



What's going on at the Denver Folklore Center? We're glad you asked! First, Kremona steel string guitars are in stock. Then we recommend you listen to singer/songwriter/guitarist Richard Thompson - what a talent! Our music teacher spotlight shines on violinist Josie Quick. Plus Gold Tone banjos, our latest blog post and more! There's a lot to cover, so kick back and read all about it.

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## Kremona Steel Strings Are Here!

Kremona has for some time now been our primary brand of nylon string guitars, but the R30E and M15E are the first steel strings we've had from the company. Here's a little bit about these guitars.

Hand-built in Bulgaria, the Kremona R30E is an all-solid wood dreadnought steel string guitar built from European spruce and Indian rosewood, with a hefty, near-vintage style neck and a bold sound. Appointments in abalone add a bit of visual flash, but a clear pickguard and a matte finish on the back and sides balance the inlays with some visual modesty.

The M15E is a steel string guitar that lives up to the quality standards set by the Bulgarian company's terrific nylon-string guitars. An OM-size guitar, the M15E features a solid European spruce top and laminated African mahogany on the back and sides, with a bright, clear voice that works very nicely for flatpicking. The visual design leans minimal, with a matte finish and a clear pickguard, as well as a wood rosette.

Learn more about all our Kremona guitars [HERE](#) before they're gone.

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## We Recommend: Richard Thompson

*Rolling Stone Magazine* called singer/songwriter Richard Thompson one of the Top 20 Guitarists of All Time. He's also one of the world's most critically acclaimed and prolific songwriters. Thompson co-founded the group Fairport Convention as a teenager in the '60s - they virtually invented British Folk Rock.

By 21, he had left the band to pursue a solo career, followed by a decade-long musical partnership with his then-wife Linda, and spent over 30 years as a successful solo artist. A wide range of musicians have recorded Thompson's music including Robert Plant, Elvis Costello, REM, Del McCoury, Bonnie Raitt, Los Lobos, David Byrne and Don Henley.

Thompson's massive body of work includes over 40 albums, many Grammy nominations, as well as numerous soundtracks.

Thompson's latest album is available on his website [HERE](#).

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## Music Teacher Spotlight - Josie Quick

Boulder, Colorado native Josie Quick is an accomplished violinist and music teacher who plays classical music, rock'n'roll and everything in between. Her love of the violin was influenced by her mother – “a classical music snob”. Josie began taking violin lessons at Niwot Elementary and continued through high school. She joined orchestras including the semi-professional Boulder Philharmonic, with her goal being to eventually perform with the New York Philharmonic. “I had a narrow music upbringing – classical, baroque Gregorian chant through modern twentieth century classical music. My mother had a total disdain for any other music. And my dad liked cowboy music and Lawrence Welk. So, I didn’t have any concept of popular music.”

When I saw the Doobie Brothers, I thought ‘I can do anything’. It wasn’t so much about joining a rock band. I just knew if this is a possibility then there must be other possibilities.”

Teaching music is a passion for Josie that began with a few students in high school. “Around 1986 (her third year in college) I started teaching out of a music store in Denver.” Today Josie teaches kids and adults, both at Swallow Hill Music and independently with private lessons. Currently, Josie teaches exclusively online (Zoom), but she’s crafting a post-Covid lesson plan for the near future.

Her teaching style is individualized – she spends time figuring out what will appeal to each student to keep them motivated and having fun. “I

That changed one night when Josie saw the Doobie Brothers on TV's Austin City Limits playing "Black Water". The concept of her musical world expanded, and she realized the violin's versatility. "Up until then I thought my options were limited - to be a symphony musician or a bluegrass fiddler. Neither were that appealing, but I loved playing the violin.

love sharing music with other people and helping them get the sound they want or play the music they like, and to feel a sense of accomplishment." Learn more about Josie [HERE](#). And **contact her at [jquick@ecentral.com](mailto:jquick@ecentral.com)**



## What People Are Saying About Us

*"Best acoustic guitar shop in Colorado easily. These guys have more experience and knowledge than anyone around. From high-end guitars for experienced professionals to beginners and lessons, they are amazing." - I.K.*

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## Gold Tone Banjos

Gold Tone is dedicated to getting the greatest amount of quality features into their instruments at the most affordable prices. Many of the components of much more expensive American-made banjos are found on Gold Tone banjos - adjustable truss rods, cast tailpieces and planetary tuners. As a result, Gold Tone is the "go-to" affordable choice for many banjo players.

And our customers are in luck, as our store is fully stocked in Gold Tone Banjos (both Open-Back and Resonators)! See our selection [HERE](#).



## How Electronics Enhance Instrument Sound

Sure, playing a guitar or other musical instrument is a lot of fun, but if you're a musician looking to enhance your sound, first make sure your instrument and

pickup are up to par, then consider adding electronics like amplifiers, preamps and DI boxes.

## Amplifiers

An amplifier or “amp” at its most basic is an electronic device that receives the sound of your instrument, processes that signal and amplifies it into a louder more intense sound as it exits. If you’re a musician playing in a noisy venue or with other musicians, try an amp.

## Preamps

A preamp on the other hand processes the incoming sound, shapes the sound tone and boosts it to the standard or “line” level so it is audible enough for an amplifier to do its job. An instrument’s distortion also takes place in the preamp. So, if your instrument sound needs a little help, a preamp could be just the thing for you.

We offer two lines of amplifiers: the [Fishman Loudbox and AER](#). Fishman Loudbox amps are world renowned for their warm tone and accuracy and are a favorite among acoustic musicians. And AER amplifiers are in a class all their own. These extraordinary amps are crafted in Germany and designed to fill the needs of the most discriminating acoustic player.

Keep reading our latest blog post about electronics [HERE](#).



## Freight & Salvage

Berkeley, California, in the 1960s, was characterized by a free-wheeling’ mix of anti-establishment politics, radical lifestyle experimentation, struggles for racial and gender equality and a profound respect for traditional cultures able to survive and even flourish outside the commercial mainstream. Since its founding in 1968, the Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse has been deeply rooted in the aspect of Berkeley’s culture that embraced freedom, justice, acceptance,

collaboration and innovation.

The Freight is a nonprofit community arts organization, dedicated to promoting public awareness and understanding of traditional music. It has become a world famous venue for music rooted in and expressive of the great variety of regional, ethnic and social cultures of peoples throughout the world.

Visit their website [HERE](#) to learn more.

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If you're looking for something unique, have we got the ukuleles for you! Check out our ukes from Kala, Amahi, Kamaka, Kremona, Martin, Kanile'a and more, available in a wide range of prices. And watch our video Ukulele 101: Buyer's Guide. See it all [HERE](#).

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