

Mp3 John Gilliat - Freedom

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Discover passionate and fiery guitar music that will energize you, soothe your soul and lift your spirits. Virtuoso guitarist presents a new direction and contemporary expression to new flamenco, rumba and jazz. 9 MP3 Songs

WORLD: Flamenco, NEW AGE: Healing Details: When John Gilliat holds his acoustic guitar he holds technique and emotion in melodic balance and holds his audience in the palm of his hand. He didn't come by his gift overnight of course. The Canadian-born musician picked up the guitar when he was just 9 years old. By the time he had graduated from High School, he was ready to take the show on the road, touring across Canada and the United States with various pop groups playing venues such as Harrah's in Lake Tahoe and the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. After several years touring North America John took the time to formally study his art. He took private lessons with various teachers and later majored in jazz at Capilano College, where he received a scholarship and graduated with top honours. In the guitar, John had found his instrument but he was still searching for his muse. At age 26 he immersed himself in Flamenco guitar tradition, inspired by the teaching methods of Juan Martin and listening to the incredible sounds of Paco de Lucia, Paco Pena, Sabicas and many others. John spent the next 6 years studying Flamenco, practicing 8 to 10 hours a day. The effort would pay off and the accolades would follow. In 1995, John won "Best Acoustic Guitar Performance" in the Music West Star Frets Competition. He won Vancouver's Unplugged Competition in 1996 and, in 1997 he became a finalist in Vancouver's Global Star Quest. Like all great performers, John feeds off the energy of a live audience. The stage is where his heart soars and his music flows. As a 'guitar for hire', John would find his way onto the stage, performing for the Vancouver Playhouse, Michael Barabas, Radio Europe, Alyssa Nielsen, Gypsalerio and opening for such notable artists as Cirque du Soleil, Mae Moore and acoustic guitar masters, Strunz and Farah. Practice makes perfect and passion makes magic. In May of 1999 John released his own independent instrumental CD titled "Freedom". A showcase for his considerable guitar talents, Freedom embraced world beat musical elements of flamenco, Latin and Jazz. Above all, Freedom was recorded with the hope to share the peace, joy and excitement John feels when performing for audiences around the globe. In 2002 John released his second CD called "Peace". Picking right up where Freedom left off,

Peace forges further still down the path John has carved out for his music. Passionate and fiery flamenco guitars and beautiful melodies intertwine with exotic percussion, bass and drums. The 2002 West Coast Music Awards nominated Peace as "Best Instrumental Release - Non Classical". In 2003 John released his 3rd CD titled Christmas, A wonderful collection of holiday classics played on flamenco guitars, accompanied by bass and percussion. The corporate world has embraced John's music as well, through recent performances for prestigious clients like MasterCard, Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, Verizon, Lehman Brothers, Sun America. He's also had the distinction of playing for Canada's Head of State, Prime Minister, Jean Chretien. Over 14,000 copies of John's albums have been sold to date. John Gilliat continues to offer new direction and contemporary expression to Flamenco, Nouveau Flamenco and Flamenco Rumba, touring festivals and headlining concerts with his quartet (bass, 2 guitars, and percussion). He even finds time to perform regularly with Vancouver's hot gypsy jazz club quartet, "Gypsaler". Now following four successful Japanese tours, including the first-ever concert on an open-air train, performing live on NHK Radio along with various other Japanese radio and television programs and playing Expo 2005 in Aichi. John has released his latest CD in Japan and Canada titled "Beyond Boundaries". The new CD continues to offer new direction and contemporary expression to Nouveau Flamenco, Flamenco Rumba and Jazz. Included in Beyond Boundaries is a very special composition titled "Onishi", created from the beautiful images, sounds and excitement John experienced during his performances at Fujiyama Koen Park in Onishi, Japan.

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