



CANDYRAT Web Store Official Launch

Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin – November 15th, 2005 – CandyRat Records officially launched its web site today which features a web store where listeners can preview and purchase music from a select group of Artists signed directly to the label and a few selected independent Artists. Listeners can choose to instantly download music as well as order CD's.

Genre

CandyRat's mission is to feature the best Acoustic Music available with an emphasis on Fingerstyle Guitar and Bass, covering many genres.

Community of Artists at Launch

Don Ross - One of today's true innovators of guitar composition and technique, Don Ross has emerged as one of the most respected musicians in Canada and one of the top guitarists in the world. With nine solo releases over his career, including three releases for Sony and three with the Narada/Virgin label, Don's self-taught journey on the instrument has encouraged him to follow his musical intuition. The result is an unclassifiable musical style. Don continues to push the envelope of musical expression and does extensive touring in Europe, Canada, the United States and Asia's Pacific Rim.

Michael Manring - Hailed by many as the world's leading solo bassist, Michael has been pushing back the boundaries of what's possible with just a bass guitar for two decades, winning thousands of fans and wowing countless audiences the world over with his stunning compositions and mind-blowing technical mastery of the instrument.

Robert Taylor – At 26, Robert Taylor entered the Canadian Guitar Festival contest for first time and walked away as the 2004 champion. He describes his music as "blue cheese", it's not for everyone, but love it or hate it, his music achievements are mounting, and his talent is undeniable. The eccentric virtuoso and Robert's musical hero, Phil de Gruy describes the music as "creative and wild spirited!"

Andy McKee – Andy McKee is one of the most talented acoustic guitar players you are likely to run across in today's music scene. Andy states, "It's only been recently that I have come into my own as a musician, and feel ready to let music flow through me and out to the listener. In a way I feel like a channeler, the music arrives of its own accord, and completes its journey when you share the music with the listener." Listen to Andy's music and you will be channeled to a beautiful tapestry of melody, harmony, and groove.

Del Vezeau - Del started playing guitar at the age of eleven with instruction from his Dad in the Bluegrass vein but had quickly moved into areas of progressive music during his early teens. He ditched the electric in favor of his acoustic work in the early nineties, cut his hair and has never looked back. Over the years, Del has undergone a remarkable evolution as a song writer and entertainer. He is currently in the process of recording his third solo record and performs across Canada and the US.

NEWS



NEWS

Erick Turnball – Comedian and 2005 Canadian Guitar Festival Champion, Erick Turnball has a 1-2 punch. Entertaining audiences across Canada with his salty and sometimes raunchy humor is really only the opening act. The second act is fiery grooves of acoustic guitar that leaves audiences in awe. Erick is one talented and creative cat.

Craig D'Andrea – At only 20, Craig is the youngest guitarist on the label and demonstrates raw talent and energy in his debut record set to release in November 2005. In 2006, he plans to follow up he debut release with touring extensive across the US and Canada.

Antoine DuFour - Antoine Dufour is emerging as one of Canada's young stars of acoustic, fingerstyle guitar. With a recent CD of original material that was released to critical acclaim, along with appearances and awards at major festivals, Antoine is building a national reputation for innovation and creativity. He will be touring across Canada in 2006 as a member of the International Guitar Night, an all-star evening of the best original guitarists/composers in North America.

Andy Fox - Andy Fox cut his teeth on the Boston music scene, playing in a number of bands while attending Berklee College of Music. Andy music goes well beyond music that's simply nice to listen to. There's craft that builds its foundation. There's a story that's weaving through the chord changes. It actually speaks to you without a voice, just a melody that is somehow unique yet accessible.

Andrew White - Andrew's unique sound is difficult to describe. He was inspired in his youth by folk guitar greats Ralph McTell, Bert Jansch and John Renbourn but is of a generation even more mind-blowing in its dexterity and inventiveness on the fretboard. While technically brilliant, his guitar work is not just out to impress - it has a pleasing, highly melodic structure. In acoustic circles in Scotland, where he lived until recently, those who have been lucky enough to see him rate him on a par with Tony McManus, but in a different genre.

Jack West & Curvature - Based in the San Francisco Bay Area, Curvature is an ensemble of virtuoso musicians engaged in the development of Jack West's ground breaking progressive acoustic jazz concept. The music is an exploration of unusual rhythmic ideas infused with elements of acoustic blues, modern jazz improvisation, and funk.

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