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Guitar heroes out in force

HOT TICKET

By JAMES REANEY, SUN MEDIA

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Ric Emmett. (Derek Ruttan/Sun Media)

Canadian guitar hero Rik Emmett pays tribute to his guitar heroes at Orchestra London's Red Hot Weekends concerts this weekend.

The Canadian rock and Juno hall of famer joins the orchestra, the Jeans 'n' Classics band and conductor Mitch Tyler at Centennial Hall at 8 p.m. tomorrow and Saturday.

Emmett and friends open the 2009-2010 season's Red Hot Weekends series season. Among the guitar wizards celebrated are Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix and Carlos Santana via performances of Layla, All Along the Watchtower and Black Magic Woman respectively.

Emmett is a guitarist-singer-songwriter whose 30-year career ranges from fronting Canadian rockers Triumph to win "smooth jazz" instrumental honours. "Rik is a brilliant musician who can hold his own on a world stage," says Jeans 'n' Classics founder and guitar ace Peter Brennan. "He has worked with Jeans 'n' Classics for a number of years now -- when we can get him -- and he brings a level of sophistication and professionalism that raises the bar for us all. He is a true rock star."

Emmett, Brennan and Toronto's Dave Dunlop are the guitarists in the Rik Emmett's Guitar Heroes lineup. Dunlop is often alongside Emmett in Triumph, Strung-Out Troubadours and the Rik Emmett Band.

Tickets are \$40-\$59, \$15 for students. Series discounts are available. Visit [orchestralondon.ca](http://orchestralondon.ca) or call 519-679-8778.

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