

You know your music - so do we. THE ALLMUSIC BLOG

ROLL OVER FOR IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

AMITIZA is a registered trademark of Suncampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Copyright ©2007 Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America, Inc.



CLICK HERE TO LEARN ABOUT AMITIZA

allmusic
allmusic allmovie allgame

GO

Artist/Group advanced search



- » New Releases
- » Music Videos
- » Top Searches
- » Classical Corner
- » Top Composers
- » Editors' Choice
- » Writers' Bloc
- » Whole Note
- » Artist Spotlight
- » Classical Reviews

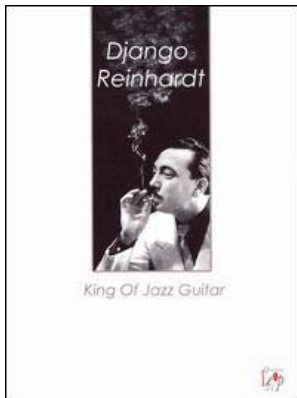
You are not logged in.
[Login or Register](#)

[Overview](#) [Review](#) [Credits](#) [Chart & Awards](#) [Buy](#)

King of Jazz Guitar

Django Reinhardt

[Send to Friend](#)



Available On:

Priced from \$11.00 to \$19.99
See all 6 sellers

Album Browser

< Previous Next >

Artist

[Django Reinhardt](#)

Album

King of Jazz Guitar

Rating

★★★★☆

Release Date

Oct 30, 2007

Label

MVD Visual

Type

Video

Genre

Jazz **Styles**
Swing
Continental Jazz
Gypsy

Moods

Carefree
Whimsical
Stylish
Exuberant
Cheerful
Refined/
Mannered
Rollicking
Sweet
Fun
Delicate
Lively
Elegant

Review

by [Richie Unterberger](#)

Django Reinhardt was a major figure in jazz music, with a life that was very unusual and interesting. That would seem enough of a basis for an interesting documentary about his life, but this nearly two-hour DVD is far from satisfying. Many of the problems, frankly, are logistical: there's nothing in the way of vintage Reinhardt footage, and the narration is substandard in both sound quality and its stiff delivery, which borders on the unprofessional. And flaws in voice-over narration are a big problem in a documentary such as this one that relies upon it to deliver most of the information, vintage footage and talking heads being absent. At least many actual Reinhardt recordings are used on the soundtrack and discussed in detail. But in the absence of other visual stimuli, the accompanying graphics are merely cheap miniaturized facsimiles of early- to mid-20th century buildings and vehicles, close-up sequences of a hand on a guitar furiously mimicking Reinhardt's style, pictures and brief film clips of a few neighborhoods in which Reinhardt lived and worked, and a few old photos of Reinhardt and his accompanists (most notably [Stéphane Grappelli](#)). Making it worse rather than better are numerous attempts to spice up the graphics by using dizzily rotating, spiraling, and flipping dissolves and images, many of which repeatedly show the same photo or guitar ad nauseum. The result is a film that's hard to retain concentration upon for its duration, such is the distastefully haphazard combination of tough-to-follow narration, seasickness-inducing visual effects, and sequences that are obviously stretched out beyond their natural limit in order to accommodate the Reinhardt records playing on the soundtrack. Through recordings and narration, the documentary *does* deliver the essential details of the guitarist's life, including his gypsy background, his impact upon American jazzmen like [Duke Ellington](#), the unusual technique he devised using his only two mobile left-handed fingers, and his work with the [Quintet of the Hot Club of France](#). You'd be better advised, however, to read a good Reinhardt biography with the musician's recordings playing in the background. Minimal extras include a discography of five recommended Reinhardt albums and a (printed) discussion of Macaferri and Selmer model guitars.

Tracks

	Title	Composer	Time
1	Mystery Paris [DVD]		
2	Musette Folie [DVD]		
3	Presentation Stomp [DVD]		
4	Tiger Rag [DVD]		
5	I Saw Stars [DVD]		
6	Confessin' Solitude [DVD]		
7	Charleston [DVD]		
8	In a Sentimental Mood [DVD]		
9	Honeysuckle Rose [DVD]		
10	Limehouse Blues Swing 39 [DVD]		
11	Dwe Gitari [DVD]		
12	Twelfth Year [DVD]		
13	Solo Flight [DVD]		
14	Lisa [DVD]		
15	Lovers Melody [DVD]		
16	Nuages [DVD]		
17	How High Is the Moon [DVD]		
18	Swing 6 [DVD]		

Refinance Your Home



\$400,000 for \$2,178/month*

\$300,000 for \$1,633/month*

\$200,000 for \$1,089/month*

*TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

START NOW

LendingTree
WHEN BANKS COMPETE. YOU WIN.

Sophisticated	19	Improvisation, No. 2 [DVD]
Amiable/ Good-Natured	20	The Sheik of Araby [DVD]
Organic	21	When Day Is Done [DVD]

Witty
Playful
Bittersweet
Freewheeling
Energetic

Releases

Year	Type	Label	Catalog #
2007	DVD	MVD Visual	6949
2007	DVD	Quantum Leap	6949

AMG Album ID

R 1206116

Corrections to this Entry?

[About Us](#) | [Site Guide](#) | [Top Searches](#) | [Contact](#) | [Employment](#) | [Product Submissions](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Copyright Policy](#) | [Help Center](#)
 © 2008 Macrovision Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

