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## **Gordon Giltrap records and gigs with new Cool Acoustics polymer acoustic guitar**

English guitar maestro Gordon Giltrap has teamed up with master guitar-maker Rob Armstrong and Loughborough University polymer soundboard venture Cool Acoustics to record his latest studio album. The album, titled *Secret Valentine*, is Gordon's first solo studio album for 16 years, and has been recorded entirely on a specially commissioned hybrid acoustic guitar.

*Secret Valentine* is a captivating recording of Gordon's most romantic and melodic pieces. It is a landmark recording in an illustrious career for the self-taught guitarist, whose pioneering work in the 1970s with the *Visionary* and *Perilous Journey* albums has been complemented in recent times by a succession of impressive and diverse collaborations including Martin Taylor, Cliff Richard, Rick Wakeman, and the Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra. The 15-track *Secret Valentine* album can be ordered now through VoicePrint ([www.voiceprint.co.uk](http://www.voiceprint.co.uk)). It is recorded in the enhanced audio CD format to include a video interview with Gordon and the creators of the new guitar.

Guitar maker Rob Armstrong, whose previous clients have included George Harrison and members of Fairport Convention and The Levellers, was commissioned by Cool Acoustics to create the new guitar to Gordon's specification. The result is the *Secret Valentine* acoustic guitar, a traditional instrument with a wood back, sides and neck, but fitted with a Cool Acoustics polymer soundboard. The soundboard is the flat front panel that shapes the majority of an acoustic guitar's sound and is traditionally made of spruce or cedar. Cool Acoustics soundboards are manufactured from foamed polycarbonate, a manmade material that avoids shortcomings of softwood, and as Gordon's new album demonstrates so well, provides outstanding tonal quality.

To further celebrate the unveiling of this project, Cool Acoustics is commissioning the manufacture of exclusive limited edition *Secret Valentine* guitars, for sale to the public. These will be made to the exemplary standards of Gordon's handcrafted guitar and will appeal especially to guitar enthusiasts keen on owning a piece of guitar-making history. The preliminary price is £2000. To register your interest in purchasing a limited edition guitar please contact Cool Acoustics.

For more detailed information about the *Secret Valentine* project, including downloadable high-resolution images for press use, excerpts from Gordon's album, and technical information on Cool Acoustics, please visit [www.coolacoustics.com](http://www.coolacoustics.com). Announcements on the final pricing, specification, availability and locations to audition the limited edition guitars will be made through the website.

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