



## Jon Finn Bio

A guitarist since age six, Jon Finn has been a professional musician for most of his life. Today, he's been repeatedly acknowledged within the international community of musicians as being a clear leader in Modern Rock Guitar as a performer, composer and educator. Joining the guitar faculty at Berklee College of Music in Boston in 1988, he started the Jon Finn Group later that same year. To date, they have three internationally released CDs, *Don't Look So Serious* (Legato Records 1994), *Wicked* (SEP Records 2000), "Bull in a China Shop" (SEP Records 2010) several independent releases, and countless performances worldwide under their belts. For over three years, Jon wrote a monthly instructional feature for a national magazine called *Guitar*. Jon has also authored several books for Mel Bay Publications: *Advanced Modern Rock Guitar*, *Improvisation*, *One Guitar, Many Styles*, *Blues/Rock Improvisation*, *Riffs: Volume One*, and a few more currently in production. In his freelance pursuits, he's played guitar for the national touring companies of many contemporary musical theater productions such as *Rent*, *Aida*, *Mamma Mia*, *Hairspray*, *High School Musical*, *Grease*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Copacabana*, and many others. Today Jon frequently performs and records with the Boston Pops Orchestra and Boston Symphony Orchestra. With them he's performed with Josh Groban, Andrea Bocelli, Amy Grant, Vince Gill, Rockapella, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry (Aerosmith), Natalie Cole, Carly Simon, Bernadette Peters, New York Voices and many others. He's been involved in a plethora of concerts and recording sessions, including 6 CDs (two of which were Grammy nominated), 8 US concert tours, and one tour in Asia.

Jon has also performed with some of the world's premier guitarists as a co-featured performer: John Petrucci, Guthrie Govan, Carl Verheyen, Dweezil Zappa, Dave Larue, Andy Timmons, Vinnie Moore, Steve Morse, Tom Scholz, Barry Goudreau, Tom Morello and others.

One of his songs, "Berlin Wall" appears in the motion picture release "Refusenik", a documentary about Soviet Jews and their struggle to escape to the US during the Cold-War era. Jon's guitar is heard on the NFL Theme Song during the football season.

Jon spends his spare time with his family.

### **Teaching experience:**

-Graduated Berklee College of Music w/ Bachelor's Degree in Traditional Performance in 1982

-Walpole Music Studio (private lessons) 1982-1988

-Berklee College of Music 1988-present

-Clinics and seminars at: Daddy's Junky Music Stores, National Guitar Summer Workshops (Connecticut and Toronto), Bosse School of Music (Weymouth, MA), MAI (Nancy, France), NAMM (1994, 1995), Muzikmesse (Frankfurt, Germany), San Francisco University at Quito (Quito, Ecuador), ISM Guitar Training (Tokyo, Japan)

### **Performing Experience:**

-Jon Finn Group 1988 Present (Concert venues and nightclubs in new England)

-Boston Pops Orchestra 1996 -present (Concert venues worldwide)

-Boston Symphony Orchestra 2002-present (Symphony Hall Boston, MA)

-Various Freelance performances with: Andrea Bocelli, Josh Groban, John Petrucci, Steve Morse, Guthrie Govan, Vinnie Moore, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry (Aerosmith), "RENT", "Mamma Mia", "Jesus Christ Superstar", "Hairspray" and many others.

### **Discography:**

-*No Singing Allowed* - Jon Finn Group (Independent cassette release 1990)

-*Guitar on the Edge Volume 2* – Jon Finn Group (Legato records, compilation CD 1992)

-*Don't Look So Serious* – Jon Finn Group (Legato Records, full-length CD release 1994)

-*Wicked* – Jon Finn Group (SEP Records, full-length CD release 1999)

-*The Celtic Album* – Boston Pops Orchestra (BMG Classics 1997)

-*A Splash of Pops* - Boston Pops Orchestra (BMG Classics 1998)

-*The Latin Album* – Boston Pops Orchestra (BMG Classics 1999)

-*Sleigh Ride* - Boston Pops Orchestra (BMG Classics 2004)

-*America* - Boston Pops Orchestra (BMG Classics 2006)

-*Bull in a China Shop* - Jon Finn Group (SEP Records, full-length CD release 2010)

### **Publications:**

- Guitar for the Practicing Musician* – monthly column (1996-2000)
- Advanced Modern Rock Guitar Improvisation* – Mel Bay (1998)
- One Guitar, Many Styles* – Mel Bay (2003)
- Blues/Rock Improv* – Mel Bay (2004)
- Foundations of Rock: Riffs Volume One* – Mel Bay (2006)

### **Awards:**

- Dean's Award for Outstanding achievements in Teaching (Berklee College of Music 1995)
- Nomination for Outstanding Instrumentalist -Boston Music Awards (1994)
- Performer of the Year – New England Performer Magazine (1995)
- Emmy – Mike Adam's Sportsworld TV show (1996)
- Grammy Nomination – The Celtic Album, Boston Pops 1999
- Grammy Nomination – The Latin Album, Boston Pops, 2000