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## **Nigel Kennedy Honors Donovan With a Tune**

Nigel Kennedy the master violinist and 'enfant terrible' of the classical music world features a song in his new album 'A Very Nice Album' a Kennedy composition dedicated to his long time friend Donovan.

The relationship goes back to when Nigel's first classical performances and recordings were creating a new future for classical music with his hit recording of Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons', which topped the charts for many weeks. Donovan said at the time, "Linda and I sat in The Crystal Palace at a Nigel concert and the front row girl fans were panting and carrying on like pop fans. I knew something extraordinary was happening. It was.. it was called ... Nigel Kennedy"!

Nigel met Donovan and Linda and they became friends.

Nigel particularly liked Donovan's recording of 'The Hurdy Gurdy Man' which had Jimmy Page on lead guitar. At the time Nigel was working on his 'Hendrix Suite', which was ground breaking work in which Nigel played electric violin and produced sounds that the violin had never made before, nor any electric guitar either. Kennedy also had been a long time fan of Jazz and it was Donovan's experiments with Celtic Rock Jazz Classical fusion that united the two of them from the first.

Donovan joined Nigel on stage at times and at the end of his classical evening they would perform 'The Hurdy Gurdy Man', Nigel playing wild electric violin licks.

During their long friendship, Donovan and Linda have encouraged Kennedy's journey into Jazz Fusion. At this year's Camden Jazz festival, Nigel Kennedy opened the evening with a tribute to Donovan, his friend who had come over from Ireland especially for the CD London Debut. He went on to perform his new Composition entitled 'Donovan'.

And once again Nigel, that night, was bringing into his life another master guitarist. Jeff Beck, who sat with Donovan. Both were amazed at Nigel's electric violin riffs. Beck had also played with Donovan on Donovan's hit single 'Barabajagal'. And a few weeks later after the debut at The Jazz Café Nigel invited Jeff Beck to join him as a surprise guest at The 2008 BBC Proms at The Royal Albert Hall to perform with the Nigel Kennedy Quintet.

Donovan says, "I am so pleased that Nigel wrote a tune for me and the new album is just so cool...yeah mon! Nige' and I have done a few tunes over the years I can tell you in the wee small hours, yes, even in Krakow where the cellars are full of that sweet Polish Jazz we both love. Nigel Kennedy is the best friend any music student can have!

And I don't care what they say about Nigel's fusions, give me Kennedy and Hendrix, Kennedy and Jimmy Page, now Kennedy and Beck, to me it all makes a crazy 'Baroque and Roll' sense!"

On Donovan's Album, 'Sutras' Nigel Kennedy Joins Donovan on the last Track 'The Garden'.

Donovan releases his DVD documentary 'SUNSHINE SUPERMAN- The Journey of Donovan' Late September, which will also be available on Amazon.com. Afterwards he returns to his own stage with world tours.

For Latest News of Donovan Check out: [www.donovan.ie](http://www.donovan.ie)