



Enns Visuals presents

RESTRUNG

COMMON SENSE IS NO MATCH
FOR ONE MAN WITH A MAD PLAN

A Film by Mike Enns

55min, 2.35:1, 1080p

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SYNOPSIS – 153 character

From electrifying success to near break-down, this is a true tale of a man with a mad plan whose life was unwound ... and restrung. - A Film by Mike Enns

SYNOPSIS – 150 word

He had always considered making guitars a passion, not an occupation, but in 2007, Randall Wyn Fullmer, an ordinary guy with a cat, turned his lifelong hobby into a full-out obsession. To launch on this adventure, he did what anyone else would do -- he quit his high paying dream job at the Walt Disney Company, leaving behind a successful 20 year career of creating major motion pictures such as "Chicken Little" and "The Emperors New Groove". It seemed to make so much sense at the time! With Disney in the rear-view, Randall launched his self-proclaimed "Mad Plan" and began crafting small-batch bass guitars full time.

From a beginner's electrifying success to near break-down, this is a beautiful, honest and inspirational portrait of a passionate craftsperson who walked headlong into a foolhardy dream.

This is a true tale of a life unwound and restrung.

SYNOPSIS – 400 word

He had always considered making guitars a passion, not an occupation, but in 2007, Randall Wyn Fullmer, an ordinary guy with a cat, turned his lifelong hobby into a full-out obsession. To launch on this adventure, he did what anyone else would do -- he quit his high paying dream job at the Walt Disney Company, leaving behind a successful 20 year career of creating major motion pictures such as "Chicken Little" and "The Emperors New Groove". It seemed to make so much sense at the time! With Disney in the rear-view, Randall launched his self-proclaimed "Mad Plan" and began crafting small-batch bass guitars full time.

A team of one, Randall is both the President and sander of all boards. His singular artistic vision is a smooth and silent rhythm that requires no communication, no committee, no meetings and no explanation. This humble philosophy is at the heart of his work: "Repeat what works. Skip what doesn't".

Starting out with 22 guitars and a heavy dose of blind optimism, Randall tentatively brought his experimental wares to the Winter NAMM show figuring he would either succeed gloriously or go down in flames. James LoMenzo (Megadeath), Jimmy Haslip (Yellowjackets) and Abraham Laboriel (world renowned session bassist) are a few music industry heavy-weights who put Randall's hand-crafted guitars to the test.

Now he was attracting more work than he knew what to do with, but somehow Randall saw more money going out than coming in. When the LAPD knocked on his door to explain that guitar manufacturing could no longer be done out of his home, he saw his creative life slipping away. Nearly broke and over-worked, this was not the kind of fun he had in mind when he left Disney.

Part artist, part mad scientist, part magician, Randall found a way to escape the forces of doom and continues to craft upscale guitars in his obsessively organized wood shop. Referring to the varieties of wood as though they're his children, he listens intently to the unique tones each has to offer. Ebony, Bubinga, Buckeye Burl, Swamp Ash and Rosewood are all part of the Fullmer family clan.

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WHY WYN?

On a whim in the spring of 2012, filmmaker Mike Enns flew to the Los Angeles Winter NAMM show (National Association of Music Merchants) and found himself in the middle of a crowded booth. Drawn in by Randall Wyn Fullmer's incredible handcrafted bass guitars and the soulful notes of the internationally renowned bassist, Abraham Laboriel, Mike was overcome with awe and curiosity.

The stories that resonate best are the ones that we can see ourselves in. This is exactly the case with Mike and his connection with Randy. Not only is Mike an exceptionally talented bass guitarist, but the more he discovered about Randy's story, the deeper the connection grew.

From their first conversation Mike realized that Randy's process of creativity was exactly what he yearned to emulate in his own career. Essentially, Randy had cut out "the committee" and his role as a "manager of artists" at the Disney Studios to become a "real artist" again. Randy has a name for this process - "A Singular Artistic Vision". Mike was sold and the *Restrung* film was the first project in putting his new theory into action. Mike jumped in - no parachute attached.

A few months later, Mike flew back to LA to get to started. For one whirlwind week, he and his crew worked on one project during the daytime and each evening drove 150 kms to film Randy at work in his studio late into the night. It didn't take long to realize that the *Restrung* project wasn't a side project anymore. *Restrung* had enough substance to become a full-blown film. Metaphorically, it had just the right amount of nonsense in it to reflect the essence of the project at hand.

Going against the grain, transcending common sense, overcoming fear of failure and embracing natural intuition are themes in both Randy and Mike's lives. Both are unstoppable forces of passion, hard work and deep sacrifice. Their stories have much in common. For Mike, the *Restrung* project is as personal as it gets and he wouldn't have it any other way.

ARTIST BIOS

Mike Enns – Director / Filmmaker

Born and raised in the wine country of Southern Ontario, filmmaker Mike Enns kickstarted his career by taking a giant leap of faith when he bought his first Mac, a Sony Handycam and a copy of Final Cut Pro in 2003. He was an early adopter at the cusp of an unprecedented movement in the world of digital film technology. At the outset, his hard work paid off in opportunities beyond paychecks as he “learned by doing” at Southridge - a large multi-site church in Niagara.

Also a talented musician, Mike is passionate about producing live film recordings of musical artists performing on stage or in studio. Maná, Abraham Laboriel, The Mark Lalama Trio, Alexisonfire, The Cardinals, LMT Connection and Newworldson have all benefitted from his approach. Mike has a dream of one day creating the original musical score for one of his own films.

In addition to his work with musicians, he has produced films for various corporations including YMCA Canada, Wellspring Niagara, the Niagara Health System, the Ontario Public School Board, Twenty Valley Tourism and TD Bank. He recently completed his first full length documentary ‘Restrung’ about the creative journey of Wyn Guitars founder Randall Fullmer.

Mike has an intuitive style that allows the story to reveal it's true essence.

Embracing the discovery process and allowing himself space to get to the heart of the matter, he enjoys the imperfections and surprises of each project that he chooses to document.

Inspired by the concept of a “Singular Artistic Vision” he often flies solo at his own pace. Turning over rocks, taking his time and following his heart, he searches out work with connection and honesty that resonates with his soul. A storyteller to the core, he continues to build stories which he can empathize with and, most of all, find joy and purpose as he shares soul- warming narratives on behalf of his clients.

Randall Fullmer – Producer / Luthier

Randall "Randy" Wyn Fullmer (born April 27, 1950) is an American businessman and former executive for The Walt Disney Company. After a successful eighteen-year career at Walt Disney Feature Animation, Fullmer launched his own business, Wyn Guitars, through which he handcrafts bass guitars of his own design, often in close collaboration with the intended instrument owners.

Born in Richland, Washington. His father was a nuclear physicist, his mother a physical therapist. While Fullmer always had artistic and musical inclinations—drawing, painting, building and playing musical instruments—his parents were not convinced that such creative pursuits were ever going to amount to anything, hoping that one day he'd "get that out of his system." Nevertheless, Fullmer continued to proceed along an artistic path and made a name for himself in several creative circles. Fullmer studied architecture for two years at Washington State University (WSU), from 1968 to 1970. During his second year at WSU, he took a film class and became hopelessly hooked on animation, which motivated him to apply to The California Institute of the Arts (Cal Arts). Fullmer was accepted into the animation program at Cal Arts and graduated in 1974 with a degree as a Bachelor of Fine Arts.

After graduation from Cal Arts, Fullmer spent roughly seven years running his own animation business producing works such as: medical, scientific and other educational films; segments for Sesame Street; television commercials; and Saturday morning television programs. In 1983 and 1984, Fullmer worked

for Don Bluth Studios, creating special effects for Dragon's Lair and Space Ace, the first video games to be produced on laserdisc.

In 1987, Fullmer was hired by Walt Disney Feature Animation (now known as Walt Disney Animation Studios) for a three- month contract to animate on the "Toon Town" section of Who Framed Roger Rabbit, a job that turned into an 18- year career at The Walt Disney Studios. Fullmer's animation film credits include: effects animator on Oliver & Company; effects animator on The Little Mermaid; effects supervisor on The Rescuers Down Under; visual effects supervisor on Beauty and the Beast; artistic coordinator on The Lion King; artistic coordinator on The Hunchback of Notre Dame; producer on The Emperor's New Groove; and producer on Chicken Little.

On the music side, at the age of twelve, Fullmer asked his parents if he could buy a 12-string guitar to complement his 6-string electric guitar. When they said, "no, you already have a guitar, you don't need another one," Fullmer asked if he could purchase the wood to build his own 12-string instead. His parents were so thrown by this bizarre request that they acquiesced. Over the next six years, Fullmer proceeded to build approximately 30 guitars, craftsmanship that was both self-taught and mentored by an old country western fiddle maker named Tom. (Fullmer continued to build guitars throughout his life, but this task was relegated to hobby status while his animation career took precedent.)

Wyn Guitars was established in 2006. Fullmer is both the founder and sole luthier for the company and has crafted guitars for musical talents including Jimmy Haslip, Abraham Laboriel, James LoMenzo, Ben Jones, Stewart McKinsey, Robin Zeilhorst, Maurice Fitzgerald, Adam Johnson and Ethan Farmer, among others. Wyn is Fullmer's middle name, given to him as a tribute to a Welch uncle who also happened to be musically inclined.

CREDITS

Director

Mike Enns

Produced by

Mike Enns
Randall Fullmer

Executive Producers

Drew Williams
Nick Mirka

Film Editor

Mike Enns

Post Audio

Drew Williams

Illustrator

Mark Dindal

Additional Cinematography

Ralph deGroot
Mark Klassen
Scott Shepard

Additional Photography

Scott Shepard

Music Composed by

Mark Lalama
Randall Fullmer
Drew Williams

Featured Musicians

Abraham Laboriel and The Jazz Ministry James LoMenzo
Fernando "Psycho" Vallin
and Maná

Mixed at W Sound

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