

Guitar Player Wanted Vocals a Plus

By: Dr. Matt Warnock



If you've ever run across a situation in your amateur or professional career as a guitarist where vocals were needed for a gig but you didn't quite feel up to snuff to take the job, then *Guitar Player Wanted Vocals a Plus* just might be the instructional package you've been looking for. The book-CD-DVD package provides in depth explanations and dozens of practical exercises geared towards taking guitarists of any level and turning them into singer-performers. These exercises are not going to instantly transform anyone into the next Neil Young or Joni Mitchell, but they will provide a solid foundation from which to develop proper and healthy vocal techniques.

The DVD is the main source of info in the three-pronged package, with the book essentially being a word-for-word textual guide to what is being said on screen. As well, the accompanying CD presents all twenty-five vocal exercises from the DVD in audio form, minus the verbal explanations. The CD will be welcomed by those who like to practice in the car, while doing house work etc, or who want to practice in a room that doesn't have a TV and DVD player.

Beginning with explaining the basic anatomy of the human voice, and contextualizing the musical terms that will be used throughout the DVD, presenter Karan Andrea digs into her real-life experience as a singer-guitarist when explaining and demonstrating each vocal exercise. All twenty-five exercises come, or are based on, tried and true vocal training that in some instances goes back decades and even centuries. By bringing these time tested exercises into a modern context, mostly through anecdotes from her own life, Andrea is providing solid information in a manner that allows non-singers to begin vocalizing in a fun and healthy way.

People looking for demonstrations of how to sing like "insert name here" should probably look elsewhere. But, for those guitarists, and other instrumentalists, who want to develop proper vocal technique that is focused on training one's voice to stay healthy over time and to avoid injury then this package is right up your alley. One small drawback to the DVD is that Andrea doesn't demonstrate her own talent as a singer-guitarist in a meaningful way.

Choosing to focus more on demonstrating each vocal exercise, Andrea could have taken a few minutes at the start and end of each section to "play in" and "play out," even for a minute or so, to provide the viewer with a demonstration of how she applies these techniques to her own performances. Alas, one can't do everything at once, so maybe there will be more performances featured on her next DVD package, and after hearing her strong voice when demonstrating each exercise, one can only hope.

Guitar Player Wanted Vocals a Plus provides good, time-tested vocal training that's presented in a fun and easy to understand fashion. Andrea has a good sense of humor and is very comfortable in front of the camera, providing an extra level of personality that is always key when learning from a recording of any kind. Check it out, if you're already a good guitarist, but your vocals need some work, this could be just what you need.