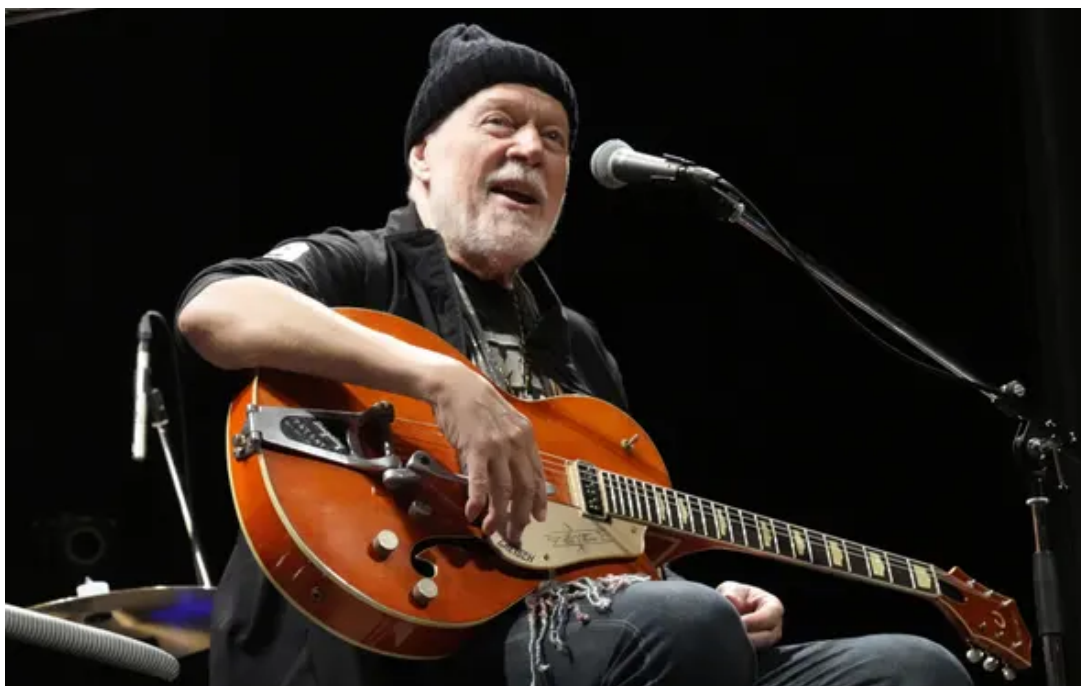


Musician and His Guitar Reunited After 45 Years

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Reunite /ˌrēyooˈnīt/ (Verb) to come or bring together after being separated for a long time
Example: She was finally reunited with her long lost daughter after 7 years of being separated.
2. Afford /əˈfôrd/ (Verb) to have enough money to buy something
Example: They were able to afford to go on a 10-day cruise around the world even after the pandemic.
3. Replace /rəˈplās/ (Verb) to change something that is old, broken, etc., for something newer or better
Example: She replaced the ink cartridge with a new one.
4. Modify /ˈmädəˌfī/ (Verb) to make small or partial changes to something
Example: They modified the dance steps a bit.
5. Perform /pərˈfôrm/ (Verb) to entertain or present something to an audience
Example: She didn't hesitate to perform in front of a huge crowd..



Canadian musician Randy Bachman said he cried for three days when his 1957 Gretsch 6120 Chet Atkins guitar was stolen in 1977. But 45 years later, the former member of The Guess Who and Bachman-Turner Overdrive has been **reunited** with the guitar he bought when he was 19 years old. Bachman worked several jobs to **afford** the \$400 guitar. He wrote many popular songs on it, including "American Woman", which was a big hit for The Guess Who in 1970.

The guitar was stolen from Bachman's locked Toronto hotel room. He said he tried everything he could to get it back, but couldn't find it. Bachman bought around 300 other guitars but said that none of them could **replace** the orange Gretsch. Bachman often talked about the stolen guitar in interviews. In 2020, a Canadian fan named William Long heard the story and

started an online search for it. Then in 2021, Long found a YouTube video of Takeshi, a Japanese musician, playing the guitar. Takeshi bought the guitar in Tokyo in 2014 and hadn't known where it came from.

"I was crying," Bachman told The Associated Press after seeing the video. "The guitar almost spoke to me over the video, like: 'Hey, I'm coming home.'"

Although Takeshi loved the guitar too, he agreed to exchange it for a very similar one that was made in the same week and hadn't been repaired or **modified**. The musicians **performed** several songs together, including "American Woman" after exchanging the guitars on July 1, 2022 — Canada Day — at the Canadian embassy in Tokyo.

DISCUSSION

1. What are your thoughts on Randy Bachman getting his stolen guitar back after 45 years?
2. Do you have any instruments that are special to you? What are they?
3. Have you ever lost anything important? Did you manage to get it back?
4. Which of your possessions would you be most upset about losing?
5. What were your most prized possessions when you were 19?