



Media Information

Updated June 1st, 2009

Six String Nation is the spirit of a country embodied in a single guitar.

Canada. Its diversity of geographies, histories, mythologies, languages, literature, art, food, sport and industry all find a place in the body of the Six String Nation guitar, in the music coaxed from its strings by those who play it and in the imagination of all who encounter it.

The guitar is made from 63 items of real Canadian history and heritage in wood, bone, metal and stone representing different cultures, communities and characters from every province and territory of the country. A handful of additional pieces adorn the guitar strap and the interior of the case. Each piece tells a specific story.

Eleven years after its conception, the guitar made its official debut on Canada Day, July 1, 2006, on Parliament Hill in Ottawa in the hands of Stephen Fearing, Joel Fafard, Colin Linden, Tom Wilson, Mighty Popo, La Volée d'Castors, Michel Pagliaro, Jean-François Breau, Kyle Riabko, Aselin Debison and Stars. Since then, it has traveled more than 200,000km across Canada, been played by hundreds of different musicians and been held by thousands of Canadians – pros, amateurs and posers alike – at festivals, concerts, schools and community events.

In February 2008, at a press conference to launch the 39th Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg-St.Boniface, MB, the Six String Nation guitar was officially given the nickname suggested by contest entrant Lt. Col. Susan Beharriell of the Canadian Armed Forces: *Voyageur*.

The ongoing mission of *Voyageur* and the Six String Nation project is to encourage Canadians to tell the story of Canada from a multitude of perspectives, to know and embrace our diversity as a kind of commonality and to celebrate the power of music – a language that Canada speaks better than just about anyone in the world.

The portrait component of Six String Nation is arguably Canada's most ambitious photo project. By the end of 2009, we expect to have taken more than 50,000 portraits of nearly 10,000 different people with *Voyageur* at festivals and other events nation-wide.

Portrait sessions are free to the public and photos are distributed to subjects electronically by email.

All portraits are by Doug Nicholson unless otherwise indicated.



Whose idea was this project?

The project was conceived by writer and broadcaster Jowi Taylor. Development of the idea proceeded with consultation over many years from George Rizsanyi, staff and residents at the Banff New Media Institute and countless friends, artists, researchers and community members from across the country.

Who actually built the guitar?

Construction was by luthier George Rizsanyi in Pinehurst, Nova Scotia with assistance from his students and shop staff. The inlay work on the fretboard was done by Sara Nasr.

How long did the project take to do?

Jowi conceived the project in 1995 and spent several years doing research, community consultation, fundraising and project planning. Several key materials were in hand by 2004 but most of the pieces were gathered in 6-8 months starting in the fall of 2005. Construction officially began on April 30, 2006 and was complete on June 15, 2006.

Who was the first person to play the guitar?

The day after the guitar was completed, musicians Roger Howse and Dave MacIsaac visited Pinehurst to test the guitar. On Canada Day 2006, Joel Fafard played it at a sponsors' breakfast. That afternoon, at a songwriter's workshop in Major's Hill Park where it was played by all participants, Jowi first handed the guitar to childhood schoolmate Colin Linden. However, the first person to play the guitar after the official unveiling on the Parliament Hill stage that evening was guitarist Stephen Fearing, who performed his song, "The Longest Road".

How is the project funded?

Initiation of practical work on the construction of the guitar was spurred by an invitation from the National Capital Commission. The guitar would not have been built and video documentation would not have been possible without major gifts from Research In Motion and Westerkirk Capital. Appearances at events are supported by festival, school and conference hosts with occasional support from sponsors and donations from the public. Air Canada provides some support for air travel. There was no government support for the creation of the guitar or most of its travels. Specific sponsors are acknowledged online.





Contacts and Links

Updated June 1st, 2009

Contacts

Jowi Taylor is the founder and conceiver of Six String Nation and the ongoing producer of all aspects of the project. Please note that while George Rizsanyi was the luthier commissioned to build *Voyageur*, he has no ongoing relationship with Six String Nation Inc. and has, at various times, specifically asked to be disassociated from the project.

All English-language media enquiries regarding any aspect of the project, its history or ongoing activities should be directed to Jowi Taylor.

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Mail: Six String Nation Inc.

8 – 345 Sorauren Ave., Toronto ON, M6R 2G5

All French-language media enquiries should be directed to Gabriel Dube.

Phone: 416.986.1252 Email: gabriel@NationSixCordes.com

Enquires specific to the Six String Nation book should be directed to Corina Eberle at Douglas & McIntyre Publishers:

Phone: 416.537.2501 Email: corinae@dmpibooks.com

Links

<http://www.sixstringnation.com>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/sixstringnation/sets/>

<http://www.youtube.com/sixstringnationTV>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Six-String-Nation/95640186018?ref=ts>

<http://www.myspace.com/sixstringnation>

<http://www.twitter.com/sixstringnation>

<http://www.dmpibooks.com/book/9781553653936>

<http://www.mint.ca/store/coin/50cent-triangle-coin-six-string-nation-guitar-2009-prod620001?pCatId=cat120010>



Component Materials

Listed by Location of Origin

ALBERTA

Drumheller John Ware's Cabin.



Alberta's first black cowboy, respected entrepreneur, pioneer and rancher. Born into slavery in South Carolina c. 1845, he died a legend on September 12, 1905 - 12 days after Alberta became a province of Canada.

Courtesy of Dinosaur Provincial Park

Edmonton Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry tile



Founded with a gift from Captain Andrew Hamilton Gault in 1914, the regiment is one of the most decorated in the Canadian Forces, serving in Europe in both World Wars, in Korea, the former Yugoslavia and currently in Afghanistan. This piece is not actually in the guitar itself but situated on the strap that holds the guitar.

Courtesy of PPCLI with special help from Lynn Bullock

Edmonton Wayne Gretzky's Hockey Stick



Originally from Brantford ON, "the Great One" played briefly for the Indianapolis Racers of the WHA before signing with the Edmonton Oilers, the team most closely associated with his career. He subsequently played for the L.A. Kings, St. Louis Blues and New York Rangers before assuming coaching and managerial roles with Team Canada and the Phoenix Coyotes. His number 99 is the only number ever to have been retired for all teams.

Courtesy of Wayne Gretzky

Hand Hills Lake Stampede Dance Hall floor board



Started as a Red Cross fundraising event in 1917 by Jack "J.J." Miller, the Hand Hills Lake Stampede is Alberta's longest continuously running annual rodeo.

Courtesy of Blake Morton

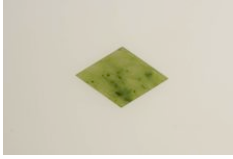
Standoff, Kainah First Nation Ammolite



Extremely rare, Ammolite is found only in parts of Alberta and North Dakota. This piece was carved for us by members of the Blood tribe in the shape of their emblem, the buffalo skull.

Courtesy of Rick Tailfeathers and the Kainah First Nation

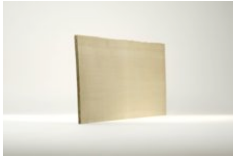
BRITISH COLUMBIA



Near Dease Lake Nephrite Jade

Especially prized in markets in China, Nephrite Jade is the official gemstone of the province of British Columbia. Located near the Alaska border, the Jade West mine is only accessible a few months each year.

Courtesy of Kirk Makepeace, Jade West



Near Port Clements, Haida Gwaii The Legendary Golden Spruce

The only wood ever taken from the legendary albino sitka spruce tree known as Kiidk'yaas, or "The Golden Spruce". A natural wonder, sacred to the Haida people, the tree was dealt a fatal cut by a misguided logging protester on January 22nd, 1997 and remained untouched until the cut for this project on February 22nd, 2006.

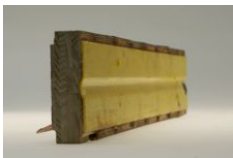
Courtesy of the Haida community with special thanks to Leo Gagnon, Frank Collison and, Guujaaw. Thanks also to Dr. David Suzuki, Elois Yaxley and David Phillips.



Richmond Red Cedar from Jack Uppal's Goldwood Mill

Jack arrived in Vancouver as a 1-year-old from India in 1926. Sikhs faced a great deal of discrimination in Canada (including the infamous Komagata Maru incident) but Jack was one of the first Sikhs to enter the Vancouver public school system. Like many Sikhs, he found work in the timber industry and soon became the first Sikh to own his own timber mill.

Courtesy of Jack Uppal



Rossland Nancy Greene's Ski

In 1968, Nancy Greene won gold (giant slalom) and silver (slalom) at the Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble, France. That added to her record number of World Cup victories and made her the most decorated ski racer in Canadian history as well as Canada's Female Athlete of the 20th Century. She currently runs the Sun Peaks Resort north of Kamloops, BC and was appointed to the Canadian Senate in 2008.

Courtesy of Nancy Greene-Raine with help from John Greene

BRITISH COLUMBIA *continued*

Sidney DHC-2 Beaver Bush Plane door trim

The first flight of a de Havilland Beaver was by flying ace Russ Bannock on August 16th, 1947. The plane was built to work in the conditions of the Canadian north - including short take-off and landing capability and a flexible design to accommodate wheels, floats or skis as landing gear. Production ceased in 1967 after building 1,657 aircraft but the original designs have been revived by Viking Air of Victoria, BC for a new generation of Beaver bush planes.

Courtesy of David Curtis, Viking Air



Victoria Door arch from Fan Tan Alley

Fan Tan Alley was at the heart of Canada's first Chinatown district. The area was known as a gambler's haven frequented by single male Chinese workers who were forbidden to bring wives or families from China according to Canadian law at the time. The alley was subject to frequent police raids.

Courtesy of Dr. David C. Lai with help from Charlayne Thornton-Joe



MANITOBA

Gardenton St. Michael's Orthodox Ukrainian Church

Completed in 1899, St. Michael's is the oldest Orthodox Ukrainian Church in Canada and the heart of the Western Canada's Ukrainian population.

Courtesy of Gerard Machnee



Gimli Lake Winnipeg Lucky Stone

These donut-shaped stones are a natural formation found on the shores of Lake Winnipeg at Gimli, home of the largest Icelandic population outside of Iceland and of the world-famous Crown Royal whiskey.

Courtesy of David Arnason with help from Katrina Anderson



Winnipeg-St. Boniface St. Boniface Museum Spalted Oak

Built as the convent of the Grey Nuns of Montreal in 1846, the museum is Winnipeg's oldest building and the largest oak timber frame building in North America. It has served as a convent, orphanage, hospital, senior's home and school. Louis Riel – the Metis leader and Father of Manitoba – briefly went to school there where his sister was also a novice.

Courtesy of Philippe Mailhot and the St. Boniface Museum



NEW BRUNSWICK



Atholville French Frigate, the *Machault*

Sent from France during the Seven Years War, the *Machault* was scuttled near the end of the war in July 1760 in the Restigouche River near the border of Quebec and New Brunswick in a battle with British ships. Remnants were unearthed during excavation for a mill site in the 1970's.

Courtesy of Allan Muzzerall



Hartland World's Longest Covered Bridge

The bridge crosses the St. John River from Hartland to Somerville NB, measuring 390 metres. It was built uncovered in 1901 and covered during repairs in 1922. A side walkway was added in 1945.

Courtesy of Hartland NB

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Cape Race Lighthouse Motor Cabinet



The first lighthouse on the site was built by the British in 1856 and became part of Canada long before Newfoundland joined Confederation. The present lighthouse was built in 1907 where this piece was taken from the cabinet that houses the motor that drives the revolving fresnel lenses. The adjacent Marconi wireless station was one of two land-based locations to receive the first distress signals from the RMS *Titanic* on April 14th, 1912.

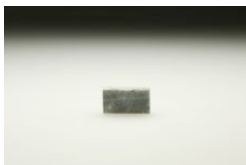
Courtesy of David and Noel Myrick with help from Sam Whiffen at DFO.



Conception Bay Red Ochre Pigment

The now-extinct Beothuk people were the original inhabitants of Newfoundland. Their practice of treating their skin with red ochre, a natural pigment made from hydrated iron oxide clay, led early European explorers to call them "Red Indians".

Courtesy of Tim Rast



Nain Labradorite

Labradorite is an iridescent blue feldspar mineral found abundantly on Paul's Island, near Nain. Inuit legend holds the northern lights were once trapped in the stone until freed by a hunter. The blue remained.

Courtesy of Henry Lyall with help from Chris Kearney

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR *continued*

Twillingate **Drawer from the *Christmas Seal***



Built as U.S. Navy torpedo boat PT107, she was purchased by the Newfoundland Tuberculosis association and converted into a floating X-ray clinic serving multiple outport communities in Newfoundland and Labrador under the captainship of Peter Troake. She sank outside Halifax Harbour in 1976 after hitting a reef.

Courtesy of Bud Thomas with help from Herb Davis

NOVA SCOTIA

Halifax **Rafter from Pier 21**



From 1928 to 1971, this port terminal building was the primary point of entry for over 1,000,000 immigrants to Canada. It also welcomed 100,000 refugees, 50,000 war brides, their 22,000 children and 3,000 evacuated British children escaping World War II. It was also the departure point for thousands of Canadian soldiers heading off to war. It is now a museum.

Courtesy of Pier 21 with help from Carrie-Anne Smith and Vice Admiral Duncan Miller

Lunenburg **Decking from the *Bluenose II***



Launched in 1963, the ship was built partly from material on hand to repair Canada's most famous racing schooner, Bluenose I, until it sank off a reef in Haiti in 1946.

Courtesy of Lex McKay, Senator Wilfred Moore and the now defunct Bluenose Preservation Trust

Lunenburg **Pew from St. John's Anglican Church**



Built in 1754 in the Carpenter Gothic style and expanded in 1892, the building was nearly destroyed by fire set by vandals in the early hours of November 1, 2001. The church restored by 2004.

Courtesy of St. John's Anglican

Sydney, Cape Breton **Steel Rail**



A sample of the work of Sydney Steel, the controversial but once thriving heart of the steel and coal industry in this part of Nova Scotia

Courtesy of Carolee Boutilier

NOVA SCOTIA *continued*



Westphal The Nova Scotia Home for Coloured Children

The orphanage was established in the early 1900's by James Robinson Johnstone - Nova Scotia's first black lawyer, who was murdered in 1915. It continued to operate as a social agency until the 1980's.

Courtesy of Delvina Bernard

NUNAVUT



Cambridge Bay Muskox Horn

Muskoxen are more closely related to sheep and goats than to oxen. They are native to arctic lands in Canada, Greenland and Alaska. They once veered on the edge of extinction but have come back through conservation and re-introduction programs.

Courtesy of Suzanne Evaloardjuk with help from Bert Cervo



Iqaluit Whale Baleen

Rather than teeth, some whales have baleen - by means of which they filter and eat their food. The baleen is used in Inuit craft but was also common in corsets, umbrellas and other European items in recent centuries.

Courtesy of Suzanne Evaloardjuk with help from Bert Cervo

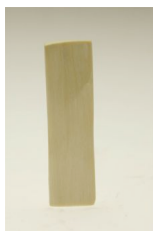


Rankin Inlet Walrus

Like the muskox, walrus populations were in rapid decline as a result of commercial exploitation in the 19th and early 20th centuries. They remained an important part of indigenous Arctic cultural life as a source of food, oil, skins and ivory and have since seen a rebound in populations.

Courtesy of Brian Hart

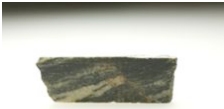
NORTH WEST TERRITORIES



Fort Smith Mammoth Ivory

Preserved well across a broad range of the arctic, the tusks of the mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) – believed to be extinct for some 10,000 years – comprise the only source consistently high quality, carvable ivory, such as this piece used by master carver Sonny MacDonald.

Courtesy of Sonny MacDonald



Great Bear Lake **Acasta Gneiss**

Although facing recent challenges from Labrador, Nunavik and Australia, this is disputably the oldest known rock in the world, estimated at 4.03 billion years old. It is also part of the Territorial Sceptre, used in the NWT Legislature.

Courtesy of Peter Skinner with help from Bert Cervo



Yellowknife **The Wildcat Cafe**

Built in 1937, it is the oldest original building in Yellowknife. While it has gone through several incarnations over the years, it still operates as a restaurant today. A full scale replica of the cafe can also be found at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Hull, PQ.

Courtesy of Peter Skinner with help from Bert Cervo

ONTARIO



Almonte **James Naismith's House**

Born in 1861, Naismith was a star athlete at McGill University in Montreal before moving to the U.S. to teach. There, inspired by a childhood game called "Duck on a Rock" he introduced basketball on December 14th, 1891. Twelve of his original thirteen rules are still in use today.

Courtesy of Rick Edwards



Cobalt **Silver from the Beaver Mine**

According to legend a blacksmith named Fred LaRose threw his hammer at a fox in 1903, accidentally uncovering the world's richest vein of silver. By 1904 Cobalt was a boom town and remained so until the stock market crash of 1929, generating more wealth than the Klondike. In 2001, Cobalt was named "Ontario's Most Historic Town" by a panel of judges on TVOntario's 'Studio2' for its role in determining Ontario's history and economy.

Courtesy of Armand Cote with help from Helen Culhane and Charlie Angus



Niagara Falls **Maid of the Mist II Wooden Nickel**

Starting in 1854, the *Maid of the Mist* carried tourists to the base of the Bridal Veil and Horseshoe sides of Niagara Falls. In the spring of 1955, *Maid of the Mist* numbers 2 and 3 burned in dry-dock during maintenance. Enough wood was salvaged from *MMII* to make 38,000 wooden nickels, which were sold to raise funds for the next *Maid of the Mist*.

Courtesy of Tim Ruddy, Maid of the Mist

ONTARIO *continued*



Ottawa Library of Parliament Copper Roofing

Opened in 1876, it is the only original building on Parliament Hill to survive the great fire of 1916. Recently refurbished (including a new copper roof) the Library is featured on the obverse of the ten dollar bill.

Courtesy of the Library of Parliament with help from Susan Murray



Ottawa Centre Block Oak Door Frame

Ottawa was selected by Queen Victoria as the capital city of the Province of Canada in 1857. The Parliament buildings were completed by 1876 but were destroyed by fire in 1916. The new Parliament buildings were completed in 1927. This piece is taken from near the Prime Minister's office. The main entrance to the Centre Block is featured on the obverse of the Canadian twenty-dollar bill.

Courtesy of Public Works and Government Services Canada with special thanks to Brian Cooke



Ottawa Sir John A. Macdonald's Sideboard

Canada's first Prime Minister, Sir John A. Macdonald, kept this furniture in his Centre Block office. It was ultimately moved to Parliament Hill's East Block, where it now resides in the office of Senator Consiglio DiNino.

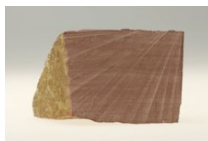
Courtesy of Gerald Keddy (MP) and Senator DiNino



Pic River First Nation Moose Antler

A popular material for carving among the Ojibway people. Pic River sits at an important junction for travellers and traders on Lake Superior. It was the site of a Hudson's Bay trading post from 1821 to 1888.

Courtesy of Eva Couchie with help from Sid Bobb



Pic River First Nation Pipe Stone

"Pipe stone" does not refer to any particular kind of stone but rather one of several types of stone suitable for the making of ceremonial tobacco pipes.

Courtesy of Eva Couchie with help from Sid Bobb



Sudbury Nickel Ingots from Vale-Inco

Blasting for construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1883 revealed a rich source of nickel-copper ore and Sudbury ultimately became one of the world's great sources of nickel. It is the site of the world's largest coin - a stainless steel replica of a 1951 Canadian nickel.

Courtesy of Mia Boiridy and Jim Marchbank of Science North with help from Dennis Landry and Mike Large

ONTARIO *continued*

Thunder Bay Soup Paddle from the Hoito Restaurant



Famous for its pancakes and various Finnish specialties, the Hoito is Canada's longest continually run restaurant and an important anchor in the area's Finnish community. The restaurant was an affordable favourite for mill and forestry workers and is still run as a co-operative as it was since its founding in 1918 in the basement of the Finnish Labour Temple.

Courtesy of Arno Perna and the Hoito staff with thanks to Cynthia Kinnunen

Toronto Window Sash from Lawren Harris' Rosedale Studio



The famous Group of Seven painter commissioned the studio at 25 Severn St. in 1914 from American architect Eden Smith. It served as studio and living space for J.E.H. MacDonald, A.Y. Jackson, Frederick Varley and Tom Thomson. Other artists, such as Emily Carr and Harold Town, also held temporary residences there. Artist Gordon MacNamara bought the building from Harris in 1948 and bequeathed it to his adopted son, photographic artist James Mathias.

Courtesy of James Mathias

Toronto Paul Henderson's Hockey Stick from 1972 Summit Series



Not the stick used to score the famous goal but one of the hockey sticks used by Paul Henderson during the 1972 Canada-Russia Summit Series, perhaps the defining moment in Canada's relationship with its "national game". Henderson scored the winning goal of the series at 19:28 of the third period of the eighth and final game of the series on September 28th, 1972.

Courtesy of Paul Henderson with help from Marvin Goldblatt

Toronto Seat from Massey Hall



Seat number 69 from the Gallery section of the "Grand Old Lady of Shuter St." The Hall was built in 1894 and has at one time or another hosted everything from union meetings and boxing matches to performances by Enrico Caruso, Glenn Gould, Neil Young and the Arcade Fire and speeches by everyone from Winston Churchill to the Dalai Lama.

Courtesy of Roy Thomson & Massey Hall with help from Charlie Cutts, Jesse Kumagai and Douglas Gardner

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND



Cavendish Lucy Maud Montgomery Residence

Wood from the house where "Green Gables" author Lucy Maud Montgomery lived with her grandparents, from which they also ran the local post office. Lucy worked there too and would intercept the rejection notices from publishers for her writing until a positive response finally came from a Boston publishing house and a legend was born.

Courtesy of John and Jenny MacNeil



Charlottetown Salvage from J.R.'s Bar

Johnnie Reid was the son of Lebanese immigrants. He opened J.R.'s as a lunch counter in 1967 but it eventually became a bar and an important stop for musicians on the Atlantic club circuit. Many greats played here but it is most famous for performances by Anne Murray, Stompin' Tom Connors and the first public performance of "Snowbird" by local songwriter Gene McLellan. The building was torn down by the City of Charlottetown in 1999.

Courtesy of Johnnie Reid



Lennox Island First Nation Joe Labobe's Champion Oyster Knife

Handle from the championship shucking knife of local Mi'kmaq hero and perennial Canadian oyster-shucking champion (who also came in second at the international championships in Galway, Ireland).

Courtesy of the Labobe Family with help from Rodney Clark



Pinette Tyler Aspin's "Canada Tree" Mallet

In June of 1997, Tyler Aspin commenced work on what would become a 35' tall, 2 tonne sculpture called the Canada Tree. Like The Six String Nation guitar, it was the manifestation of a belief in the power of the collective stories of the people and regions of Canada to say something about who we are as a people. Tyler died - apparently from a lightning strike - on August 17th, 2001 at his cottage in Quebec. He was 31 years old.

Courtesy of John and Linda Aspin



Rustico Doucet House

Wood from the house built in early Acadian vernacular style in 1768 by Jean Doucet and his wife, Marguerite Gaudet. It may be the oldest dwelling on all of PEI.

Courtesy of Bobby Doucet with help from Lennie Gallant

QUEBEC



Kuujuak, Nunavik Caribou Antler with Soapstone “rivets”

An ornamental ulu, or women’s knife, carved for the project by Inuit artist Charlene Watt.

Courtesy of Charlene Watt with thanks to Richard Murdoch at FCNQ and Elisapie Isaac



Montebello Baseboard from the Manoir Papineau

Built in 1850 on the Seigneurie granted to his father Joseph Papineu, the Manoir was an ongoing pre-occupation and eventually retreat for leader of the Patriote Movement, French-Canadian politician and early Quebec nationalist, Louis-Joseph Papineau. He died there on September 23rd, 1871.

Courtesy of Manoir Papineau, Parks Canada, with help from Joanne Beland



Montreal Fairmount Bakery Bagel Shibba

The long paddle used to carry bagels in and out of the brick ovens at the legendary Fairmount bakery – Montreal's first – founded by Isadore Shlafman in 1919 and moved to its current location on *rue* Fairmount in 1949.

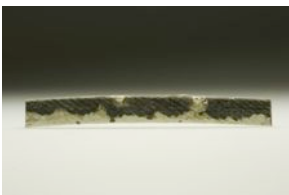
Courtesy of Irwin Shlafman



Montreal Maurice “Rocket” Richard’s 1955-56 Stanley Cup Ring

The ring commissioned by the Richard family on the occasion of the Habs’ Stanley Cup victory (with Maurice scoring the winning goal) against the Detroit Red Wings in place of the NHL's customary silver platters. This was in the year following the famous suspension of Richard and ensuing riots during the 1954-55 cup final. That series was also against Detroit.

Courtesy of Dave Treherne



Montreal Montreal Forum Seat

Piece from Seat 10 Row G Section 321 of the old Montreal Forum. It opened in 1924 as the home of the Montreal Maroons until their demise in 1938. From 1926 to 1996 it was home to the Montreal Canadiens. In all, it was home to 26 Stanley Cups - 2 for the Maroons, 24 for the Habs.

Courtesy of Bill Burke and Cathy Oliver



Montreal Pierre Trudeau’s Canoe Paddle

A canoe paddle belonging to Canada's charismatic and often controversial 15th and 17th Prime Minister, who was also renowned as a great outdoorsman and proponent of cross-Canada travel and adventure.

Courtesy of Justin Trudeau

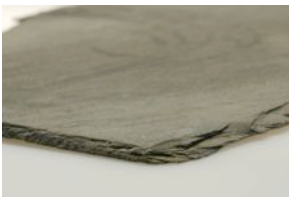
QUEBEC *continued*



Quebec City **Drapery Pin from Theatre Capitol**

Designed by American architect Walter S. Painter in the Beaux Arts style, the theatre is at the heart of the only urban district in North America designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Courtesy of Jean Pilotte and Sylvie Jacques, Theatre Capitol



St. Armand **Slate from Purported Slave Chapel**

During the Civil War, an American loyalist named Philip Luke crossed the border into what is now the Eastern Townships of Quebec with six slaves inherited from his mother. They remained slaves in this new land and they and others were buried in what is now private property in a plot called "Nigger Rock" next to a farmer's field. Although disputed, the building at the opposite side of the field from which this slate was taken is claimed by some to have been built by slaves as a small chapel.

Courtesy of Hank Avery

SASKATCHEWAN



One Arrow First Nation **Monument to "Almighty Voice"**

Also known as *Kisse-Manitou-Wayo* or *Shu-Kwe-weetam*, this young native man was killed in the last battle between natives and the Northwest Mounted Police on June 1, 1897 following a 19-month manhunt that resulted from the taking of a calf for food without "permission" from the local Indian Agent.

Courtesy of Brian Chipperfield and the One Arrow Band



Patuanak **Moose Shin**

Singer-songwriter Don Freed has worked for many years with the youth in this Dene community in northern Saskatchewan. Moose is a big part of life and culture in the community and Don insisted that it was a great material for instruments so we couldn't but take his recommendation.

Courtesy of Don Freed and the community of Patuanak



Veregin **Doukhor-built Grain Elevator**

The Doukhobors were a Christian pacifist sect from Russia under the leadership of Peter V. Veregin. Persecution by Czar Nicholas led to the exodus of about 7500 Doukhobors to Canada in 1899 with financial support from author Leo Tolstoy. The community ultimately split, with about 6000 relocating to British Columbia in 1907. This particular grain elevator, still standing, turned 100 years old in 2008.

Courtesy of Philip Perepelkin and the Doukhor community near Veregin.

YUKON TERRITORY

Dawson City **Jack London's Cabin Floor**



Home to American author Jack London ("Call of the Wild", "White Fang") in 1897. His time in the Yukon during the Gold Rush inspired many of his best loved stories. The main building of the cabin was relocated to his birthplace in California but the floor remained in Dawson where a replica was built.

Courtesy of Yukon Tourism and Culture with help from Mike Edwards

Dawson City / Pelly Crossing **van Bibber's Marten Hide Stretcher**



Part of the bush gear used by brothers J.J. and Patrick Van Bibber (sons of Yukon pioneers Ira and Eliza Van Bibber) in their trapping days. J.J. went on to become a celebrated photo-documentarian of life on the trap-lines.

Courtesy of J.J. and Patrick van Bibber with help from Mike Edwards

Dawson City / various **The Yukon Rose**



The *Rose* was a storied supply vessel instrumental in building the Alaska Highway, the land route that ultimately killed the riverboat trade. It is currently being refurbished in dry dock in Dawson City.

Courtesy of Marc Johnston

Placer Gold Claim **Mastadon Ivory**



Originally found on a Yukon gold mining claim, this piece passed through many hands before winding up in the guitar.

Courtesy of Russell and Katherine Gordon

Qikiqtaruk (Herschel Island) **Community House**



A winch cog from the whaling station at Herschel Island, which lies 5 km off the coast of the Yukon in the Beaufort Sea. Constructed in 1893, the house is the Yukon's oldest frame building and is still in excellent condition..

Courtesy of Doug Olynyk, Yukon Heritage Resource Unit

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Except for the Princess Patricia's shoulder tile, which appears on the strap, all of the above pieces comprise the total construction of the Six String Nation guitar. Many pieces are used in multiple locations within the construction.

The only items of the guitar not derived from these materials are the strap posts, frets and fret markers, which are standard metal pieces, and the machine heads, which were hand crafted by Nicolo Alessi in Varese, Italy.

IN THE CASE

The case was custom made for Six String Nation by Calton Cases in Calgary, Alberta. The company has since moved to Moncton New Brunswick. While no additional materials will be added to the guitar itself, several have been added to the case and further additions are being contemplated. Currently, the case contains the following materials as listed by location of origin:



Kingston ON Don Cherry's Pants

Cherry is the outspoken, occasionally outrageous and outlandishly-dressed hockey commentator and former coach and player. Best known for his flamboyant jackets and mile-high collars, this material is a pair of his trousers dating back to 1979, sewn into the case so as to resemble a miniature pair of pants or shorts.

Courtesy of Don and Cindy Cherry



Kleinberg ON Pierre Berton's Bow-Tie

The bow-tie was a sartorial trademark of late historian and broadcaster. Born in Dawson City, Yukon in 1920, he was the author of fifty books, most on various aspects of Canadian history. He died November 30th, 2004 in Toronto.

Courtesy of Peggy-Ann and Patsy Berton with help from Rico Gerussi

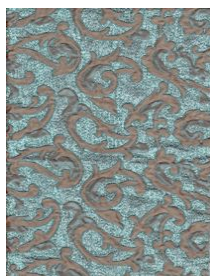


Stratford ON Original Shakespeare Festival Tent

When Sir Alec Guinness spoke the first lines of the first play produced by Ontario's Stratford Theatre Festival on July 13th, 1953 ("Now is the winter of our discontent / Made glorious summer by this son of York."), the venue was a humble canvas tent., from which this small strip was taken.

The tent was replaced by the current permanent facility in 1957.

Courtesy of Michael Langham, Don Shipley and the Stratford Theatre Festival with help from John A. Miller



Toronto ON Karen Kain's *Sleeping Beauty* Costume

Kain's *pas de deux* with Frank Augustyn from the National Ballet of Canada's production of *Sleeping Beauty* won them a silver medal at the 1972 International Ballet Competition in Moscow, cementing their dance partnership and making them household names in Canada. This is a piece of her "Bluebird" costume from that ballet.

Courtesy of Karen Kain and the National Ballet of Canada Archives with help from Pam Steele and Susan Rutledge