



David Coppes

GL - What got you interested in playing the guitar?

DC - Music has always been a big part of my life. A college room mate showed me a few basic chords. I liked the way it sounded. So I bought a cheap guitar.

GL - How long have you been playing the guitar?

DC - After college I gave my guitar to my nephew as I really hadn't progressed beyond basic 3 chord strumming. It wasn't until years later...maybe 15 years ago or so, my wife and kids gave me a guitar for Father's Day that I started playing again.

GL - What music gets you excited and why?

DC - I like finger style acoustic guitar with a syncopated feel to it. It sounds so complex like there is more than one instrument playing. As a kid I loved classical music. Then I was big on folk music and psychedelic jam rock in my teens and 20s. I moved into jazz and new age stuff for a while. And now I listen to the blues. Old timey early blues. Basically I like all kinds of music...as long as it is played well and with feeling.

GL - Are you playing guitar as much as you would like to and if not why?

DC - Yes and no. Sometimes something gets me excited and I picked it up almost every day after work. Other times I get stagnated and don't feel like I am progressing or am too busy. I play every weekend for sure. Sit on the couch with a cup of coffee early in the morning. My favorite time of day and favorite thing to be doing.

GL - When was the last time you listened to a new artist, band or guitar player?

DC - New to me but not exactly new.. I recently started listening to Howlin' Wolf and Muddy Waters.

GL - What are you practicing and why?

DC - James Taylor's Country Road. Had a friend visit a couple of weeks ago and he was playing some nice old tunes including a bunch of James Taylor. Most of the stuff I play hardly anybody knows. Thought it would be nice to learn something I could play for friends and they would recognize it.

GL - Who are your top three musical influences and why?

DC - Only 3? Jerry Garcia. Jorma Kaukonen. Bob Dylan. When I listen to them everything else kind of goes away. I get lost in the music. And Dylan...well, what can you say. He's Bob Dylan.

GL - What is your greatest guitar playing challenge?

DC - Playing in front of people. I play way better by myself than I do when people are watching/listening.

GL - What musical accomplishment are you most proud of?

DC - I picked up a book on Amazon on Travis picking and I went through it cover to cover over 6 months or a year playing the same things over and over until I internalized the patterns. My wife and kids hated it at the time.

GL - How would you describe yourself as a musician in one sentence?

DC - I just play around with my guitar for fun and relaxation.

GL - Do you keep your guitar playing to yourself or do you play for audiences?

DC - I keep it to myself.

GL - What style do you mostly play and why?

DC - Finger style traditional and folk tunes.