

Billy Novick and Guy Van Duser - BIO

Elegant, riveting and soulful - a few of the words that have been used to describe the unique swing-jazz music of acoustic guitarist Guy Van Duser and clarinetist Billy Novick.

Together as a duo for more than thirty years, Guy and Billy have performed in concerts, clubs and festivals all over North America and Europe and have been frequent guests on Prairie Home Companion, NPR's All Things Considered, and many film and television soundtracks.

After 30 years, and like a good marriage, their music has wed together two perfectly suited musical personalities. Guy's innovative finger-style guitar wizardry, and his uncanny ability to play bass lines, chords and melodies all at the same time displays daring imagination, breathtaking technique, and wonderful musicality.

Novick's ever-inventive and soulful clarinet playing provides the ideal complement to Guy's guitar. With his vast knowledge of the classic jazz era, his dazzling improvising skills, and his entertaining vocals, Novick is able to both add a melodic and dynamic spark to Guy's guitar.

Their music sounds fresh and original, yet is also deeply rooted in the rich legacy of the classic jazz age. With any piece from their huge repertoire - an obscure Ellington tune, a Gershwin classic, a complex Jelly Roll Morton arrangement, or perhaps one of their originals - the duo immediately make it sound their own.

And, my, how they swing! Enjoy.