

Billy Watman

SOLO INSTRUMENTAL GUITARIST
CONTACT : INFO@BILLYWATMAN.COM

Billy is an award winning Anglo-Brazilian instrumental guitarist. Inspired by Rodrigo y Gabriela, Tommy Emmanuel & Mike Oldfield, his style fuses the genres of Flamenco & Classical with Rock & Pop. In 2022 he was awarded a diploma of higher education in classical guitar from The Royal College of Music in London.

Billy's videos of popular songs played in this style have received many millions of views across online platforms & his performances of Bohemian Rhapsody have been praised and shared by both Queen and Brian May's official channels.

In 2016, aged just 14, he reached the grand final of 'Guitar Star' - a guitar based talent show open to all ages for Sky Arts TV which was broadcast worldwide. Billy stunned audiences with some extraordinary performances - for judges and mentors including George Benson, Black Sabbath legend Tony Iommi, and David Bowie's producer Tony Visconti - who described him as 'a little genius'.



In 2022 Billy was invited by Adam Wakeman (Black Sabbath/Ozzy Osbourne) to open all of the UK dates of his 'Jazz Sabbath' tour, including a sold out show in Birmingham appearing as special guest on stage with Prog-Rock royalty Rick Wakeman. Later that year he was also invited to open the show for UK rock legends 'Magnum' at their 50th anniversary concert at KKs Steel Mill in Wolverhampton.

A regular at UK and European festivals, including 'Guitar Summit' & 'Musikmesse' (Germany), 'Latitude' & 'Edinburgh Fringe', he has also appeared at 'Towersey Festival' supporting Midge Ure and 'The Henley Festival' - on the same bill as The Pet Shop Boys and Chaka Khan.

Further TV and Radio work includes guest appearances with comedian Rory Bremner at two sold out shows in Edinburgh, and in 2019 Billy was special guest of MOBO award winning saxophonist Yolanda Brown, on her BBC TV show 'Yolanda's Band Jam'.



Billy has independently released 2 full length studio albums, 'Riversong' (2018) and 'Back Street Kid' (2021) as well as a 6 track Queen inspired EP 'On With the Show' (2020).

Equally at ease on both steel and nylon strings and refusing to be 'pigeon holed' into a specific style, Billy's live show offers a mesmerizing, genre defying journey, with repertoire spanning Classical, Flamenco and Pop, through to Disco and Classic Rock – all on 1 guitar.

Officially endorsed by several major brands, including Ortega Guitars, who in 2022 released a signature model in his name and regularly performing at music trade shows and exhibitions, Billy is also available for TV and Session Work, Private Bookings, Weddings, Corporate events and Festivals.