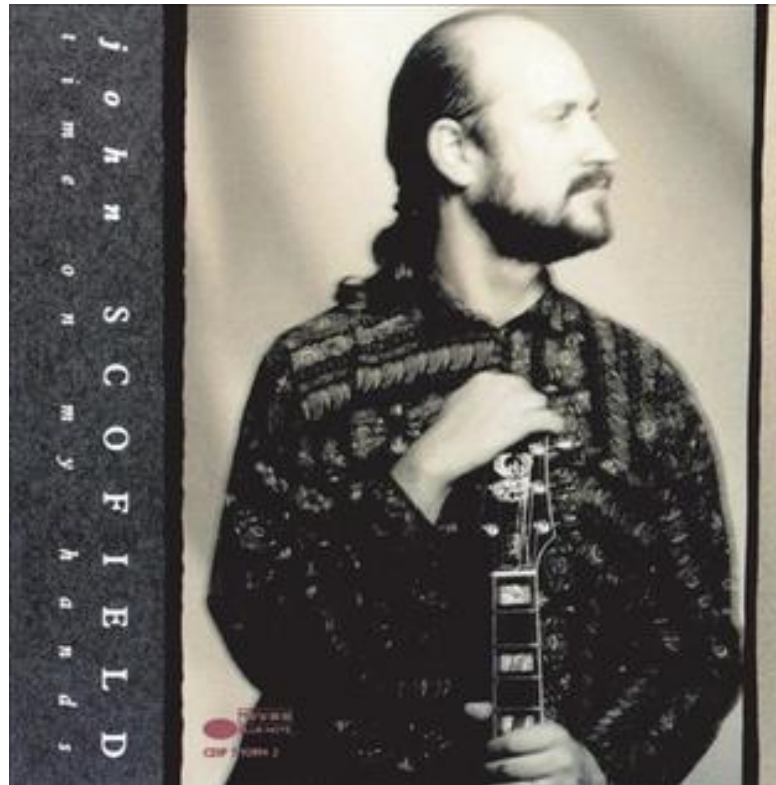
Mike Moreno -
Marchione Semi-Hollow

SEMI-HOLLOWBODY - Kurt Rosenwinkel “If I Should Lose You”



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SEMI-HOLLOWBODY - John Scofield “Wabash III”



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SEMI-HOLLOWBODY - Mike Moreno “But Beautiful”



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SOLID-BODY/CHAMBERED SOLID-BODY

(Mike Stern/Ed Bickert/Allan Holdsworth/Pat Martino)

- Great for comping in a small jazz combo style as well as featured soloist!
- Not much acoustic volume - Requires amplification
 - Well suited for any effects - GREAT for more Rock/Fusion styles!
 - Smaller Body Sizes too numerous to mention
 - Stratocaster/Telecaster/Les Paul/Benedetto Pat Martino/Benny



Mike Stern - Fender Telecaster

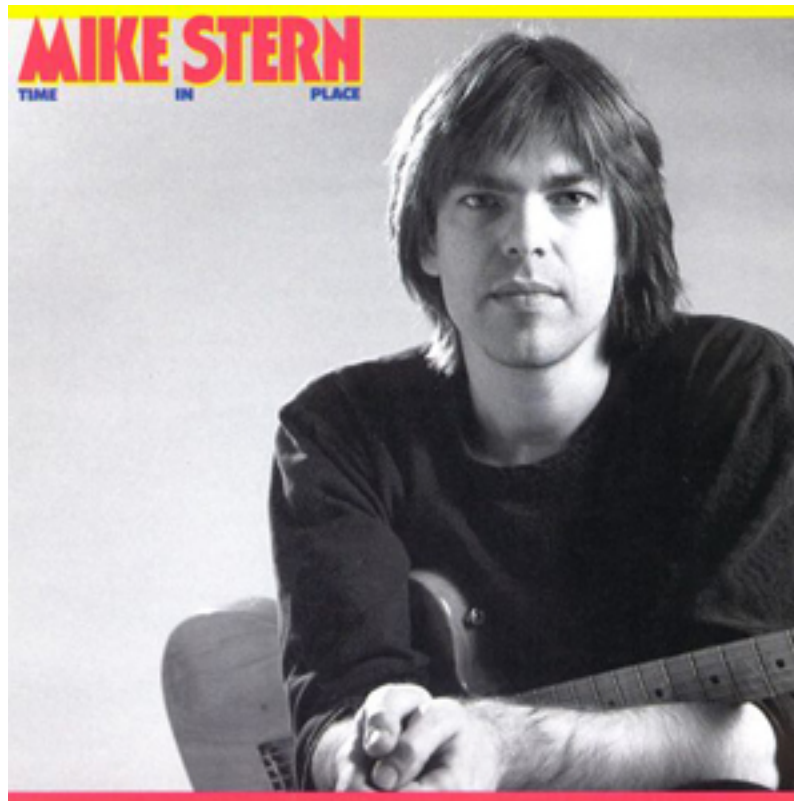


Ed Bickert - Fender Telecaster

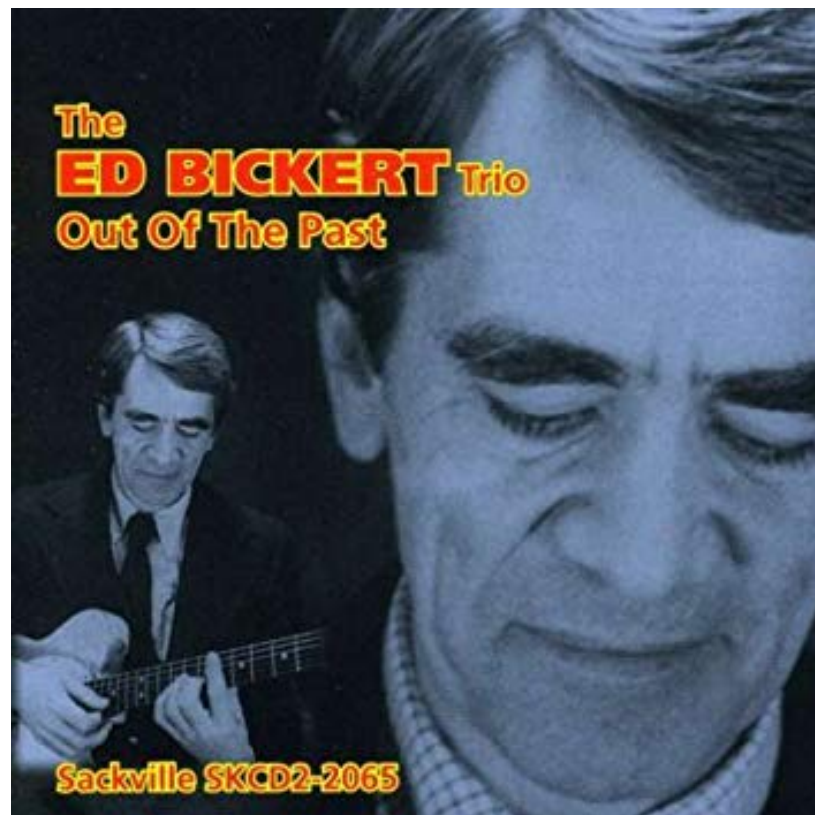


Pat Martino - Benedetto PM
Signature Model

SOLID-BODY - Mike Stern “Chromazone”

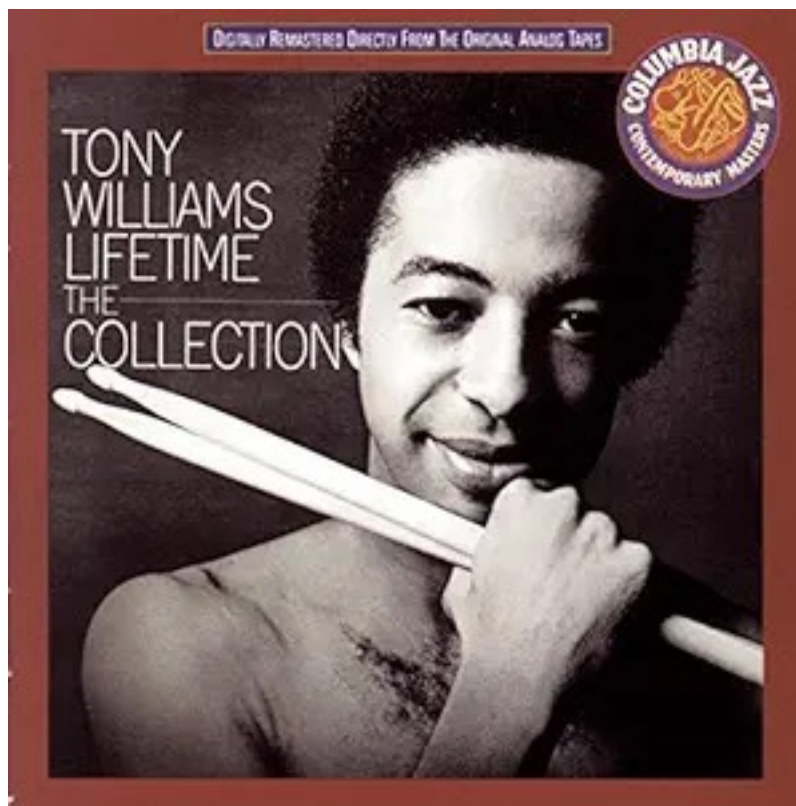
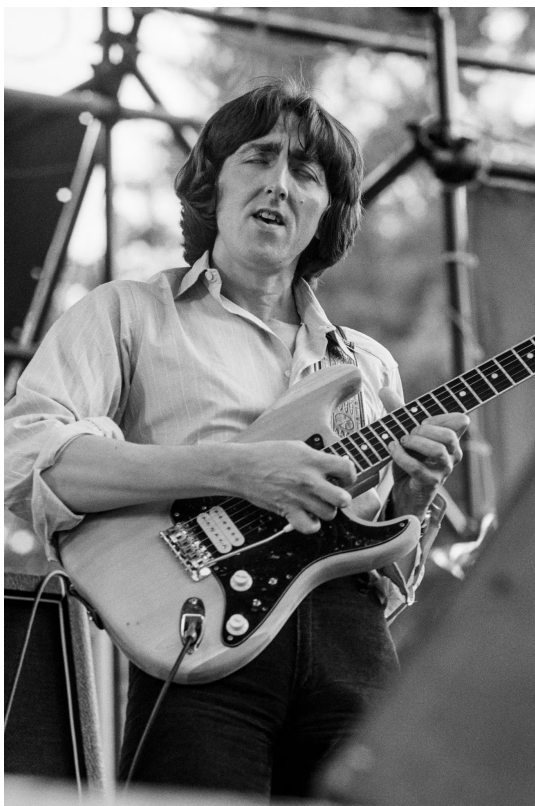


SOLID-BODY - Ed Bickert “Have You Met Miss Jones?”



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SOLID-BODY - Allan Holdsworth “Red Alert” (w/ Tony Williams “Lifetime”)



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CHAMBERED SOLID-BODY - Pat Martino “In Your Own Sweet Way”



NYLON-STRING AND STEEL-STRING GUITARS

- Nylon-string guitar well-suited for Brazilian styles (Bossa-Nova) and smooth jazz genre (Kirk Whalum)
- Steel-string guitar typically known folk styles and singer/songwriter strumming styles, but also very useful in a jazz setting!



Nylon-String Guitar



Steel-String Guitar

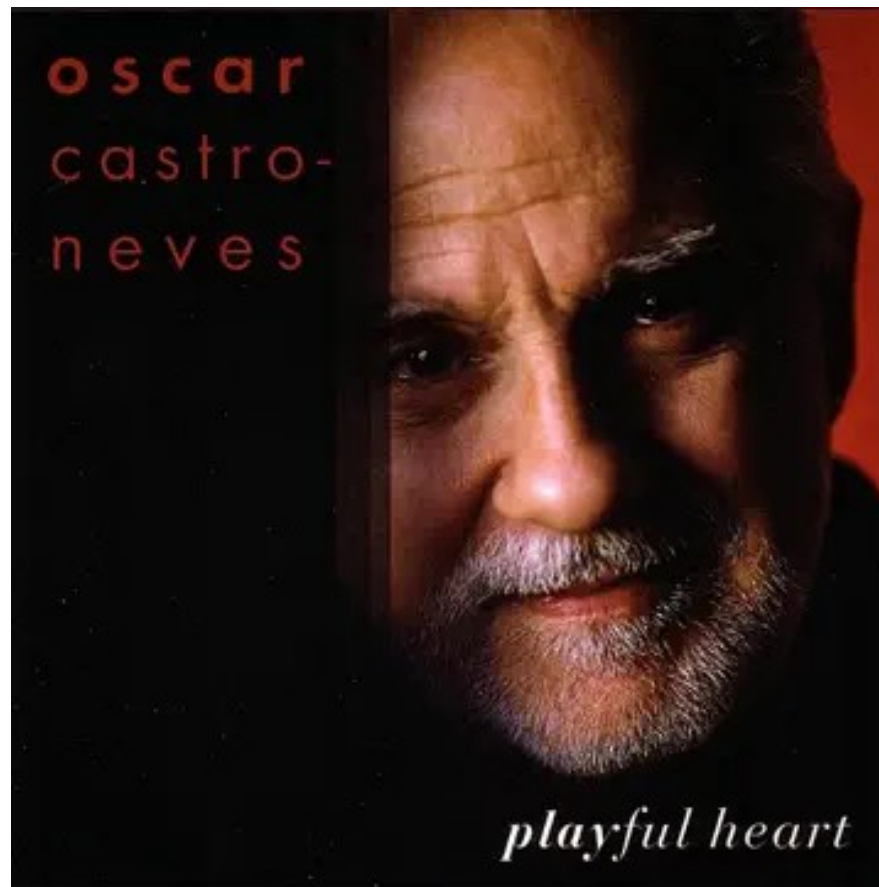
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NYLON-STRING GUITAR - Peter Sprague “The Telephone Song” (w/ Denise Donatelli)



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NYLON-STRING GUITAR - Oscar Castro-Neves “The Waters of March”



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NYLON-STRING GUITAR - Baden Powell “Samba Triste”



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STEEL-STRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR - Pat Metheny “Dreaming Trees”



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STEEL-STRING ACOUSTIC GUITAR - Mike Moreno “Soul Dance”



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EFFECTS, EFFECTS, EFFECTS!

(AKA - “The Money Pit”)

- Wah-Wah (Funky 70's sounds)
- Overdrive/Distortion (Rock/Fusion)
- Modulation Effects (Chorus/Flanger/Phaser)
- Delay
- Reverb
- POG2
- Order of Effects

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Effects including Wah-Wah, Overdrive and Chorus (Semi-Hollow Body Guitar)



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Overdrive/Distortion

Tribal Tech “Elvis at the Hop” (Scott Henderson)



Overdrive/Distortion

Important Models!



Endless Players



John Scofield/Kurt Rosenwinkel



Mike Moreno

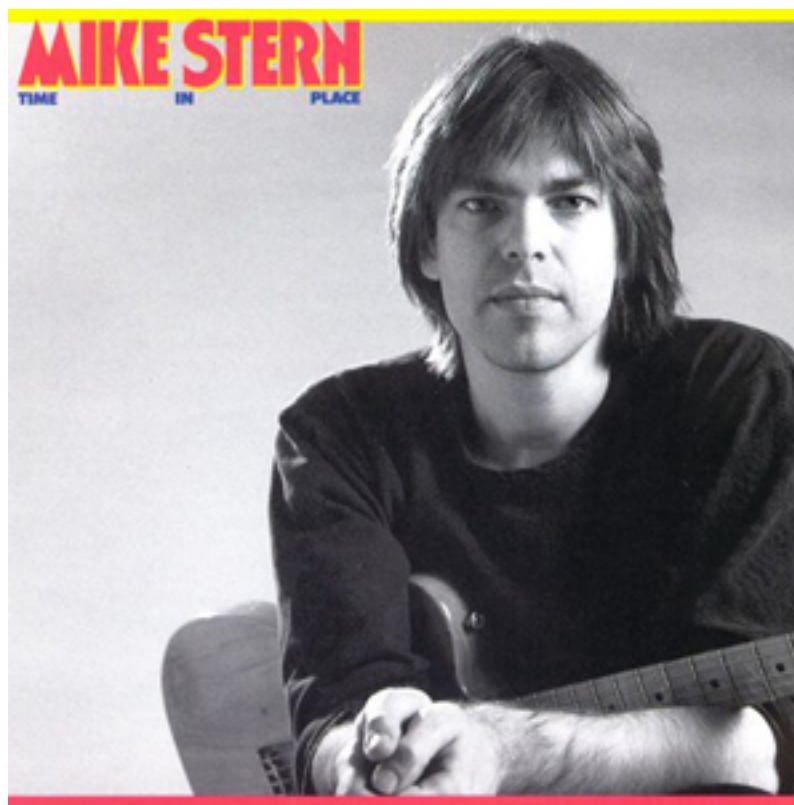


Mike Stern

etc, etc, etc, etc... The possibilities are endless!

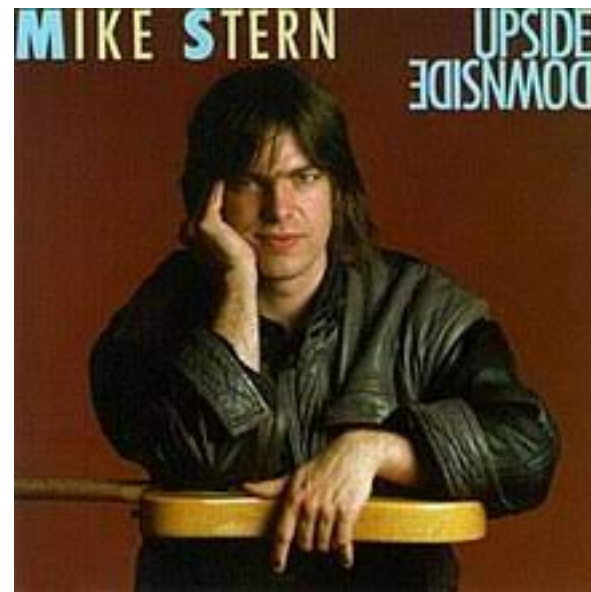
Modulation Effects - Chorus

Mike Stern - “After All”



Octave Effects and Volume Swells

Mike Stern - "Upside Downside"



GUITAR GEAR PARTY

Delay

- Semi-Hollow guitar (Heritage H-535)

Guitar

Anxiously Awaiting

(Tenor feature/s saxes)

composed and arranged
by Ben Patterson

Straight 1/8s

♩ = 160

A

AD LIB - SUSTAINED

180 AD LIB - SUSTAINED

The musical score is written for guitar and consists of five systems, each with a lettered box (A-E) in the left margin. The key signature has one sharp (F#).
System A: The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note chord E- (marked with a fermata), followed by a melodic line. Above the staff, the text "87/D#" is written. The second staff continues the melodic line, with chords F#D7/B and B7(b9) indicated above it.
System B: The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note chord G#D7, followed by a melodic line. Above the staff, the text "CONTINUE A- A-/G F#D7 F#D7/B B7(b9) D7(b9)" is written. The second staff consists of a series of eighth notes, with the same chord sequence indicated above it.
System C: The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note chord G-, followed by a melodic line. Above the staff, the text "MORE COMING F#7ALT G-/F C#D/E" is written. The second staff consists of a series of eighth notes, with the same chord sequence indicated above it.
System D: The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note chord EbD7(4#), followed by a melodic line. Above the staff, the text "D7(b9) G- C7" is written. The second staff consists of a series of eighth notes, with the same chord sequence indicated above it.
System E: The first staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. It begins with a whole note chord D7(b9), followed by a melodic line. Above the staff, the text "EbD7(4#)" is written. The second staff consists of a series of eighth notes, with the same chord sequence indicated above it.

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POG 2 - Kurt Rosenwinkel “Ease It”

(Shaved Attack - Bowed Instrument Quality)

Aka - Dr. Darden Purcell’s least favorite effect (LOL) :-)



Order of Effects

- Wah-Wah - POG2 - Overdrive/Distortion - Modulation Effects (Chorus/Flanger/Phaser) - Delay - Reverb
- Volume pedal first or last
- Tuner pedal should typically go first

GUITAR GEAR PARTY

AMPLIFICATION!!!

(The only way the audience will hear us!)

- Two Main Choices:
 - Solid-State Amplification (Clean and Un-colored)
 - Sounds best with a clean tone, with or without effects. Overdrive can sound strident at times with this amplification
 - Can sound a little “clinical” compared to tube amps to some traditionalists
 - Lightweight
 - Tube Amplification (Clean/Dirty and Colored)
 - Sounds glorious with a clean tone, with or without effects. Equally great tone when using overdrive effects
 - Bulky and heavier than the solid-state counterpart
 - My Twin Reverb - Sounds amazing, weighs 70-80lbs.
 - The classic sound of jazz guitar 1940s-1970s



Henriksen Solid-State



Fender Twin Reverb - CLASSIC!

Other secret weapons (picks, strings, etc.)

- Picks
 - Various sizes, thickness, materials, shapes, frequency response, etc.
 - “Drop the Pick” test!!!
- Strings
 - Lighter strings vs. heavier strings (wound G)
 - String materials (Darker - Flats and Pure Nickels vs. Brighter)
- Pickups (Various Settings), Volume/Tone Controls and cables



Wegen, Dunlop, Golden Gate, D’Andrea Pro-Plec, Pickboy, etc., etc.



D’Addario, Thomastik Infeld, etc., etc.

For More Information

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