

[James Woolwine](#) "Fingerstyle Acoustic Guitar" 2018 |

don't think the pages of *Minor 7th* have often featured a solo fingerstyle guitarist whose first recording was solo piano, but James Woolwine is that man. A composer and teacher, as well as a performer, Woolwine's initial guitar CD, "Fingerstyle Acoustic Guitar," came out this year, and it shows his ability to create music and ear-catching arrangements, and his classical background peeks its head into some of his phrasing on several songs.

Of the 10 songs on the CD, seven are his own compositions, and he covers Metallica's "Sad But True," as well as "Ashley's Star," written by his mentor and teacher Jon Finn, and the song "Pure Imagination" from the movie "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." For lovers of all things Willie Wonka, his cover of "Pure Imagination" effectively uses harmonics and the melody to capture the hopeful tone of the song. On "Emmanison," Woolwine tries his hand at alternating bass lines ala Tommy Emmanuel and Steve Davison; it's not up to their lofty standards, for sure, but it's a nice tune.

All of the songs on "Fingerstyle Acoustic Guitar" are enjoyable listening for anyone who likes solo acoustic guitar music.