

# 20th CENTURY GUITAR

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## GUITARS CENTER STAGE

*20<sup>th</sup> Century Guitar speaks with the latest up and coming guitarists about their gear and new sounds!*

### JOE NARDULLI

#### ***Musical Background:***

I've been playing guitar for close to thirty years. I'm mainly self taught but I did take a few years of lessons in my early teens. I wasn't that inspired and the guitar always took a backseat to school and family obligations. I didn't get serious until around 1989 after I graduated college and got a full-time job; then I spent most of my evenings playing. I was in vocal oriented bands back then and my focus was always on songwriting. I was never inclined to practice scales and noodle away; any technique I developed came from playing those songs over and over again, working on solos, etc. After the various bands I was in broke up, I had trouble finding good people to play with so I got myself a sequencer and worked on writing progressive instrumental music. The focus, again, was always on the song and not so much the playing. My wife was really the only person who had ever heard these instrumental tunes and when I met Carl Roa of Magic Elf in 2002 I said to myself, "I need to get the opinion of an accomplished musician like Carl to hear this stuff and see what he thinks." He was very encouraging and told me I really should get them recorded. He offered to help me out and what started out as a demo of a few tunes turned into a full-length studio release in 2003.



#### ***New CD:***

"Joe Nardulli" was recorded at Carl Roa's Elf Studios in 2003 using Pro Tools recording software. It was an excellent learning experience for me and Carl did a fantastic job getting it to sound polished, yet warm. I had been playing these songs for so long that the recording went really quickly. Each song took about two hours and I just blazed through them.

#### ***Favorite Guitars:***

I've been playing a Washburn G-35V exclusively for 19 years now. It has a Kahler tremolo which has helped me develop my vocal, expressive style. I used that and an Ovation acoustic on the CD. I just got myself a Brian Moore C-55P.13 whose neck feels identical to the Washburn's. I string it with 10's and it has a Wilkinson tremolo which is very close to the feel of the Kahler's. I use MESA/Boogie amplification: Mark II-C, Stereo 295, Studio 22+ and a Formula Pre. I also love the SansAmp Classic along with a TC Electronic Dual Parametric EQ and Lexicon effects. But, I find that whatever I play through, it sounds like me. I've come to believe that 90% of your tone comes from your fingers.

#### ***Musical Influences:***

I was always inspired by very melodic players. My favorites are Eric Johnson, Steve Morse, Joe Satriani and earlier on, Jimmy Page and Randy Rhoads. That coupled with my appreciation for the progressive sounds of Queensryche, King's X, Dixie Dregs, Liquid Tension Experiment, et al; led me to forge a style that is intrinsically melodic yet interesting and engaging via the use of odd time signatures and shifting chord progressions. Influential albums include: Led Zeppelin "Presence", Eric Johnson "Ah Via Musicom", Liquid Tension Experiment I, Dixie Dregs "Full Circle", Steve Morse "Coast to Coast", Queensryche "Rage for Order", King's X "Gretchen Goes to Nebraska".

#### ***Website:***

For more information please check out [www.joenardulli.com](http://www.joenardulli.com) and e-mail me at [joe@joenardulli.com](mailto:joe@joenardulli.com).