

Artist Biography:

Multi-award-winning singer/songwriter and guitarist Andy Hackbarth was raised on the idea that music can paint colors more vivid than any paintbrush. He does just that, weaving the world of flamenco and classical guitar into an arsenal of upbeat, contemporary-folk songs that are 100 percent, unmistakably Andy Hackbarth.

In 2006, Andy left his parents' llama ranch and the Colorado mountains behind for the bright (neon) lights of Music City, USA to raise his craft as a songwriter and performer to a new level.

"You don't realize how much you have to learn until you move to Nashville," he says. "Truly great songs are so rare. It's the best feeling in the world to know that you've written a song in which every word counts; one that forces everyone who hears it to stop, really listen, and look at the world in a completely different way."

In 2010, Andy released his much-anticipated third full-length album, *The Last Love Song*, worldwide in the midst of a 16-month, 200+ show tour that spanned, quite literally, coast-to-coast. It included stops such as the legendary Bitter End in New York, the historic Fox Theater in Colorado, Salt Lake's Sandy Amphitheater and the Hotel Cafe in California. Along the way Andy shared the stage with David Archuleta, Melissa Etheridge, Jimmy Wayne, Lonestar, Steve Azar, and many others.

Although music has always been his main focus, Andy was fascinated by the math and science of musical compositions, and studied physics for two years while pursuing his undergraduate guitar degree. Andy holds a Bachelor of Music in Classical Guitar Performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder and spent several summers attending the Aspen Music School. He has studied privately and in masterclass settings with some of the world's most highly-respected musicians, including John Williams, Christopher Parkening, Elliot Fisk, Ricardo Iznaola and Julliard's Sharon Isbin and Kevin Gallagher.

Andy was previously on the Music Faculty at the University of Colorado, where he taught guitar performance, theory and songwriting for three years during graduate studies. Andy has worked with children, teens and adults at schools, libraries and community education centers throughout the country. He continues to make outreach opportunities an integral part of his touring schedule.

Hackbarth's song, "We Ain't Done Yet" was featured by Major League Baseball during the World Series and aired on over 40 major radio stations in the West. He is the co-founder of the Nashville-based non-profit, Songs for the Cure.

Some of Andy's other accolades include:

- Winner—National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts Competition
- Winner—Music Teachers National Association Competition (CO, and West Region)
- Finalist—three major international competitions: International Songwriting Competition (out of over 15,000 applicants), the Billboard Songwriting Competition and the International Acoustic Music Awards
- Finalist—Neale Silva Competition
- Denver Songwriter of the Year Nomination—Westword Magazine
- Top 10 New Artist Award—Soundsugar