

BIOGRAPHY

Adrian Raso is a respected guitarist/composer from Guelph, Ontario, Canada and has been the proud recipient of several Ontario Arts Council Grants in Popular Music. Adrian has recorded two instrumental EPs and ten full-length instrumental albums.

2020 has seen Adrian transition into the world of film and begin his journey as a screen composer. His music has been featured in Sacha Baron Cohen's **Borat Subsequent Moviefilm** (2020) and Konstantin Statskiy's **Hotel Belgrade** (2020).

In 2019 Asphalt Tango Records released Adrian's latest release, *The Gypsybilly King*. This album featured spirited contributions from **Lee Rocker** and drummer **Michael Bland** (*Prince & The New Power Generation*).

The driving instrumental hard rock album *Frozen In Time* was recorded in 2017. This gave Adrian a chance to record with metal legends **Rudy Sarzo** (*Ozzy Osbourne, Whitesnake*) and **Vinny Appice** (*Black Sabbath, Dio*).

Adrian was extremely busy in 2012, releasing the rockabilly-inspired LP *Liquor Talkin'* with his electric band, The Big Deal. In addition, Adrian received an Ontario Arts Council Grant in Popular Music to support his collaboration with world-renowned Gypsy brass ensemble, **Fanfara Ciocarlia** to produce *Devil's Tale*. This high-energy recording, conceived of by Adrian as a true melding of Eastern and Western cultures and musical traditions, offers the world an extraordinary experience. Special guest performances include **John Jorgenson** (*Elton John*) and **Rodrigo** (*Rodrigo y Gabriela*). This record has been released worldwide on Asphalt Tango Records.

Devil's Tale debuted at **#1 on the World Music Charts Europe**. It remained in the top 10 for three consecutive months. *Devil's Tale* was awarded the prestigious **German Record Critic's Award** and finished as one of the Top 30 albums of 2014 on the CBC.

In February of 2011 he released the spine-tingling rockabilly single "Dead Man's Hand" featuring **Lee Rocker** (*The Stray Cats*) on bass and **Kevin Figueiredo** (*Extreme*) on drums. This single was mixed by Bob St. John and artwork was created by the incomparable Vince Ray.

Adrian released *Nina del Sol* in 2011. This record, mixed by multi-platinum and Grammy award-winning producer Bob St. John, highlights many of Adrian's Mediterranean influences, and features guest star performances from the legendary **Sheila E.** (*Prince, Ringo Starr*) and drummer **Kevin Figueiredo** (*Extreme*).

C'est La Vie (2008) is Adrian's tribute to Gypsy Swing. These 15 new compositions reflect his love of Django Reinhardt and traditional French Gypsy music; this album was mixed by Nick Blagona (*Gypsy Jazz legend Stephane Grapelli*).

In 2006, Adrian released his second full-length all-acoustic album called *Tales of a Travelling Bohemian*. This fiery, passionate guitar-driven CD accentuates his ease of moving from Middle-Eastern to Mediterranean to Gypsy styles of music.

Black Mamba (2005) showcased Adrian's stunning versatility and musicianship over a variety of styles, ranging from Gypsy to Mediterranean flavours. Adrian's work is a fine example of the balance between commercially accepted music that is also readily embraced by the technically-minded musician.

Favourable reviews and critical acclaim have led to artist endorsements from Gretsch guitars, Godin guitars, Dr. Z Amplification, The Deering Banjo Company, Michael Collins guitars, K&K Sound pick-ups, Keeley Electronics, Wampler Pedals, Pigtronix, Radial Engineering, Pedaltrain, and Biltmore Hats. Adrian is considered a guitar virtuoso, an exceptional songwriter, and his jaw-dropping live shows worldwide never fail to impress.

Please visit: www.adrianraso.net
www.asphalt-tango.de