

Joni Mitchell - Photo credit: nytimes.com

There's a chill in the air and leaves are covering everything in Denver. Yep, that means summer is over and fall is upon us. But we're going to keep things hot with our November newsletter! We have interviews with friends like Mollie O'Brien, Dana Bourgeois and the folks from Ragged Union. Then Taylor Guitars is having a holiday gift event you won't want to miss! Also, Graham Nash tells us about a guitar he'd love to have back. And take a look at our Kremona nylon-string guitars - there's something for everyone! Get cozy and start reading.

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**FRIENDS & FAMILY**  
Holiday Gift Event

# Get One. Gift One.

From October 17, 2022 through January 2, 2023, buy any Academy or higher model Taylor guitar and get one of these three amazing holiday offers:

- **Baby Taylor BT1 for \$99**
- **GS Mini Mahogany for \$199**
- **GS Mini-e Koa for \$299**

Restrictions apply. For complete Promotion terms and conditions, visit [taylorguitars.com/gift-event/us](https://taylorguitars.com/gift-event/us). Promotion ends January 2, 2023. Void where prohibited.

## Get a Guitar & Give a Guitar

[Taylor Guitars' Friends and Family Holiday Gift Event](#) is here for the holidays!

Now through January 2nd, get a GS Mini-e Koa for just \$299, a GS Mini Mahogany for \$199 or a Baby Taylor for \$99 when you buy any Taylor guitar from the Academy Series and above.

Stop by the store (or shop online) and add two dynamic voices to your collection at an unbeatable value!

[Shop Now](#)

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## Friend of the DFC - Mollie O'Brien

Friends of the DFC, Mollie O'Brien and her husband, guitarist Rich Moore, have been performing their unique brand of music for nearly thirty years. In addition to writing their own music, they put their own spin on popular songs, reinventing them for audiences all over the country and the world. Mollie's exceptional voice and talent have allowed her to explore and elevate each genre of music she's tackled, including folk, Americana, bluegrass and R&B. In 1997, Mollie earned a Grammy for her part in Sugar Hill Records True Life Blues. She's also a member of the Colorado Music Hall of Fame.

Mollie discovered the DFC through her brother, Tim O'Brien, and sister-in-law, Kit Swaggert. "The whole music community ... everybody at one point either took lessons, worked there, taught at the DFC or performed at Swallow Hill. It was such a community! I did the books until the DFC closed in the '80s. The store was a really fun place to work. We all love Harry Tuft dearly."

Mollie remembers the Denver Folklore Center as "a fun place to work and a real social scene. Lots of performers who came to town to play music would stop by and hang out. And that's where I met my husband Rich Moore – at the first anniversary of the reincarnation of the DFC on south Broadway. April Fools' Day 1981."

**You can see Mollie and Rich perform in Colorado on November 19<sup>th</sup> in Le Veta at La Veta Mercantile. Get tickets and see their upcoming show dates [HERE](#).**

## KEEP READING

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### What People Are Saying About Us

*First time buyer for a banjo and had an awesome experience. Staff are friendly and knowledgeable. Ian was able to help me find the banjo with the sound I was looking for. Very happy with my mellow, open-back Gold Tone. – B.S.*

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# Kremona Romida-S



Kremona  
Verea



Kremona  
Rosa Luna  
CW



## Kremona Nylon-String Guitars

Are you a classical guitar player, fingerstyle artist or a guitarist looking for an expanded tonal palette? Then these hand-crafted European Kremona guitars

are perfect for you!

[Romida-S:](#) We love this series and think these guitars are some of the finest intermediate nylon-string guitars in production today.

[Verea:](#) For steel-string players looking to jump into the nylon string world, there are few options better than the Kremona Verea.

[Rosa Luna CW:](#) Whether you are looking for a flamenco guitar, or just a great gigging nylon, this Rosa Luna has you covered.

SHOP NOW



## Ragged Union - A New Album &

## a Fresh Spin on Bluegrass

If you haven't heard of **Ragged Union**, you are in for a real treat! The band is made up of founder Geoff Union (guitar, vocals), Elio Schiavo (mandolin, vocals), Rebekah Durham (fiddle, vocals) and Matt Thomas (bass). Ragged Union has gone through [some changes](#) over the years, but this latest incarnation feels and sounds more than just right on their new album *Round Feet, Chrome Smile*.

Geoff does accounting for the Nevei Kodesh synagogue in Boulder and during COVID, the band played a few livestream concerts there. Elio describes the synagogue as "a cool place. The sound ... it's very big and all wood inside with a giant vaulted ceiling. And I thought it would be awesome to do some recording in there. Geoff made it his job to rent out the space for a week. We loaded up a bunch of equipment, set it up and spent five or six days recording all the tracks for the [new record](#). It came out nicely. There are two songs on the record that weren't recorded in that space. To the trained ear you can tell the difference. And you can only hear one bus if you turn it up super loud."

Ragged Union has been performing around Colorado this summer. They're happy that "after COVID all the old spots are opening up again. But we don't have any solid plans to take it on the road anytime soon. We're nailing down some dates for festivals next year. The old band was traveling all the time. We have a new album out now and that's what we're working towards - touring again.

"We like taking the music to different places, playing for new people and for those that haven't seen us in a while. The music and the players are really good, and we have a sound and an approach that's a little bit different. We have something to offer that's different than what's out there. The festival circuit is really where it's at for me. The audience comes to hear that kind of music. They hear us and we're interesting and we make some new fans and friends."

### See Ragged Union LIVE in Colorado in November!

Nov 11th – Longmont, CO – [Oscar Blues](#)

Nov 17th – Golden, CO – [New Terrain Brewing Company](#)

Nov 25th – Denver, CO – [Globe Hall](#)

**LEARN MORE and BUY TICKETS [HERE](#)**

## KEEP READING

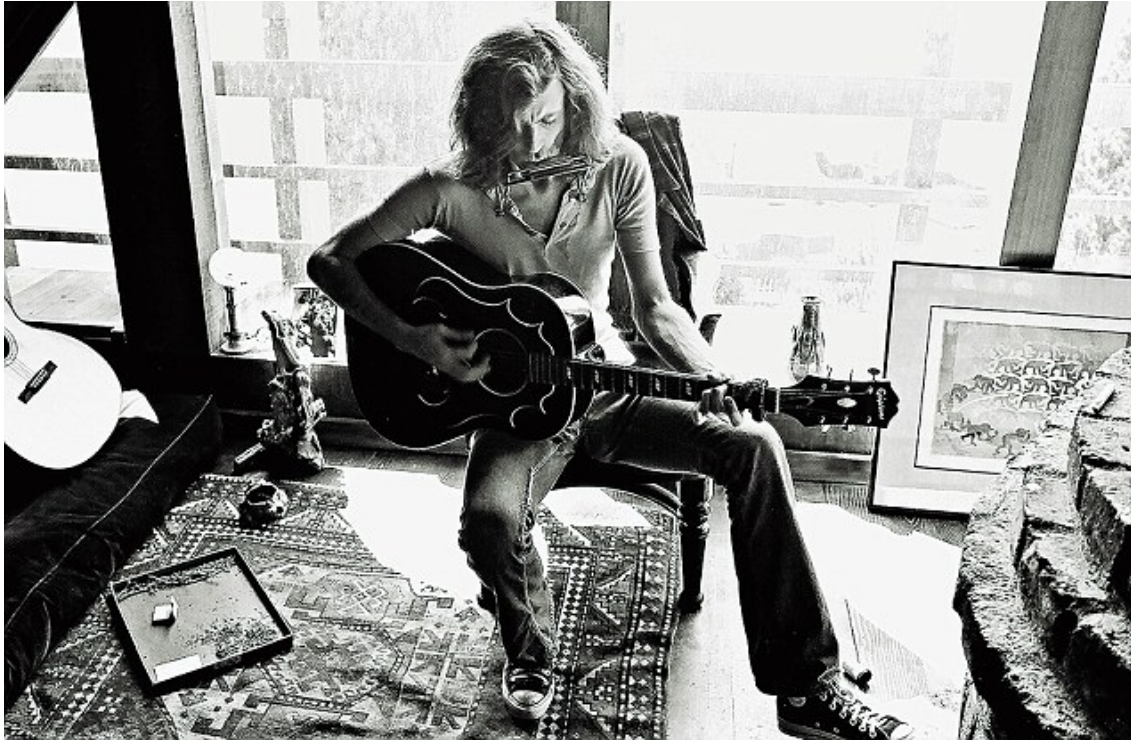


photo source: [www.acousticguitarforum.com](http://www.acousticguitarforum.com)

## The One that Got Away - Graham Nash

If you ever come across a black 1962 Epiphone Texan guitar with a double pick guard, [Graham Nash](#) would love to speak with you.

"In 1962, I needed a guitar, so we went to a store called Barratts of Manchester and I bought an Epiphone Texan and sprayed it black. I put a huge double guitar pick plate on the front, just like the Everly Brothers. It's the guitar I wrote "Teach Your Children," "Simple Man," "Marrakesh Express" and all those other songs on – and I can't find it. It's been missing for ten years. I've checked all my guitar storage, I've checked Stephen's (Stills), I've checked Neil's (Young) and David's (Crosby), but I just can't find it. And it really pisses me off.

"If anybody out there can find my 1962 Epiphone Texan guitar that's black with a double pick guard, I would appreciate it."

### READ MORE STORIES





Dana Bourgeois (fourth from left) and the team at Bourgeois Guitars

## Meet the Builders

### Dana Bourgeois - Bourgeois Guitars

Master luthier Dana Bourgeois' passion for guitar building began early. His grandfather, a machinist, and his father, a woodworker, taught him "just enough to actually build a guitar". He began building his first guitars while attending college in the early 1970s.

By the late '70s, Dana ran a one-man shop in Maine, where he built and repaired guitars. Around that time, he became part of the folk and bluegrass scene and was able to show his dreadnought guitars to

In 2019, Bourgeois Guitars was acquired by Eastman Music, a large multinational company that makes violin-family instruments, brass, woodwinds and guitars. For the last few years, they've been working to coproduce a new line of guitars – the Touchstone Series.

"We just introduced them recently. The concept behind the instruments is that we (Bourgeois) make and tune the guitar tops and ship them to Eastman's manufacturing in Beijing. They build the guitar with our tuned



musician, Tony Rice, who had some advice. “Tony usually gave my guitars a good test drive and graciously let me play his famous D-28.” When Rice saw the OM guitar Dana had built, he thought it had an overall better sound and suggested “putting it in a bigger package”.

Over the years, Rice’s words, his own research and some creative collaborations have inspired Dana to create what is now the legendary Bourgeois Guitar company.

guitar top, ship it back to us and we go over it for quality control and final set up. Then we distribute it in the U.S. - so far, the Touchtone Series guitars are only available in the U.S.”

The Eastman collaboration has also resulted in a new line of [Bourgeois mandolins](#). The first mandolins have arrived in stores and these new instruments won’t be the last. “These are little trickles of new product compared to what we expect to see in the next couple of years. And it’s exciting for us because it’s stuff we’ve been planning for a few years and it’s finally happening.”

## KEEP READING



## What Instrument Should I Buy in Portugal? - UPDATE

If you read last month's newsletter, you know DFC co-owner Saul Rosenthal was traveling to Portugal and intended to purchase an instrument native to the country. He selected this Viola Braguesa, a 10-stringed instrument. The tuning is C-G-A-D-G (in pairs). Want to read the article? You can go [HERE](#).

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