Catching Up with Adrian Galysh

Alumnus Adrian Galysh (B.S. Music Technology, 1997), a Los Angeles-based musician and composer, has built a successful career in the industry, producing four albums and playing alongside some of the biggest names in the music business.

According to Galysh, one of his biggest career achievements came with the successful release of his fourth album, *Tone Poet*, which debuted at number 71 on the iTunes new music charts. “This album took so much work,” he said, “and it really represents me at my best compositionally, as a guitarist, and is by far my most successful release.”

He has produced 3 additional albums, as well as a 15-track album of play-along songs that included material from his last 3 solo albums. The album allows musicians to experiment and practice to a variety of song styles in different keys.

Galysh, who has played the guitar since the age of 12, has performed with an impressive list of musicians including artists such as Francis Buchhultz of The Scorpions, country guitarist Johnny Highland, Dweezil Zappa, and the band Living Colour. But his most memorable performance experience was touring with his favorite guitarist, Uli Jon Roth, formerly of the band The Scorpions. “I grew up listening to his music,” Galysh said, “and it was mind blowing to be on stage with my inspiration.”

A regular contributor to *Guitar World* magazine and as a guest on The Guitar Radio Show, a guitar-focused podcast that is available for download from iTunes and Sticher.

Through all his successes, Galysh credits the Mary Pappert School of Music with preparing him for a future not only as a musician, but as a musician working in a challenging field. “The music school prepared me for a professional career by making me a well-rounded musician,” he said. “In today’s industry, it helps to be able to wear many different hats. In addition to getting world-class guitar instruction, Duquesne’s music school made me a singer, pianist, recording engineer, and an entrepreneur.”

Looking back, he recognizes that courses he took at Duquesne—including music history, eighteenth-century counterpoint, conducting, music technology, and jazz arranging—have helped him with everything from teaching and composing to writing jingles or doing a recording session.

Galysh returned to his alma mater in October to share his experiences working in the music business with School of Music students. He provided students with first-hand advice on working in the music business, touching on topics such as marketing, press kits, and auditions, as well as pieces of career advice Galysh said he wishes he heard as a music student.

As for the future, Galysh plans to return to the studio. “Next on my plate is a new album,” he said. “This will be a departure from my usual brand of progressive-minded guitar music, and will feature a number of classic blues songs and myself singing!”

To learn more about Galysh’s career, hear samples of his music, or for information on upcoming tour dates, visit his website at adriangalysh.com.

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