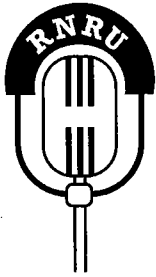


Marco Di Maggio

- The Superpicker

Marco Di Maggio, Eddie Cochran fan and
Rock'n'Roll shooting star



from Italy, takes guitar playing one step further: He combines great feeling with over-

whelming techniques and he is unbelievably fast. His new album „Superpicking“, the follow-up to his Tribute album „Thank you, Eddie“, is his greatest success so far.

Marco, please tell us a bit about your youth. What made you start playing guitar?

I come from Florence, Italy. I started playing guitar at the age of 6 and I perform professionally since the age of 13 with my first Rockabilly band „The Sharks“. My parents gave to my brother Massimo his first guitar for his 11th birthday. Meanwhile I was 6 years old and I started cryin' 'cause I wanted that guitar for me so my parents bought another guitar for my brother. Destiny makes me play guitar,

What are your musical influences?

I have many musical influences. I love all kinds of music from the 30s, 40s, 50s and early 60s. Dixieland, Swing, Jump Blues, Western Swing, Bluegrass, Doo-Wop, Rock 'n'Roll and, of course, Rockabilly.

What are your favourite recordings?

It's difficult to answer but I can say: Early sessions of Django Reinhardt, Les Paul, Chet Atkins, Merle Travis, The Sun Sessions, The Capitol era of Gene Vincent and all from my idol Eddie Cochran, even if I think that Buddy Holly was the greatest composer.

About the scene today I really like the country man Junior Brown, the western Swing of Big Sandy and the great talent of Brian Setzer.



Please describe your equipment.

I use to play a Gretsch 6119 Tennessee Rose Model into a Fender '59 reissue. I know that old vintage instruments are often better but after ten years playin' this equipment I feel really comfortable with it.

I think every guitarist has to find the right sound in his hands. If you want you can play a Telecaster makin' it sound like a Gibson Les Paul or vice versa.

I use to play a custom shop guitar really close to a Fender Telecaster standard (blonde). A friend of mine built it for me after I asked him for a kind of guitar sounding halfway between a Fender Tele and a Fender Mustang, he did a good job!

I use some pedal effects like compressor for my solos, sometimes an overdrive and a tape echo.

What makes a good guitar?

Any guitar can be the best if the guitarist knows what he really wants. A good player makes the guitar sound good.

Marco Di Maggio with his Gretsch guitar

