

NILS LOFGREN



photo by Danny Clinch

PRESS AND MEDIA INFORMATION KIT

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NILS LOFGREN



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Born June 21, 1951

Turned professional at 17.

Began early recordings with various bands including Crystal Mesh, The Shot, Paul Dowell & The Dolphin. Joined **NEIL YOUNG** at age 18 to play piano, guitar and sing on the acclaimed platinum album **"After The Gold Rush"**. Continued recording career with the band **GRIN** in 1971 with the release of the self-titled **"GRIN"** album on Spindizzy/Columbia. Followed in 1972 with the second release by Grin entitled **"1 + 1"**, which included the top 40 hit **"White Lies"**.

1971 -1974 - Recorded four albums with GRIN.

1972- joined **CRAZY HORSE** to record classic first album, the only one with Danny Whitten.

1973 - Played on **NEIL YOUNG's "TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT"** album released in 1973. Toured extensively throughout the world with Neil to promote the album.

1975 - Began recording as a solo artist for A&M Records with the release of **"NILS LOFGREN"**. This album featured the songs **"Back It Up"** and **"Keith Don't Go"**.

1976 - Released **"CRY TOUGH"** on A&M Records.

1977 - Released **"I CAME TO DANCE"**. Toured worldwide throughout 1976 and 1977.

1978 - Released the Double Live Album **"NIGHT AFTER NIGHT"**.

1979 - Released **"NILS"** solo album, which contained the European top 40 hit **"Shine Silently"**.

1981 - Released **"NIGHT FADES AWAY"** on MCA Records. Subsequent world tour followed.

1983 - Played on **NEIL YOUNG's "TRANS"** album released in 1983. Did the world tour with Neil for "TRANS" and appeared on the video movie made of the tour, titled **"Berlin"**. Released **"WONDERLAND"** on MCA Records.

1984 - Joined **BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN'S E STREET BAND** as guitarist in May. Played over 150 shows worldwide on the BORN IN THE USA Tour.

1985 - Released the solo album **"FLIP"** on Columbia Records, which contained

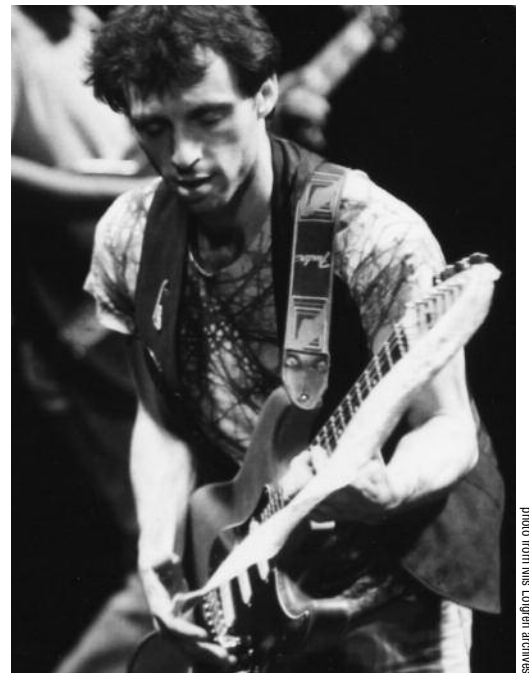


photo from Nils Lofgren archives



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the Top 40 European hit "**Secrets In The Street**". Video for the single was aired on MTV and VH-1.

1988 - "**TUNNEL OF LOVE**" album released. Played on the "TUNNEL OF LOVE" and "AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL" world tours with BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN. Recorded the "**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN LIVE**" album and appeared in numerous Springsteen videos. Currently guitarist in the **E STREET BAND**.

1989 - Joined **RINGO STARR'S ALL STARR BAND** for the World Tour and resulting live album and video.

1991 - Released the album "**SILVER LINING**" on Rykodisc during 1991. Included the Top 40 AOR Track "**Valentine**". Appeared on THE TONITE SHOW, DAVID LETTERMAN, and MTV. Played over 100 shows in 12 countries during

1991.1992 - Released "**CROOKED LINE**" album on Rykodisc. Contained the song "**Blue Skies**", associated video was produced and aired on VH-1. Joined **RINGO STARR and THE ALL STARR BAND** for 1992 Second World Tour. Live album released during fall of 1993.

1993 - Played with **NEIL YOUNG** on the **MTV UNPLUGGED SPECIAL**, February 1993, which was shown throughout the world, and subsequently released as a live CD in the summer. CD achieved platinum status. Recorded soundtrack for the movie "**EVERYBREATH**." Played on the PBS Special **THE BEATLES SONGBOOK** which also featured Dr. John, Los Lobos and Cathy Mattea. Recorded in January 1993. Recorded with **BRANFORD MARSALIS** in July for Branford's 1994 release entitled "**BUCKSHOT LeFONQUE**" on Columbia Records.



photo by Danny Clinch



photo by Keith Curtis

1994 - Released soundtrack CD for the movie "**EVERY BREATH**" in February on Stampede Records. Movie released in June 1994 on Columbia/Tristar. Musical Director for ABC's **PAULA POUNDSTONE SHOW** in early 1990's. Played with **CAB CALLOWAY**.

1991-1996 - Musical Director for the **CABLE ACE AWARDS**

1995 - Released "**DAMAGED GOODS**" on Pure Records

1997 - Released "**ACOUSTIC LIVE**" on Capitol Records, Right Stuff Label

1997-1999 - Continued extensive acoustic and electric tours

1999-2000 - World Tour with **BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN AND**

NILS LOFGREN



THE E STREET BAND, appeared on HBO Special recorded during the tour. Double CD, Video and DVD released 2001.

2001 - (April) Song "**Black Books**" from "**ACOUSTIC LIVE**" album appears in HBO hit show THE SOPRANOS.

"**BREAK AWAY ANGEL**" released on Vision Music in 2001. An extension of "*Acoustic Live*", this CD was recorded mostly live in the studio and features improvisational acoustic leads over unusual harp as thematic rhythm instrument. Also features Lee Sklar and Wade Matthews on bass and Timm Biery and Mike Botts on drums.



photo by Danny Clinch

2002 - Recorded "**THE RISING**" with **BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN and the E STREET BAND**, followed by a long World Tour. Nils becomes more versatile swing man, playing pedal steel, dobro, bottleneck, lap steel and 6-string banjo on stage. Tour ends in October of 2003.



photo by FOTEX Rainer Drechsler

2004 - Recorded "**23rd STREET LULLABY**" with **PATTI SCIALFA**. Player for promo tour and 3 week U.S. Tour with Patti's band.

2005 - Appeared as guitarist with **WILLIE NELSON** at KENNEDY CENTER HONORS in December

2006 - Released solo CD "**SACRED WEAPON**" featuring Kevin McCormick on bass and Timm Biery on drums. Also, duets and vocal performances by Willie Nelson, Graham Nash, David Crosby, Martin Sexton, Margo Reed, Mary Ann Redmond, Tom Lepson, Bob Berberich and the Lofgren Brothers.

DVD Release "**NILS LOFGREN & FRIENDS LIVE ACOUSTIC**" recorded at the Birchmere in Alexandria, VA with special guest appearances by the Lofgren Bros., Mary Ann Redmond, Bob Berberich, Jeff "Skunk" Baxter, Paul Bell & Buck Brown.

REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS



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www.hittinthenote.com

Nils Lofgren: A Six-String Journey

by Mark Squirek

Talking about his latest CD, *Sacred Weapon*, Nils Lofgren says, "I played Neil's [Young] Martin D-18 on "Tell Me Why"—it was a gift from Neil. We used it on every track on *Sacred*. We used a lot of special guitars this time."

Every guitar Nils Lofgren touches becomes a special guitar: Listen to the echoes of Jeff Beck in his pyrotechnic solo on "Youngstown" from the 2001 Bruce Springsteen and the E-Street Band Live in New York City CD. Or take the complex, multi-rhythm finger-picking on Lofgren's *Acoustic Live* release. His work on that CD rivals Richard Thompson for clarity and inventiveness. Lofgren is about the best guitarists on the planet.

Lofgren also writes wonderful, multi-layered songs that seem to get left in the wake of what he brings to other musician's work. Every single one of his releases, right up to *Sacred Weapon*, contains some musical gems...

Daily Echo, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2006

www.bournemouthecho.co.uk

ENTERTAINMENT

by Jeremy Miles



Blazing music comes on tap

Nils Lofgren at the Brook, Southampton

by Neal Butterworth

Just when you thought you'd seen everything from rock legend Nils Lofgren, he manages to pull another rabbit from his hat.

This year's big surprise come in the shape of Greg Varlotta, a multi-instrumentalist more used to entertaining the crowds at Disneyland in a trad jazz band, but who added yet another dimension to a quite remarkable show by guitar virtuoso Nils.

The 55-year old may be used to sold-out arenas and stadiums in his other life as one of Bruce Springsteen's E Street team, but you sense he just live and breathes nights like this.

This was a night when two fine musicians from completely different ends of the musical street combined to provide entertainment of the highest quality.

With barely room to swing the smallest air guitar, a packed Brook was enthralled by more than two hours of sweat, commitment and quite breathtaking playin from a man who celebrates 38 years on the road this year.

Bar-style venues can sometimes hamstring intimate

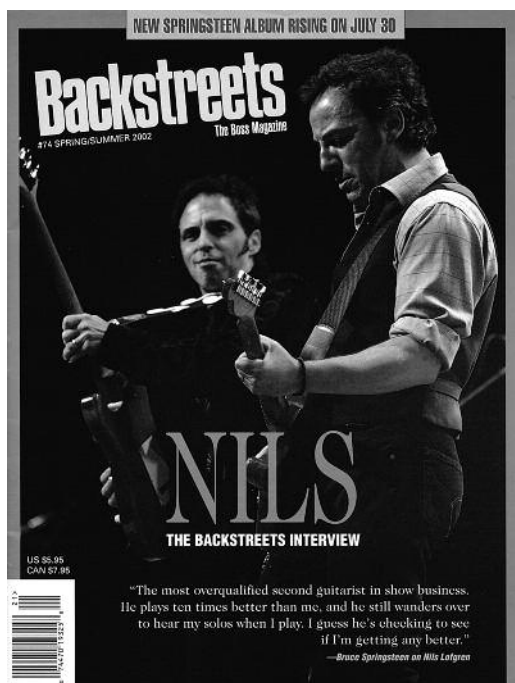
acoustic shows, but this was all about respect as Nils warmed up on his own at the start, picking his way through a handful of favourites like "You," "Blue Skies," and "Girl in Motion," along with solid versions of tracks from his excellent new album *Sacred Weapon*.

He then introduced Varlotta, who proceeded to startle the packed crowd with some stunning trumpet playing and, on a gob-smacking "I Came To Dance," a bout of tap dancing as well as keyboards and guitar.

Superb versions of "Black Books," "I Found You," and "Like Rain," as well as singalong versions of "Pay Your Woman" and "Mud in Your Eye," paved the way for Nils plugging in the Stratocaster for a blazing version of Springsteen's "Because the Night," before closing with "Shine Silently."

The many who queued to shake his hand and have their CDs signed afterwards can only hope he maintains his current habit of an annual visit to these shores, because he just keeps getting better.

REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS



Backstreets Issue No.74, 2002
www.backstreets.com
15 page interview

GUITAR MAN

The Nils Lofgren Interview

by Christopher Phillips

When Nils Lofgren joined the E Street Band in 1984, he had big shoes to fill. Miami Steve had departed to devote his attention to a solo career as Little Steven. No one could replace the personality, but Lofgren had an intuitive ear and skills as a guitar player that jelled quickly with Springsteen's sound.

If Nils Lofgren embodies just one characteristic of the E Street Band, it's preparedness. Lofgren still spends a great deal of time and energy getting ready not only for a tour, but also for each evening's performance. How do you get from Neil Young to Bruce Springsteen and back? And back again? In a word, practice.

The guitarist also carved his own niche as a singer, songwriter, and bandleader. Lofgren turned professional in 1968, playing in bands like the Dolphin and joining Neil Young's band at the age of 17. You'd need four hands to count the number of records to his name, beginning with his band, Grin, in 1971, and as a solo artist from 1975 on. But good luck finding many of them; labels still own the rights, and many decline to put them back in print. Today, he releases his new music himself, unencumbered by the rigamarole of the music business...

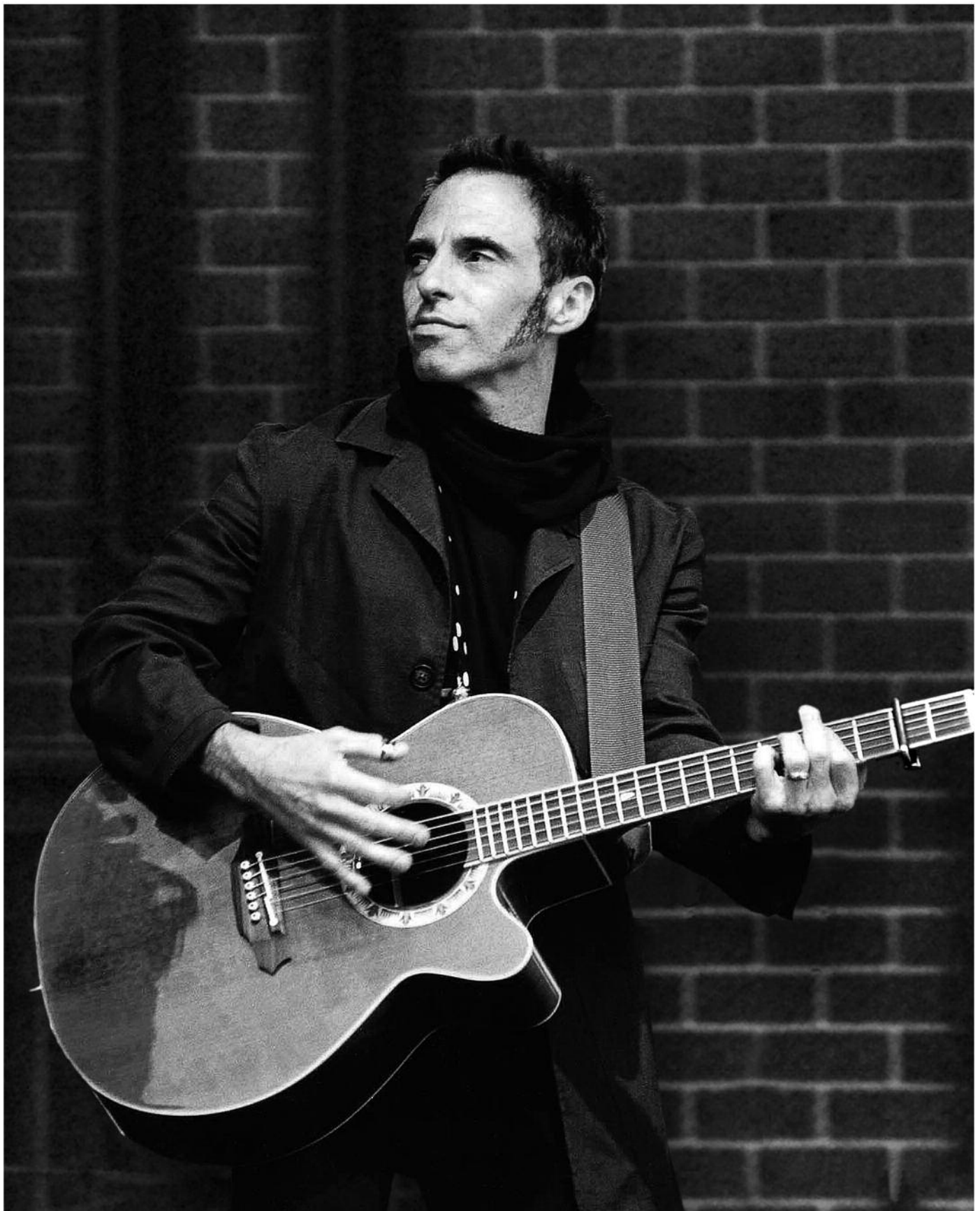


photo by Jan M. Lundahl, LundahlsFoto.com

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