

# ***DIVERSE CITY***

Magazine

July/August 2019



## **FESTIVALS**

Jazz time in Edmonton

Upcoming summer festivals: Caribana, Cariwest, Carifest, K-Days, Heritage Days

## **TASTES & FLAVORS**

Jerk Chicken - DISCOVERY CAFÉ

Chowmein - Neisha's Kitchen

Pine Tarts & Cheese rolls - Rene's Kitchen

## **GARDENING**

Transplanting vegetables into the garden



## **PEARLS OF ISLAM**

Devotional performers workshop on the divine Heart; a glance at Islamic meditation

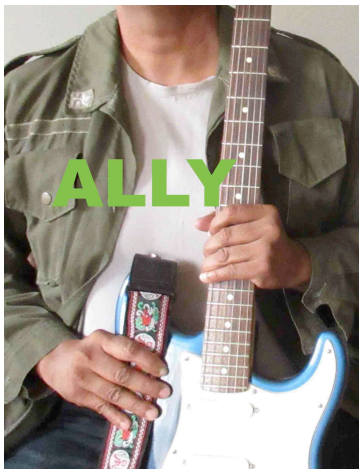
## **BENDING STRINGS**

### **ALLY'S 1990s RECORDINGS**

F. Ally recording Backing Track at Alberta Sound Eng. with engineer/owner Cam Guse on songs such as New Clear Society and A Kiss Goodnight

## **EDITOR**

Mischief and Vandalism



## **A GLANCE OF CANADA'S GROWING DIVERSITY**

*Happy July 1st Canada Day & America's July 4th Independence Day*

West Edmonton Mall, once the World's largest mall and the Mall of America are owned by the Ghermezian, an Iranian family; Art Gallery of Alberta with the Singhmar Education Center; Al Rashid, the first Mosque in Canada and now located at Fort Edmonton

July/August 2019

## Rainy Edmonton 2019, Spring and Summer



**Home grown**  
**Naz & Deen Garden**  
**Catch the colors**

# ***DIVERSE CITY***

## **World Magazine**



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Editor - F. Ally

### VANDALISM & MISCHIEF



On Canada Day, July 1st, around 7am, I looked out the front window and noticed one of the two strings running along the dug out for the new walkway cut in the middle. On July 3rd, I found the other string cut, also in the middle. On July 4th, I tied the cut ends together. Around July 10th, both strings broke again in the same area. It could have been a rabbit running through. So far the string along the other dug out running at the side of the house is okay and rabbits are also in that area.

### TWO FLAT TIRES

Just before the cut strings on the property, around June 24, the right tire on my car began losing air. I added air for about 2 days; at the mall, the tire deflated, which I thought would happen - I quickly changed it. There were no nail, screw or hole at the bottom. On June 28, I took the tire to the repair shop and they found a tiny hole that looks like a nail hole or a dart hole in the sidewall; they couldn't repair the tire because the hole is in the sidewall; they showed some concerns and said the tire is a good tire. On around June 25 or 26, the back left tire also began losing air and I added air a few times, and around June 29 as the tire was half way down, I changed it. I have not taken this one in as yet for repair. Just about 2 weeks before, I was at the Auto Pick Your Parks and managed to find 4 good tires on a vehicle; I was lucky I found them. To replace the two back tires with new tires will cost about \$500.



*Right back tire with tiny nail hole*



*Took off left back tire, and place 2 spares in the trunk plus small spare that comes with the car, as it was around Canada day and vandalism can increase.*

### TWO CARS SET ON FIRE IN EDMONTON

Recently, the inside of the vehicle of someone I know was set on fire, along with one of his neighbor's vehicle.

It was around 2011 when I began having many flat tires, which I had reported to the police; I reported my recent flat tires to the police on July 3rd, 2019 around 11am just incase it was vandalism; two officers arrived around 11pm on July 3rd. I had also discussed the string incident just incase it was done by a human. I filled out a report and dropped it off at the Kensington police station. I included the following two observation incase mischiefs are involved.

*Continue on the next page...*

### THE FEATHER

For the past month, it's been raining almost every day which is very unusual for Edmonton, and on July 4th around 5:30pm, I found a feather that looks black and green in color stuck into the pebbles standing around a 45 degree angle, around where the constable was standing the night before as I explained my tire incidents and the cut strings.



I took a picture of the same feather on July 7th, and just from a little rain the feather was now lying flat. Birds fly around in the area, but how did the feather end up standing upright?



### TRANSPLANTING & THE WISHING BONE



A few weeks before the flat tires and cut strings, around the end of May or beginning of June, I was transplanting some flower plants; some were drying out due to the periodic heat and I was advised to cover them. I covered the one in the picture on the left with the garbage can cover, and not long after, I found what looks like a wishing bone next to the flower plants. See picture on the left. I kept checking to see if the flowers would catch. About a week later, the wishing bone disappeared. Did a bird place it there? Or was it a dog? Something seems strange.

## HAPPY CANADA DAY JULY 1st & HAPPY JULY 4TH AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY



### A glance at Canada by F. Ally

Canada is the world's second largest country of 3.85 million square miles, located north of the United States of America and have 10 provinces and 3 territories. The capital city is Ottawa, and its official languages are English and French. Many Indigenous groups also speak indigenous languages. Other languages are also taught and spoken.

Canada have become one of the worlds most diverse and multicultural countries with people of many faiths, races and traditions. For decades now Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver have not only been diverse but also very multicultural. Today places like Edmonton and Calgary are following in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver's footsteps. For example, Heritage Days in Edmonton is the world's largest multicultural festival and also the first Masjid (mosque) in Canada was built Edmonton, and Iranians own West Edmonton Mall.

*Reference: Wikipedia*

### A growing multicultural Canada with people of many faiths, races, and cultures

While the Indigenous people already inhabited Canada, the British and French began their settlements across this land in the 16th century. There were also people of African descendants in places like Nova Scotia, Ontario and other places. In 1788, fifty Chinese settled in Canada to build a trading post to help boost trade between China and Canada. More Chinese arrived in 1858 and by 1860 there were approximately 7,000 Chinese in British Columbia. East Indians arrived around the year 1900 and settled in British Columbia.

*Ref: <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/chinese-canadians>*

### With a growing diversity, Muslims in Edmonton built the first mosque in Canada

The city of Edmonton in Alberta, Canada continues to grow in diversity and multiculturalism. In the year 1901, according to Stat Canada, Edmonton only had about 2,626 people. As a comparison of population and people contributing to the growth of the world, I will use another place that's very familiar to me - Georgetown, Guyana in South America. The population of the city of Georgetown in Guyana, South America, which may be around the same size of Georgetown, has a much greater population contributing to the growth of the world. In 1902, Guyana was already very diverse and multicultural and had thousands of Europeans including approx. 30,000 Portuguese, American Indians, 'Blacks', and possibly over 100,000 Indians from (India, including Pakistan, some from Afghans), thousands of Chinese, and even Syrians/Lebanese and others laboring in the Americas, contributing to the development and growth of the world, as the production of sugar, rum, tobacco and many other products were sold across the entire globe, but unfortunately intoxicating many and destroying their lives, but brought great wealth to big corporations and the rest of the world. Even today, you will find Demerara sugar in cafes in Edmonton and in the grocery stores. You will also find Demerara Rum and El Dorado Rum from Guyana across the globe.

*Continue on p. 10*



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There were already large diverse populations in the Americas in the year 1901, such as the East Indians and Chinese. Thus diversity and multiculturalism is not new to the Americas. It's people of diverse backgrounds that have been building the Americas for hundreds of years now, where big corporations have been recruiting laborers from across the globe and continues to do so today to build the world and our lives the way they envisioned us to be - soon to be micro-chipped.

The population of Edmonton slowly grew in the 1900s, bringing more diversity. Many Italians entered Canada in the 1950s; Portuguese were also arriving. But before the 1950s back in 1938, the first Mosque (masjid) the 'Al-Rashid Mosque' was already built in Canada, which was also one of the first masjids built in North America. In 1991, the 'Al-Rashid Mosque' was moved to Fort Edmonton. There's also an Islamic school in Edmonton, and although there has been some vandalism, this city continues to become more multicultural. Today we not only see many churches in Edmonton, but there are many Masjids, Hindu temples, Buddhist Temples.

### **Iranians owns West Edmonton Mall, the Mall of America, and Triple Five Group**

West Edmonton Mall is owned by the Iranian Ghermezian family who also owns the Mall of America; their management company is called Triple Five. West Edmonton Mall is one of the biggest attraction in Edmonton.

The Ghermezian family is an Iranian Jewish family that arrived from Iran to Edmonton in the 1960s. They own West Edmonton Mall, which was the world's largest mall until 2004. The Mall of America is also owned by the Ghermezians, along with the future American Dream Meadowlands, and other properties. The Ghermezian family owns Triple Five Group, which is their managing company.

West Edmonton Mall was opened on September 15, 1981. The four-phase mall was completed in 1999, which was the largest indoor shopping centre in the world until 2004. Jacob Ghermezian, (1902 – January 3, 2000) emigrated in 1964 from Iran to Canada with his wife and four sons. This dynamic mall has over 24,000 people are employed at the mall with approx. 32 million visitors per year, where depending on the time of the year, holidays, day of the week, seasons there's approx. 90,000 and 200,000 shoppers daily.

*Disclaimer: The information presented came from public available information, knowledge and Wikipedia.*

### **GETTING THE WORDS OUT (DOWNTOWN EDMONTON)**



Across from the downtown library, there's always something going on at the City Hall: music, shows, with concessions. It was spring and the man in the picture was busy getting the words out with the sign: 'Believe in the lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.'

A GLANCE AT CANADA, Featuring Edmonton, Alberta

Little Italy on 95th Street



China Town - Gate of Happy Arrival on 97 Street





Edmonton



JAZZ MUSIC



Downtown, Edmonton



July/August 2019

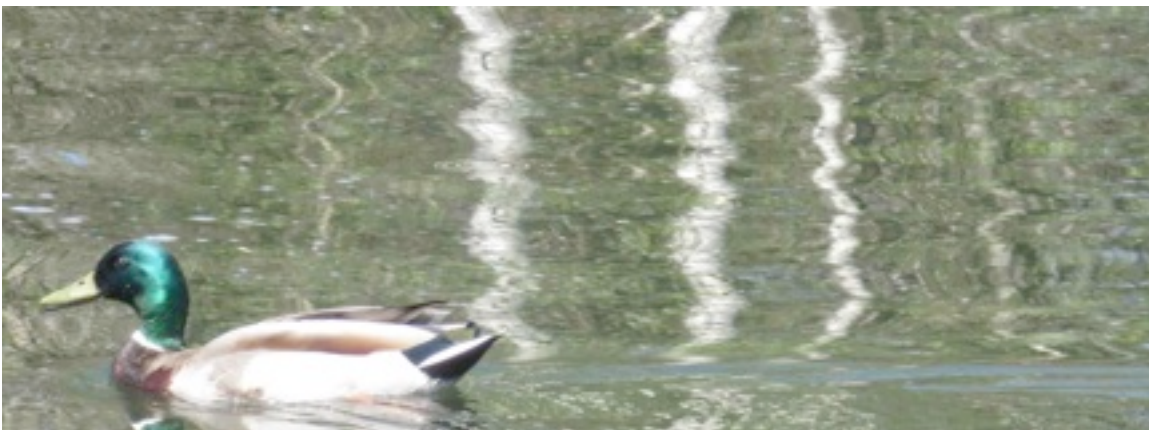
ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA, includes the The Singhmar Centre for Art Education



Below: Stanley A. Milner Library (downtown Edmonton) was closed since 2016 for the \$84.5 million renovation where the opening is planned for February 14, 2020



**NATURE - HAWRELAK PARK, EDMNTON, AB**  
**Many world sports and activities take place in this park, including Heritage Days**







## **USHEDA**

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*Spiritual Healing by Usheda Akbar-Shanks*

Shamanism is pure and simple spirit work used to heal people.

### ***TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES***

Using traditional techniques to invoke the ancestral Spirits, the shaman / spirit healer acts as a 'bridge between the spirit and the mundane world'. Once the ancestral spirits are called they do the healing work.

### ***SOUL DOCTOR AND THREE TYPES OF RITUALS***

A shaman is a soul doctor who facilitated healing on a soul level. There are three types of rituals, which are usually done in stages for each healing session. The first is soul resonance where the shaman scans the bodily energies of the client to get a basic blue print. Once this is done the client is debriefed and the second part called soul extraction is done. With the help of an extraction guide the unwanted residual is removed. The third part is soul retrieval where the missing parts of the soul are called back in with the help of guides. The length and intensity of each session varies from client to client. Some may require more than one session.

These techniques are used with clients who come to the shaman as a last resort. Some clients may have suffered from soul imbalance etc... all their lives and finally get some relief. Often childhood traumas cause irreparable " damage" on a soul level. The shaman will receive visions and other pertinent information to relay to the client. This is done with a lot of compassion and empathy in a respectful and comfortable place.

### ***RESULTS***

Results are normally excellent and can be recognized almost immediately. Clients usually feel happy and relaxed right away.

July/August 2019  
**Transplanting**



## FLOWERS AND VEGETABLES

### PLANTED INDOORS, THEN TRANSPLANT



Marigolds and other flowers

The plants on this page were started indoors two to three months before transplanting in the outdoors garden. While indoor, about two weeks later, some of the flowers had withered, died and had to be reseeded. After reseeding the growth was good.



Broccoli and Brussels sprout



Pepper plants of various types



A marigold plant with flowers



Marigold plant, flowers are now coming up

## Transplanting tomato plants



Transplanting tomato plants around May 20. After transplanting, for a few weeks, there were hardly any growths. The weather was still a bit cold.

Around June 10th, the plants began to grow bigger.

Growth after a few weeks...



*Picture taken in the middle of June 2019*

## Transplanting peppers



After transplanting 3 of the pepper plant into a bigger pot, the 3 plant became withered. It takes time to fully catch. The key is to water lots and keep out of the sun.

### **Tip from Naz**

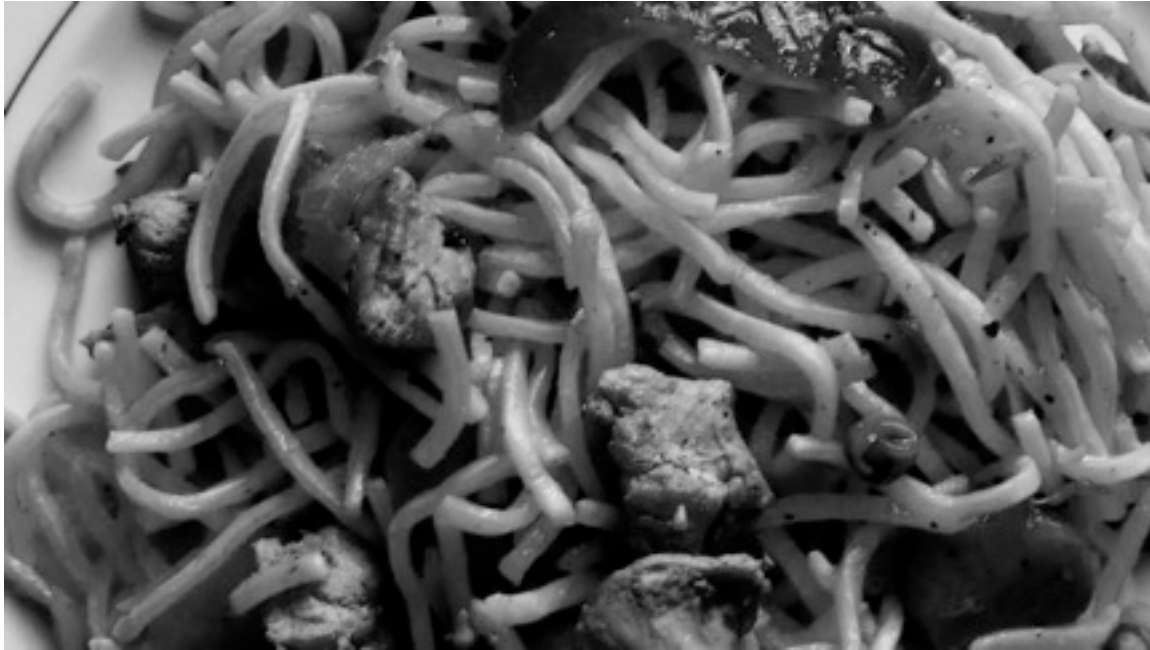
- 1) When transplanting, keep in the shade, or cover to prevent from drying out.
- 2) Know your plants because you cannot over water some plants.

### **Update:**

Transplanting cucumbers and watermelons that were started inside in egg trays, most died upon transplanting, most likely because the root were broken when transplanting. If you do not have time to transplant from egg trays to bigger pots, then explore other options before using egg trays.

Transplanting broccoli and Brussels sprout that started in Styrofoam cups was good. Covered to prevent from drying out, or keep in the garage where it's cooler.

## TASTES & CUISINES



### **BOIL VINEGAR**

- To remove curry scents
- Boil vinegar in a pot to remove calcium built up in pot

## Shrimp chowmein



FOR A PARTY OF 20  
Mixed with other dishes  
3 packs - 1 pack is less than \$2

3 packs of noodle; serves approx. 10  
Boil noodles for approx. 20 minutes

Cook shrimp with veggies in pan with 1 tbl spoon oil  
Add boiled chowmein to pan and mix together

Salt is optional



Can purchase at T&T



Back of package

### **CHOWMEIN**

Method 1 is used in this recipe. Will prepare vegetables and shrimp first and then mix with chowmein.

Method 2 is much quicker, by simply adding vegetables and shrimp with the chowmein and boil at the same time.

Method 1 is on the following page where the shrimp was fried in coconut oil and at the end was mixed in with the chowmein.

*Continue on next page...*



Boil vegetables



Boil mixed vegetables



Shrimp package



Wash shrimp and cook as mentioned above...



Shows 4 packs Noodles



3 packs of noodls. Add water to pot then add noodles and boil for approx. 20 minutes



Boiling



Strain to remove waer



Will now add approx. 2 tbl spoon butter and some chowmein



Add vegetables to pot



Add about 2 tblspn oil



Add the rest of chowmein

*Continue on next page...*



Fry shrimp in coconut oil and then mix in with the chowmein.



Add chowmein



Add shrimp



Noodles, shrimp and vegetables in pot



Mix together for about a minute. Complete



Complete

# FESTIVALS & CELEBRATIONS



*Zara's henna*

EID

CARNIVALS

# ‘Pearls of Islam’ Acclaimed duo

Brought their Devotion workshop  
to Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
July 1, 2019  
by F. Ally

Quran: It is only in the remembrance of God  
that hearts are comforted (13:28)  
‘Here comfort means not just the temporary solace to be  
found in everyday convenience, but the real comfort with  
it’s implications of peace of mind that can stem only from God Almighty’  
*Ref: Spirituality of Islam by M. W Khan; p.7*

## **Pearls of Islam**

Two sisters, Rabia and Zakina, are known as ‘Pearls of Islam.’ Both of them sing and play instruments such as drums and the guitar. The acclaimed pair performs across Europe, and had recently performed in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on July 1, 2019, bringing a workshop called ‘The Sound of Devotion.’ They refer to what they do as ‘sharing,’ sharing their devotional songs from their heart into the heart of others, taking you closer to the divine.

## **Their inspiration**

Dress modest in headscarves and long dresses, the duo is inspired by Islamic traditions, and has a background of ‘Jamaican folk music and Guyanese soca and soul music.’

## **Meditation**

Like practitioners of ‘Primordial Meditation’ and other types of meditation that repeats a phrase over and over to silence the mind and rambling thoughts, most Muslims repeat phrases over and over as a part of their prayers, or daily life, and many are also involved in dhikr (remembrance of the creator) which is explained below.

## **Islamic prayer and dhikr (remembrance of God)**

Aside from regular Islamic prayers which many performs 5 times a day, like Rabia and Zakina (‘Pearls of Islam’), many Muslims are engaged in other functions during the week, such as singing, and even dancing as in the whirling dervish that’s common in places like Turkey, where the practitioners twirl their hands and spins which is a form of meditation known as dhkr (the remembrance of God) taking the practitioner closer to the divine. Many phrases of their singing come directly from the Quran.

**Workshop focuses on the following areas:**

A brief history of the roots of devotional praise

- The role of women in devotional singing throughout generations
- Learning to write & sing a devotional song
- Group praise & dhikr choir

*The above information is available online*

**Their instruments**

During the workshop the duo sang, played drums and the guitar, bringing their devotional sounds to life with melodies. The melody and lyrics takes you closer to the heart and brings peace to the heart.

If you had missed their performance, you can catch them on their many youtube videos.

**Below is a review of two videos**

**Watching their YouTube video, Pearls of Islam at 2nd SOAS Interfaith Music Festival 2013**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J81wzFEeAks>

“Feeling that divine mercy.” Song called mercy...starts in English...

The sisters commence their song in a melodic voice with lines from surah (chapter) Al Fatiha, meaning The opening. One of the sisters starts with “Bismillah hir rahman nir Rahim” (In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate). The other sister follows with the same phrase and they continue singing “Bismillah hir rahman nir Rahim” over and over while playing drums, then the phrase “Bismillah” which begins to fade. Repeating a phrase over and over is referred to as dhikr, the remembrance of God, and is a form of meditation. Phrases such as ‘Allahu Akbar’ (God is great) ‘Bismillah hir rahman nir Rahim’ (In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate), ‘la illaha illallah’ (There’s no God but God - The one God that’s described in the Quran, Bible and Vedas that has no image), ‘Subhannallah’ (Glory to God) are often used in dhikr.

Dhikr and meditation is explained below.

In their performances, often English phrases are also sang. As they sing, play their drums and guitar, clapping also comes in.

**Watching their YouTube video, Mawla ya Salli ft Ahmad Ikhlas**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJFawM-8L9E>

Published on Dec 1, 2017

Singing playing the guitar and the other sing playing a drum

One of the sisters starts picking the acoustic guitar and sings begin singing a devotional song in Arabic. Then the other sister starts to sing in English. Singing in Arabic and the drumming comes in. Shakers came in at the same time

**July/August 2019**

The sisters sang, “la illaha illallah” (There’s no God but God) repeating the phrase over and over in melodic voice with the guitar and drums, and after a while the instruments stopped and the phrase continued and then fades.

The pair also sings complete songs called Nasheeds that brings peace to the heart.

### **Dhikr & Medtation**

Dhikr, known as the remembrance of God is a big part of their workshop. For example, the phrase “la illaha illallah” meaning there’s no God but the One God is repeated over and over. Most does this silently or in a spoken or melodic voice. The duo does this, accompanied with drums and the guitar. For example, they would stop playing their instrument and keep repeating the phrase and let it fade.

These sessions which focuses on Dhikr often falls under the name ‘Sufism’ and is a meditation session. There are many ways to meditate, such as using phrases in Sankrit, such as ‘Om shanti, shanti. In Islam phrases such as ‘Subhanallah Glory to God, and Allahu Akbar God is great is repeated over and over.

### ***References:***

#### **Mawla ya Salli ft Ahmad Ikhlas**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJFawM-8L9E>

Published on Dec 1, 2017

#### **Pearls of Islam at 2nd SOAS Interfaith Music Festival 2013**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J81wzFEeAks>

For more information on Pearls of Islam, please visit [pearlsofislam.co.uk](http://pearlsofislam.co.uk)

# EID CELEBRATION

## Henna design



*Check out Sharon's henna*



## EID CELEBRATION



After a month of fasting long days, Muslims were ready to celebrate, dressed in fashions, a few sported henna design

Many were ready for a feast. Some celebrated for 3 days.



**DESSERTS (SNACKS) / BARBECUE**





## **SUMMER FESTIVALS** by *Don Silva*

And then the party continues till the sun comes up, with Carabana in Toronto on the August long weekend, followed by Carifest in Calgary and Cariwest in Edmonton. K-Days and Heritage Days in Edmonton.

### **Caribana - (Toronto, Canada) - Thursday, August 1st - Sunday, August 4th 2019**



Carnivals livening up the cities with Mas Bands, Street Parades, and Costumes Extravaganza (North America's largest street festival). Many contributing to an everlasting Canadian tradition and economy

### **Cariwest - (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) - August 9-11**



This event takes place through August 9-11, 2019 in downtown Edmonton. On Saturday is the parade  
780.421.7800 / [Cariwest@shaw.ca](mailto:Cariwest@shaw.ca)

### **Carifest - (Calgary, Alberta, Canada) Saturday, August 17, 2019**



This annual festival parade takes place on Saturday, August 17 with colorful costumes and intoxicating music with bands in the streets and on floats. The parade commences at Olympic Plaza and ends up at Shaw Millennium Park to continue the celebration

### **Filipino Fiesta 2019 - 4th Annual Edmonton Filipino Fiesta. June 22-23 (Sat & Sun)**

**Sat., Jun. 22, 11:00 a.m. – Sun., Jun. 23, 6:00 p.m.**

Borden Park - 7507 Borden Park Rd NW, Edmonton, AB

[www.EdmontonFilipinoFiesta.com](http://www.EdmontonFilipinoFiesta.com)

Featuring the best of Philippine culture! Two days of entertainment...

<http://asian.ca/heritagemonth/event/filipino-fiesta-2019/>

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<p><b>DRAGON TOURS</b></p> <p><b>3 GUIANAS</b> <i>Guyana, Suriname &amp; French Guiana</i> <i>South America</i></p> <p><b>Day 1: Arrival</b> Guyana, South America Day 2: Kaieteur Falls Excursion and City Tour Day 3 &amp; 4: Karanambu Ranch Day 5: Transfer to Sloth Island Reserve Day 6: Sloth Island/Mazaruni River Day 7: Return to Georgetown Day 8: Guyana/Suriname Day 9: Paramaribo/French Guiana Day 10: Boat Trip to Ile Du Salut Day 11: Arianespace Centre Day 12: Paramaribo City Tour and River Tour Day 13: Joden Savanna &amp; Maroon Village Tour Day 14: Departure <a href="https://www.dagron-tours.com/tours/south-america/3-guianas/3-guianas.htm">https://www.dagron-tours.com/tours/south-america/3-guianas/3-guianas.htm</a></p>	<p><b>CARIBANA</b> <b>TORONTO, CANADA</b></p> <p><b>Caribana Weekend 2019</b></p> <p>Thursday, August 1st to Sunday, August 4th 2019</p> <p>TORONTO WELCOMES over a million tourists during the August long weekend from across Canada and the U.S</p> <p><a href="https://www.caribanatoronto.com">https://www.caribanatoronto.com</a></p>
<p><b>HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL</b> <b>EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA</b></p> <p>Hawrelak Park</p> <p>10 AM - 9 PM SATURDAY, AUGUST 3rd 2019 10 AM - 9 PM SUNDAY, AUGUST 4th 2019 10 AM - 8* PM MONDAY, AUGUST 5th 2019</p> <p>A three-day event that celebrates Canada's multiculturalism</p> <p>Delicious tastes and flavors Many performances 100 countries and cultures 71 outdoor pavilions and over 25 stages</p>	<p><b>CARNAVAL DEL SOL</b> <b>2019</b></p> <p>CONCORD PACIFIC PLACE <i>Downtown Vancouver</i></p> <p><i>July 6th and 7th 2019</i> <i>10am to 10pm each day</i></p> <p>Concord Pacific Place 88 Pacific Boulevard Vancouver, BC V6Z 2R6.</p> <p>In front of BC Place stadium (Whitecaps stadium) and Rogers Arena. Has a capacity for 150,000 people</p> <p><a href="https://www.carnavaldelsol.ca/about/">https://www.carnavaldelsol.ca/about/</a></p>

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‘We don’t talk anymore,  
we just text, we say hi and go,  
no we don’t talk...’

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## **Estos Sentimientos (These Feelings)**

**These feelings inside, I just can't hide  
And if you go, my heart will fall apart  
My love for you, could never die  
And if you go, my heart will fall apart**

**I need you so, never ever let me go  
I need your love, never let me go**

**Mi amor porti, nunca podra morir  
Pero se tu tevas, mi corazon se destruida**

**Amor eterno, amor eterno  
Amor por siempre, amor por siempre**

**Oh these feelings, these feelings in side  
These feelings, these feelings, these feelings inside**

**Te necisito nunca nuca me dejes  
Necisito tu amour, nunca me dejes  
I need you more, never ever let me go, oh oh no  
I need your love, never let me go**

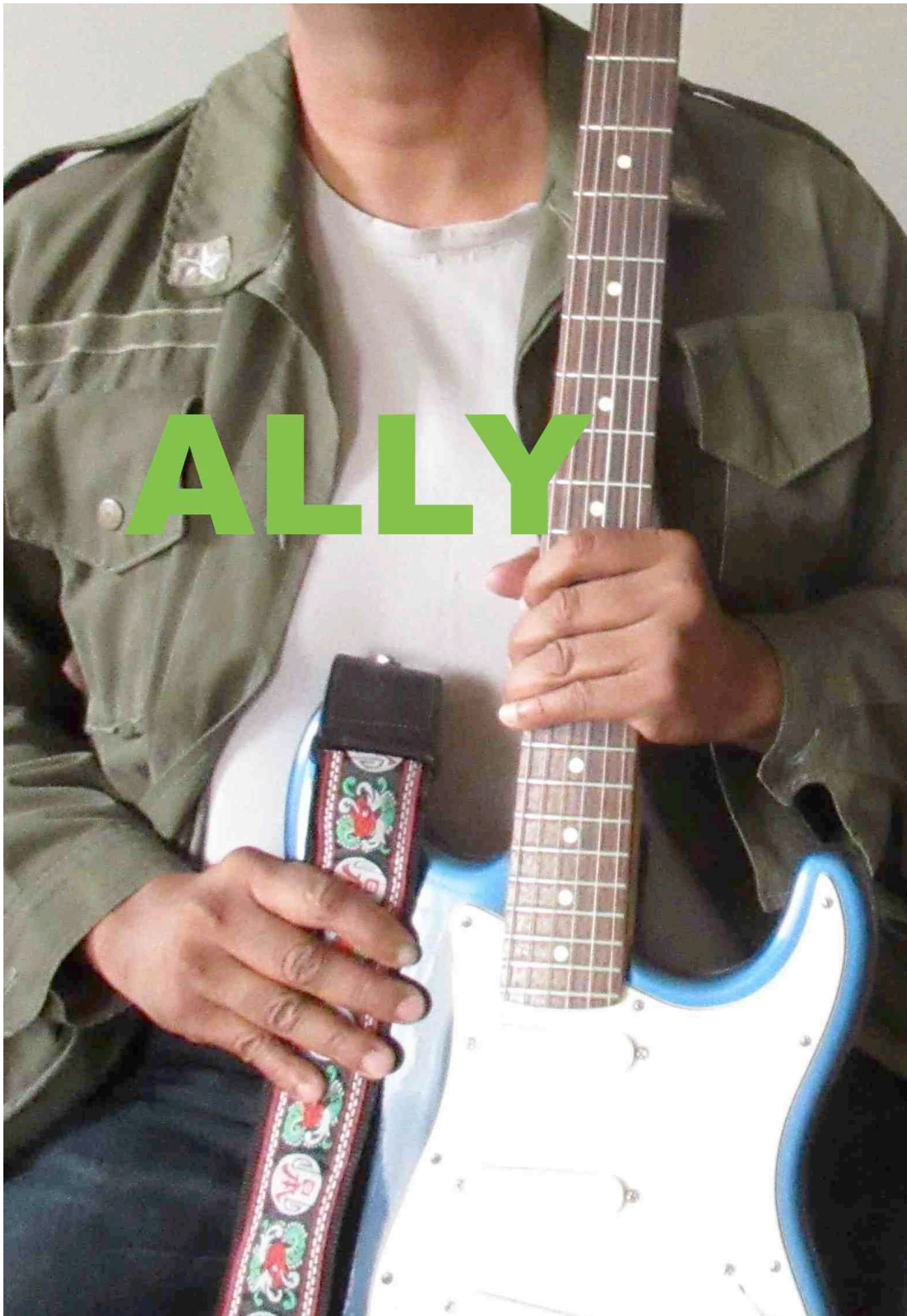
**Never ending love, never ending love  
Ever lasting love, everlasting love**

**Estos sentimientos que jeuve adentro  
No los puedo escondir, pedro se tu tevas  
Mi corizon se destruida**

**Oh these feelings, these feelings in side  
Yes, these feelings, these feelings, these feelings inside  
Oh these feelings, whoa, these feelings in side  
These feelings, these feelings, these feelings inside**

Photo copyright by S. Prashad; January 2017  
Lyrics from Estos Sentimeintos by Fisal Ally; 1990s, copyright protected

## 2019 MUSIC SERIES-BENDING STRINGS



## **1999 RECORDING SESSIONS AT ALBERTA SOUND ENG.**

**LOOKING BACK AT SOME RECORDING SESSIONS FROM 1999 BY  
F. ALLY AT ALBERTA SOUND ENG. WITH OWNER / ENGINEER CAM GUSE  
IN EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA**

Recording Backing Tracks for songs such as Sometimes, New Clear Society,  
A Kiss Goodnight.

As an Indie artists, all of my recordings mark a period in time and I refer to the songs as my  
CLASSICS.



**Fisal Ally, known as 'Brian' amongst relatives  
with his copy of a Les Paul purchased at age 16**

### **ALBERTA SOUND ENG. WORKING WITH CAM GUSE**

From what I remember, this studio had a half-inch or a one-inch reel to reel tape. The owner /  
engineer Cam Guse of this new studio called Alberta Sound Eng. and I had made a deal for me to  
use a number of hours, where Cam worked on the drum tracks using a drum machine while I  
complete some backing Tracks along with some vocals.

## **BACKING TRACKS FROM POWERSOUND AND ALBERTA SOUND ENG. ARE STILL USED**

It was an opportunity for me to learn about programming drums using a drum machine. Cam was very creative when it came to creating the drum tracks. He was also a very good drummer. No doubt he is very talented. While he put together the drum tracks, he checked with me, and I provided feedback while the backing tracks for songs like Sometimes, New Clear Society, True Love, A Kiss Goodnight were being created.

## **RECORDING VOCAL TRACKS**

The BACKING TRACKS tracks were coming along very well and it was time for me to do some vocal tracks and to get directions from the professionals. While recording the very first vocal tracks for my song 'A Kiss Goodnight' there were problems; the sound kept switching from side to side as if something was faulty. I could not hear myself and I explained that a few times. It became very annoying and frustrating because there were no solutions to resolve this, and thus the vocal tracks were not completed and my time spent in this studio was much shorter than planned for. As I have explained before, for me to lay down vocal tracks - with me having injured vocals - I had needed the kind of vocal production, which I've had at Beta Studios and Powersound Studio so I could stay in tune.

## **COST WAS A MAIN FACTOR FOR MY INDIE RECORDINGS**

On these tapes, you will not see the quality and playing that goes on in a professional studios where there are producers, engineers and top musicians being hired to play on the tracks. But I'm an indie artist and that was fine with me. At other times the production was better.

## **COPYRIGHT**

Once my songs were on cassettes or CDs where some were handed out, that means MY SONGS ARE COPYRIGHT AND PUBLISHED, and nobody can use parts and or hooks and ideas without a contract, meaning that my lawyer must be involved.

## **RECORDINGS**

Often there will be a second version and other recordings, and if I can afford it, I will enter a studio and pay for the production and other musicians. I have different versions, but I consider my older versions to be my CLASSICS.

## **REHEARSING SONGS**

### **AND PLAYING THE COMPLETE LEAD GUITAR INSTRUMENTALS**

I enjoy playing lead guitar, and I had created leads for my songs such as The Birds Won't Come My Way, True Love, Missing You Going Crazy, That's Crazy Love, SoCrazy4u. Others have also created leads for my songs such as when True Love was recorded at Power Sound in Edmonton in 1999.

*Continue on the following page...*





## STILL PLAYING AS AN INDIE ARTIST

Today I enjoy playing mostly instrumental leads. It's fun just taking my guitar over to relatives functions, play and then enjoy a nice dinner and conversations and this is what I will continue to do because of the love for this art.



*Original and unique*  
**SOMETIMES**  
**A KISS GOODNIGHT**

## PLAYING COMPLETE LEADS SUCH AS SAMBA PA TI

I play approximately 100 cover tunes (by other artists, including instrumentals) along with a selection of my original songs. In my teenage days, when I played lead, it was mostly a part of the song and the rest were chords and triads. In those days, I also played complete instrumentals like Wipe out, pipeline, Let's Go, Tequila etc...

I knew parts of Samba Pa Ti by Carlos Santana, but I never used to play the rest of the lead, only a part. When I played 'Sultans of Swings' I played the open lead and the small licks, but I do not remember playing all the leads, but today I play all the leads and the song as an instrumental.

For this Summer and Fall, I have been rehearsing instrument leads for songs such as All Along The Watch Tower (Jimi Hendrix version), Samba Pati, The Thrill Is Gone (B. B King version), Sultans of Swings, La Bamba (Lob Lobos version) and a few others, along with some Bollywood instruments such as Neele Neele Ambar Par, Tujhe Dekho, oh mere sona, Humse churalo, Tuha wahi (Bollywood tunes)

## COVER SONGS (OLDER SONGS MAINLY FROM THE 1950s)

I enjoy playing some older tunes such as In The Still of The Night, Stand by Me, The Great Pretender, Love story (Englebert Humperdink), The Last Waltz (Englebert Humperdink). I also like Elvis, Chuck Berry, The Beatles, Rolling Stones...

## PLAYING MY ORIGINAL SONGS

My selection of my original songs are: A Kiss Good Night, True Love, Sometimes, Keep The Peace, New Clear Society, In A Special Way, My Home, Precious Holidays / Christmas, Reaching out, Rain Go Away, Wide Eyed Innocent, Estos Sentimientos (These Feelings), Out of Control.

**HACKING**



**WICKED, TWO-FACED, DECEITFUL  
AND GOOD AT GANG STALKING AND  
THEFT**

*A hacker at work, hacking you - he is wicked, deceitful and two-face. He resonates with wickedness. He is a deceiver, thinking that he will never be held accountable for his wickedness, but he's the one that has been deceived...*

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE CONNECTED  
TO ANYTHING  
AND YOUR WHEREABOUTS OUT IN THE  
WORLD  
CAN EASILY BE TRACKED  
THIS TECHNOLOGY EXISTS ALTHOUGH  
MANY ARE NOT AWARE**

**THEY DO NOT CARRY OUT THEIR  
CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES TO GET CAUGHT**

**WELCOME TO THE WORLD  
OF DECEPTION**

You do not have to be online or be connected to any service to be tracked. And you don't have to do anything wrong to be tracked, hacked and robbed by deceitful, conniving, two-faced criminals.

*Hackers can switch on the camera on your TV and cell phones and watch you. Connecting your TV to your home network allows hackers into your home.*

*BELOW: Hackers stealing personal information Photos are licensed from [www.depositphotos.com](http://www.depositphotos.com) For demonstration purposes only*



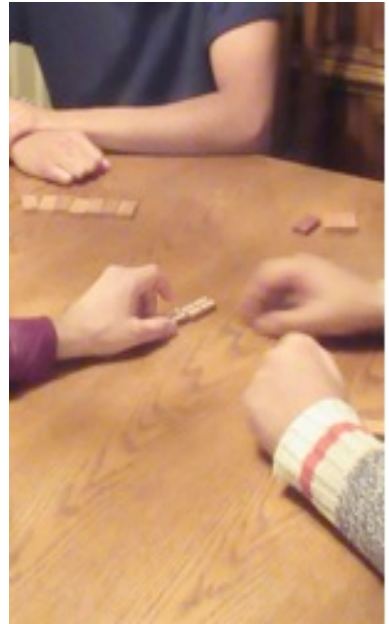
*They secretly scheme and plot against you. They carry out their wickedness and they will shift the blame on you and have you framed. But they've been deceived all of their lives, even though they are afraid to admit it. Illegal activities like conning the elderly out of their life savings, stealing people's invention, literature, songs, music and ideas*



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