

Guy Van Duser

a brief biography

Rounder and Daring recording artist Guy Van Duser is internationally known for his unique “stride guitar” style of playing, as well as his imaginative and sometimes outrageous arrangements for finger-style guitar, including the amazing **Stars and Stripes Forever!**

Guy is a graduate of Oberlin College in music, has thirteen albums and CDs available on Rounder, Daring, and Green Linnet Records, as well as many more in collaboration with artists such as Bill Staines and Jeanie Stahl, and is the author of **Stride Guitar** from Mel Bay Publications. As a composer, Guy produces soundtracks for films and public television programs, such as **Frontline**, **Nova**, and **The American Experience**. (That's also Guy, playing guitar on the **Antiques Roadshow** theme song). The documentary film, **Hellfire: A Journey from Hiroshima**, for which Guy composed the music, received an Academy Award nomination. Guy is currently working on **Disney's World Of English**, an educational video series designed to teach English as a second language to children in Japan and other Asian countries.

Guy is renowned for his innovative accomplishments on acoustic guitar. Of particular note is his development of what he terms his “stride guitar” technique, a fusion of the finger-picking virtuosity of Chet Atkins with the swing and stride piano styles of Fats Waller, Teddy Wilson, and other jazz pianists of the 1930s. Simultaneously playing bass lines, chords, and melody, he has elevated the swing-style guitar from its traditional rhythmic accompaniment role, and has influenced a new generation of guitarists. He also performs as a “two man big?band” with clarinetist Billy Novick, and the two are well known for their unique rendition of classic swing jazz. Guy and Billy are frequently heard on public radio and have often been featured guests on Garrison Keillor **A Prairie Home Companion** as well as appearing on **All Things Considered** with Linda Wertheimer . The duo is now celebrating their thirty-ninth season together.

Guy has been a faculty member in the Guitar Department of Berklee College of Music since 2009.

“Guy ...has practically invented a finger-picked guitar style, closer to jazz piano than guitar!”
The Boston Globe.

“He can pick himself a guitar!” Doc Watson.

“Guy Van Duser is a great guitarist!” Chet Atkins.