

MEDIA RELEASE

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Cap Jazz Series presents

Guitar Summit

featuring Bill Coon, Oliver Gannon & Mike Rud

March 29, 2008 @ 8pm

Tickets \$30/\$26

Capilano College Performing Arts Theatre

2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver, BC

Box Office: 604.990.7810

www.capcollege.bc.ca/theatre

Local maestros team up with Montreal based phenom for a night of homage to jazz guitar

Local jazz guitar maestros Bill Coon and Oliver Gannon's much acclaimed release *Two Much Guitar* was a special collaboration between two colleagues and friends who much admired each other's work. The recording it seems was just the beginning. Expanding the concept to a threesome, Coon and Gannon have invited Montreal-based Mike Rud to join them to celebrate the wonderful world of jazz guitar on March 29 at 8pm at the Capilano College Performing Arts Theatre as part of the Cap Jazz Series.

"Oliver and I are both thrilled to have Mike participate," commented Bill Coon. "I have known Mike for quite some time and it made sense to bring Mike back to Vancouver where he lived for a few years. It was also an opportunity to introduce Mike to Oliver – two of the finest guitarists, I believe, in Canada. I think it'll be a great musical fit."

Edmonton native Mike Rud is getting raves as one of Canada's most acclaimed jazz guitarists. A protégé of Jim Hall, he went to New York in 1995 to study with the guitar master. Rud has performed with Herb Ellis, [Kenny Wheeler](#), Chuck Israels, Ralph Bowen, Joe La Barbera, Guido Basso, Ian MacDougall, [P.J. Perry](#), [Tommy Banks](#), [Denzal Sinclair](#), [John Stetch](#) and many others. He has two CDs of his own out, *Whyte Avenue* and *Chimbe*, and is a guest on several other CDs. His latest project, *Live From Lotusland*, was recorded in Vancouver with local sidemen, Russ Botten (bass), Dave Robbins (drums), Tilden Webb (piano) and Mike Allen (tenor saxophone).

Juno nominated guitarist/ composer /arranger Bill Coon is one of Canada's most highly respected and sought after musicians. He has been performing professionally for over twenty-five years and has worked with numerous jazz artists including Jimmy Heath, Louis Stewart, Chuck Israels, Eddie Daniels, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Campbell Ryga, Brad Turner, PJ Perry, Fred Stride, Denzal Sinclair, Karin Plato and Dee Daniels. His quartet performed at the Orpheum, opening for Dave Brubeck during the Vancouver International Jazz Festival.

His recent association with popular hip-hop artist K-os has resulted in several string recording projects including a collaboration with the Vancouver CBC Radio Orchestra. The process of creating and recording the six-minute piece resulted in a CBC television documentary entitled *Burning to Shine* and Bill's arranging is featured on the Juno award winning CD *Joyful Rebellion*.

Jazz Guitarist Oliver Gannon has been very active in the Vancouver and Canadian jazz scenes since the early 1970's. He has performed at many of the major jazz festivals in Europe and North America, and has made three concert tours of the former USSR.

He has performed on many jazz records, including four on the Concord label. Not only was he named Guitarist of the Year at the National Jazz Awards in 2002, a duo album, recorded in 1982 with longstanding colleague, the late tenor saxophonist Fraser MacPherson, won the Juno Award for Best Jazz Album. Gannon was also instrumental in founding Pacific Salt, a jazz/rock group comprised of himself on guitar, Ron Johnston on piano, Ian McDougall on trombone, Don Clark on trumpet, Tony Clitheroe on bass, and George Ursa on drums. A recent highlight in Gannon's performing career was an opening set for the late, great Oscar Peterson in 2004, Peterson's final appearance in Vancouver.

For all fans of jazz, especially guitar aficionados, don't miss the summit of the year with three of Canada's finest jazz guitarists, Saturday, March 29 @ 8pm. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$26 for seniors and students and are available by phone at 604.990.7810 or online at www.capcollege.bc.ca/theatre.