

SPOTLIGHT

Instrumentalist: Mark Wood

Age: 25

Location: Port Washington, NY

Style: Heavy metal violin

Influences: Adrian Belew, Eddie Van Halen, Paganini

Main Instrument: Electric 6- and 9-string double-neck violin

Mark studied classical violin at the Juilliard School Of Music until the rock and roll in his blood could no longer be denied. Feeling limited by the conventional 4-string violin, Mark began creating new playing techniques and developed the unique fretted 6-string and 9-string instrument that he uses in his shows.

He looks to the guitar for his inspiration, and I believe that Mark has succeeded in capturing the soul and guts of the electric guitar on his violin. On his demo tape (aided by his New York-based group Tasmania), Wood showcases an amazing guitar-like technique using feedback, pull-offs, hammer-ons, and vibrato that might remind listeners of Jimi Hendrix, Edward Van Halen, and Ritchie Blackmore. Mark's playing should be of tremendous interest and influence to guitarists and other violinists. You can write to him at 6 Glamford Ave., Port Washington, NY 11050.



WILLIAM HAUSSLER

If you are interested in being covered in this column, please send a cassette of original material, a biography (include full name, age, location, style, influences, future plans, equipment, and any other information that you deem relevant), and one or more clear black and white photos of yourself with your main guitar; label each photo with your

name and address, as well as the photographer's name and address. Materials will not be returned. We ask the guitarists covered in Spotlight to make reasonable efforts to provide tapes of original material to interested readers. Address all correspondence to Mike Varney, Box P, Novato, CA 94948.