



Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young - Photo source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/>

Ready or not, we are officially entering pumpkin spice season. And while the month can be a little spooky, our October newsletter isn't! We've got the NEW Bourgeois Mandolin - their first. Then hold onto your hats - Friend of the DFC, Graham Nash sat down with us to talk about his new record! And yes, we have another story of the instrument that got away - it's a sad one. Next, singer-songwriter Suzanne Vega is coming to Colorado and spoke with us about her tour. And DFC co-owner, Saul Rosenthal has a question for you. All this and more, so let's start scrolling.

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## Bourgeois M5-A Mandolin!

It was hard to contain our excitement when we heard that Bourgeois Guitars teamed up with Eastman Strings to introduce the first Bourgeois mandolins.

This glorious M5-A lives up to our expectations, with an approach to quality control and design that's all Bourgeois, but at a price point more in line with a high-end Eastman.

Featuring a torrefied Adirondack spruce top for a powerful, mature sound, with impressively figured Bosnian maple for the back, sides and neck, this mandolin packs a lot of punch without losing its complex high treble frequencies. Aesthetics stay simple and elegant, and as with Dana Bourgeois' guitars, tend to be vintage inspired, with brushed nickel hardware and classic multi-layer binding and purfling. We're excited to start carrying these great mandolins and think you will be too.

[Shop Now](#)

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## Friend of the DFC - Graham Nash

Graham Nash is a legendary artist known for co-founding musical groups the Hollies and Crosby, Stills & Nash. His list of accomplishments is too long to list here, but it includes being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Songwriters Hall of Fame (each twice!) and winning a Grammy.

His latest project, *Graham Nash: Live* revisits his first two solo albums - *Songs for Beginners* and *Wild Tales*. Graham spoke to us about his current tour (he'll be in Colorado this month) supporting the album, the magic of photography, songwriting and a lot more.

Graham has been on the road this year promoting his new record and "the tour is going very well. I'm looking forward to the rest of it. We'll be concentrating on the northeast, then the west coast and Colorado."

He has his wife, artist Amy Grantham, to thank for this album. "I must confess, making this album was at the gentle persuasion of my wife. I was thinking about

doing it for many years because I love those first two records. So, I did four shows with a full band, came out and did *Songs for Beginners* from start to finish, took an intermission, then came back and did *Wild Tales* from start to finish. And that's the live album that's out now."

**For Colorado tickets:**

[Oct 21<sup>st</sup> – Strings Music Pavilion - Steamboat Springs, CO](#)

[Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> – Riverwalk Center – Breckenridge, CO](#)

[Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – Washington's – Fort Collins, CO](#)

[Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – Boulder Theater – Boulder, CO](#)

**And see all of his tour dates and get tickets [HERE](#).**

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## What People Are Saying About Us

*Simply one of the best shops for stringed instruments on the planet. Friendly expertise, good selection and people who care. – D.C.*

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Bullet Squier Telecaster - photo source: amazon.com

## **The One that Got Away - B.E. (Brian) Farrow from Gangstagrass**

When I was younger I was a shredder, so I played metal music a lot. And I had this Telecaster. It was a Bullet Squier, it was my brother's and he didn't play it, so I picked it up and I hammered my friends' names into it, carved a bunch of stuff into it. I used to think it sounded terrible, but eventually it sounded perfect - it was the perfect guitar. My house flooded when I was younger, and I lost it. It was in the pile of stuff that was thrown out and I regret not just picking it up from that pile and keeping it. I really regret not doing that. I miss that guitar a lot.

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## A Conversation with Suzanne Vega

Suzanne Vega released her self-titled first album in 1985 and quickly became a leading figure of the 1980's folk-music revival. *Solitude Standing*, her second album, thrust her into the spotlight with hits like "Luka" and "Tom's Diner". Since then, Vega has had a string of hit records, won awards and accolades, sold out concert venues around the world and performed her own one-woman show "Lover, Beloved" based on the life of novelist, Carson McCullers.

We had the opportunity to speak with her last month about her current tour, *An Intimate Evening of Songs and Stories with Suzanne Vega*, what inspires her to write music and get on stage and what musicians

We play the hits and other songs people know – sort of a greatest hits collection – and we also put in a few new things and sometimes we may do a cover song or two. It's a very varied show.

### **What do you like most about performing in front of an audience?**

I love the sense of emotional freedom that I feel only when I'm on stage and don't necessarily feel in other places. It's a great feeling to sing songs people know, that they want to hear, it brings me a lot of joy. And the acting is kind of a different way of performing, but I also get a lot of satisfaction out of that. I've always loved pretending and pretending to

she's listening to these days.

**What can people expect when they attend one of your shows this tour?**

It's me on guitar and Gerry Leonard, my musical director, on guitar. He was the musical director for David Bowie back in the day. And Gerry provides a lot of the production, so it's just two guitars, but it sounds like a whole band.

be other people, so that fulfills that need.

**You can see Suzanne Vega in Colorado this month. Get your tickets at:**

[Oct 6<sup>th</sup> - Fort Collins, CO at The Armory.](#)

[Oct 7<sup>th</sup> - Boulder, CO at the Boulder Theater](#)

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## It's a Picker's Dream - Collings 0002H Guitar

Sure, Collings makes great dreadnoughts, but we feel that their small and mid-size guitars are where the Austin-based manufacturer really shines.

This 12-fret 0002H is everything pickers look for from a compact guitar and more, with wonderful clarity, a surprisingly powerful sound for its size and a unique character that make it nothing less than a dream for the acoustic musician.

The 0002H combines a Sitka spruce top with Indian rosewood back and sides for a bright and bell-like tone, brimming with treble chime while maintaining a rich low end. The wide fingerboard and 12-fret neck make it an ideal instrument for folk and blues fingerpickers, giving your fingers plenty of space to maneuver the fretboard and bring out the best of this wonderful little guitar.

As always, Collings keeps the appointments tasteful but still beautiful, with herringbone binding, abalone fretboard inlays, a slotted headstock and a high-gloss finish to make the 0002H a standout.

**SHOP NOW**

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Have you visited Portugal? If so, co-owner of the Denver Folklore Center, Saul Rosenthal, has a question for you:

Later this month my wife and I will be traveling to Portugal. As is my custom when I travel abroad, I look to purchase an instrument native to the country we are visiting.

In Cuba I bought a Guiro - a small hollowed-out gourd with grooves along its edge that you play by scraping with a small stick. I also bought bongos and a tambourine with an animal skin head for my grandkids – whom I don't think ever played them.

When we were in Spain, I purchased a locally-built classical guitar which, unfortunately, I had to send back because the finish blistered within a month of its arrival in Denver. One of the cool things about Spanish-made guitars is the hardshell cases they typically come with are colorful - mine was a light pink.

In Ireland, I looked for a Lowden guitar but was told by the septuagenarian owner of a music store in Dublin that “they’re way too expensive for the Irish, so we send them to Canada and the United States.” I also fell in love with the Uilleann Pipes, the Irish version of bagpipes which are played with an under-arm bellows. Unfortunately, the wait to get one of those beauties which is hand-made was nearly two years.

### **So what instrument should I look to buy when I am in Portugal?**

Follow us on social media (below) to find out what Saul chooses.

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