

MY GUITAR SHOW - 1.3

INSTRUCTION MANUAL



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Requirements

Minimum PC system requirements:

- . Operating system: Microsoft Windows XP(SP3), Vista, 7
- . Processor: Intel Pentium 4 2.8 Ghz or equivalent
- . RAM: 1Gb
- . Audio card: with compatible driver DirectSound
- . DVD Reader:
- . Video resolution: 1024x768
- . Disk space: 4GB*

Recommended PC system requirements:

- . Operating system: Microsoft Windows Vista, 7
- . Processor: Intel Core 2 Duo or equivalent
- . RAM: 2Gb
- . Audio card: with ASIO driver
- . Video resolution: 1280x1024
- . Disk space: 4GB*

** More space is required on the disk to save your own audio recordings (5MB per minute)*

Recommended MAC system

- requirements:** Operating system: Mac OS X10.4 or higher (we are testing with 10.7)
- . Processor: Intel Core Duo or better
 - RAM: 1Gb
 - . DVD Reader Video resolution: 1024x768
 - . Disk space: 2GB*

** More space is required on the disk to save your own audio recordings (5MB per minute)*

Introduction | page2

Installation

Installing software on a PC

- 1 Download the Zip file from the My Guitar Show web site.
- 2 Extract the Setup.exe file and proceed with the installation.
- 3 Follow the indications in the guided procedure and complete the installation of the software.
- 4 The "My Guitar Show" program icon is now available in start/programs and, if selected during installation, on the desktop.

Installing software on MAC

- 1 Download the Zip file from the My Guitar Show web site.
- 2 Extract the Setup.mpkg file and proceed with the installation.
- 3 Follow the indications of the guided procedure and complete the installation of the software.
- 4 The "My Guitar Show" program icon is now available among your Apps.

Audio Setup

To optimize the configuration of your audio card, follow the procedure below:

- 1 Select "audio tools/setup" from the general menu (Fig.1)

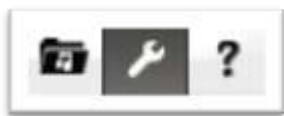


fig.1

- 2 **Type of audio driver** (only PC)
In this selection there must be at least one item: for example, "Direct Sound" or "ASIO".

This selection enables the user to select which audio drive to use and influences the relative and successive automatic Input and Output configurations.

- 3 **Device** (In and Out)
Selects, if not already automatically selected, the output and input source.

Audio Setup

4 **Sample Frequency**

It is recommended that the frequency be set at 44.100 Hz

5 **Buffer Size**

First of all, use the Test function to verify the calibration. Check that the loudspeakers are turned on and connected correctly to the Computer, then click on the "Test" button to start the test.

If the sound generated is "dirty" or presents anomalies like intermittence or noise, you may

use the drop-down menu on audio latency (select higher numbers) until the audio test results in the right sound. Remember that the latency is the time interval between the input and the output of the sound.

The lower the latency, the better the result. For this reason, if there should be delays in the sound in your recordings made with your own instrument or, more in general, if the audio is not synchronized, you must intervene on the buffer.

Configuring your own instrument

The following procedure demonstrates how to connect your guitar to the computer correctly in order to practice with the multimedia tools included in the software and record your own performances.

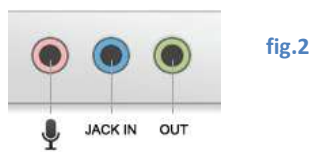
Acoustic and classical guitars

1 First of all, because these musical instruments are generally not electrified, you must acquire a microphone. There is a wide variety of models and various prices ranges of microphones, but it must be remembered that, in this

case, a common computer microphone that costs between 4 and 20 Euro (\$8-\$28) is sufficient. Any store selling IT equipment generally has such merchandise. The microphones must have 3.5 mm jacks.

Configuring you own instrument

- 2 Insert the microphone cable into the "mic of the computer audio card" into the input (the first from the left as in the drawing); generally the input reference color is red. (Fig.2)



- 3 Open the audio setup panel described on page 2 and check that the IN/OUT Device is configured as required. Open the exercise or the piece desired and

open the Mixer (page 2, Fig.6, point 8). Check that the "My Guitar" track is not mute and that the volume is high enough. Finally, carry out a few trials to find the distance between the instrument and the microphone that works best at a sufficient level of listening/recording. In the "properties" of the audio card, check that the "microphone" or "mic" is active and regulated correctly.

Electric and electrified guitars

- 1 Buy a common cable with jacks.

- 2 Insert an audio adapter into one of the two ends, from Jack 6.3 mm female to Jack 3.5 mm male. (Fig.3)



Fig.3

- 3 Connect the jack to your instrument and the adapter to the input "LINE IN" ("Jack in" in Figures") of the Audio Card. The inputs of the Audio card are usually visible at the back of the PC.
- 4 Finally, check that the volume of the "INPUT LINE" in the properties of the audio card volume is activated and at least at half-way.

Panorama of the work areas

There are four work areas of My Guitar Show, as in the figure below:

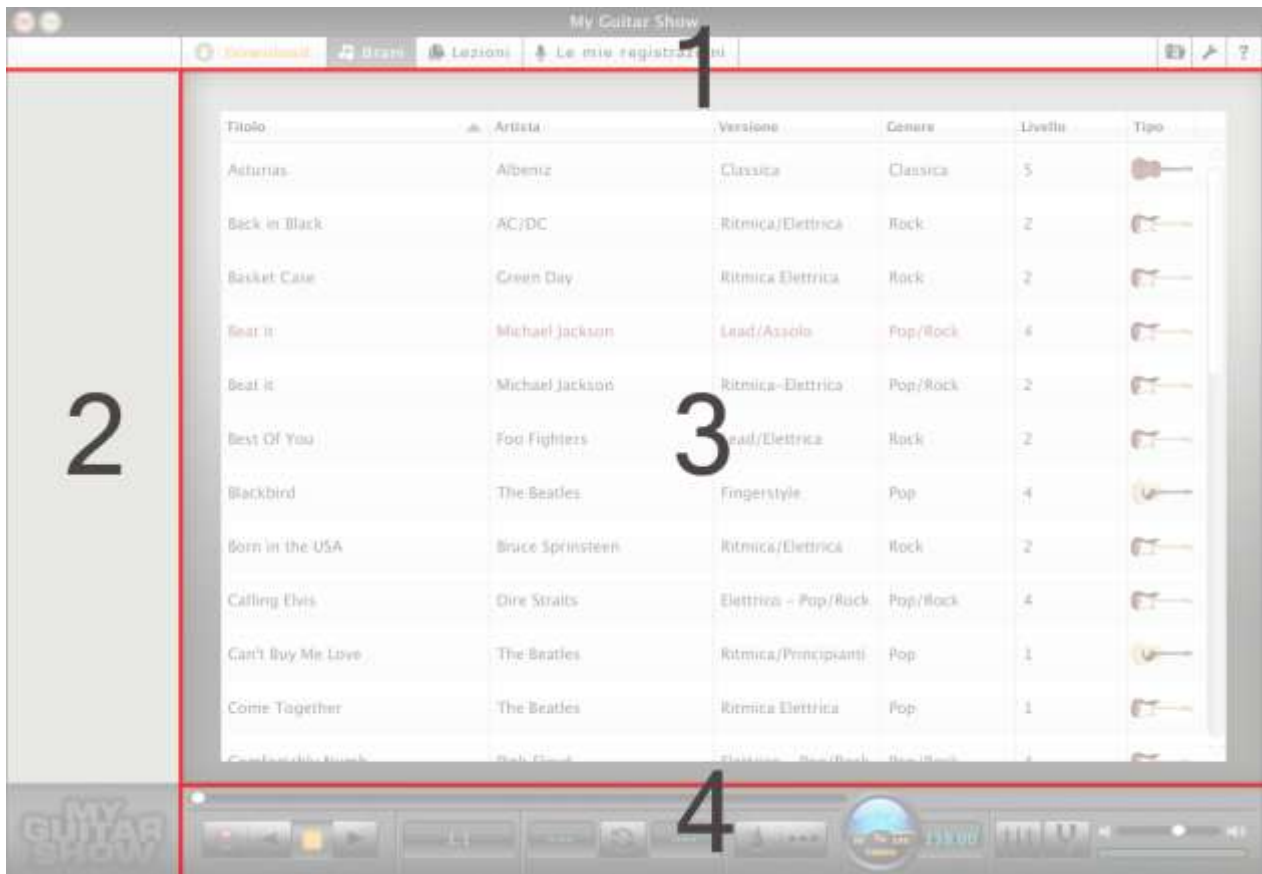


Fig.4

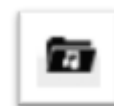
Area 1 – Main Menu

Area 1 is dedicated to the main menu where it is possible to select the sections desired and the instruments in the setup. This is the control deck of My Guitar Show also because the main menu is used to consult and navigate the contents and sections and set preferences and setups. The characteristics of each item will be explained in detail below.

- **Download** : Connect to [My Guitar Show Store](#) where it is possible to buy new pieces and contents.
- **Pieces**: The area where all the pieces acquired and installed can be found
- **Lessons**: The area where all the lessons and extra contents acquired and installed can be found
- **My recordings**: Area/archive where all the recordings made with your instrument can be found

Panorama of the work areas

- 1 Contents Management: here it is possible to install, activate, and remove all the contents of My Guitar Show.
- 2 Tools: here it is possible to change language, configure the audio, change graphic skins, and set other parameters.
- 3 Help: this space is dedicated to the guides, the contact/assistance forms, and dictionary access.



Area 2 – Side bar

This Area manages the contents of each individual song, lesson, and extra content through a side bar menu that displays the composition.

Area 3 – Multimedia Content

The central area is dedicated to the visualization of all the multimedia content available in My Guitar Show, including:

- Study pages
- Videos
- Synchronized scrolling musical scores
- Scores in pdf
- Navigation buttons and audio controls

Area 4 – Control Bar

The control bar manages the playback of the multimedia elements and controls many other resources/tools.

- 1 Buttons for: Play, Stop, Forward, Rewind, from the beginning, and Rec
- 2 Measure counter
- 3 Loop setup
- 4 Metronome
- 5 Precount
- 6 Tempo manager (rallenty effect)
- 7 Visualization of bpm (beats per minute)
- 8 Mixer
- 9 Tuner
- 10 Master Control (volume)

Work Area | page7

Description of the work areas

Main Menu (Area 1)

As briefly described in the previous chapter, the main menu (Area 1) manages, selects, and visualizes all the contents available in the software. Moreover, from the main menu it is possible to visualize and consult all the new contents published by Mussida Musica Editore. Now let's look at each item in detail:

- Download -

The download item opens the internet connection to the [My Guitar Show Store](#). Here you can to consult the latest publications available, conduct targeted searches by title or artist, listen to brief previews, read the relative description and, if you want, make a purchase.

- Pieces -

By selecting the item Pieces, the central area will display the list of pieces installed and eventually authorized. The top part of the list will contain a bar of titles, including the description of each individual piece:

- **Type:** Describes the type of guitar used
- **Title:** Visualizes the title of the piece
- **Artist:** Visualizes the name of the artist
- **Version:** Describes the type (solo, chords, piece, etc.)
- **Genre:** Describes the style
- **Level:** Visualizes the level of difficulty

- Lessons-

Similarly to the item of the menu just described, the item "Lessons" visualizes the list of all the lessons.

Work Area | page8

Description of the work areas

* Please also remember that you can change the name of the item in the title bar in the lists of "Pieces" and "Lessons".

The title bar is divided into:

- **Course:** Describes the name of the course the content belongs to
- **Lesson:** Visualizes the number of the lesson the content belongs to
- **Type:** Visualizes the image of the course
- **Section:** Visualizes the didactic section the content refers to
- **Info:** Describes the lesson
- **Level:** Visualizes the level

- My recordings -

This is the archive containing the recordings made using the software. When various recordings are selected, a drop-down menu appears to listen and/or cancel the recording. The title bar allows the user to visualize:

- **Title:** Visualizes the title of the piece or the exercise recorded
- **Part:** Visualizes the number of the part in case the exercise has more than one
- **Date:** Visualizes the date of the recording
- **Tempo:** Visualizes the tempo (bpm) expressed as a percentage

For example, you can set the visualization of the contents by arranging them (dragging them with the mouse) by

name, level, type of course, etc. In this way, it will be even easier to find and visualize all the pieces purchased.

Side-Bar (Area 2)

The side-bar (Area 1) allows you to use the buttons to surf the various parts of each content. For example, in the pieces and in the lessons, the "parts" will be visualized (number of exercises into which the piece has been subdivided). To consult this information, just click on the desired item. When you are studying a piece or an exercise, the item "Enter the studio" will appear in the lower part of the side-bar. This item allows you to listen to the entire piece, to practice over the base, and to record your own performance (which will be saved in the "My Recordings" archive).

Multimedia Content (Area 3)

This area visualizes multimedia contents. Selecting an item in the side-bar opens the "Study Page" (if the option "don't

open the texts automatically" is deactivated. See details ahead). The Study Page visualizes the lesson objective, the teacher's description, and a summary of suggestions if available. Furthermore, there is the "navigator" that enables you to identify the position of the exercise or the study within the lesson at a glance. A print button allows you to print the Study Page if you wish to have a paper copy.



In this area there are also icon-buttons. A description follows:



The image to the side illustrates the Study Page button that allows you to close it.



Open the Study Page again.

Open the musical score (pdf)

Description of the work areas

Once you have completed consulting the Study page, you can visualize the other multimedia elements available, like: videos and synchronized scrolling musical scores.

- **Videos:** these are shown together with the audio control bar (Fig. 4).

You can use the two control buttons near the lower part of the bar in order to:

- Select the image with the headphones to listen to the "solo" being performed by the instrument. The audio base will be mute: this function is particularly useful when you want to listen in detail to the teacher's 'performance.
- Select the image with the loudspeaker to exclude the audio of the teacher's performance. This function is particularly useful for practicing with your instrument over the audio base without playing over the audio of what the teacher is playing.
- The central selector allows you to regulate the audio volume of the teacher's guitar.



- **Synchronized scrolling musical scores:**

In the lower part of Area 3, if included, there is the musical score/tablatore of the piece or exercise. Similarly to the musical video writing, this section demonstrates the advancement of the performance on the musical score. A cursor will indicate the state of advancement of the measures and will interact with the commands of the control

bar described below. For example, the tempo of the scrolling musical score can be [fig.5](#) slowed down, be put into a loop, and finally be positioned on a specific measure.

Work Area | page10

Description of the work areas

Memorizing the last lesson or piece:

To optimize consulting the contents, when closing the software, memorize the last lesson or piece visualized, making it possible to continue with the consultation right where you left off when you start the software again.

Control Bar (Area 4)



Fig.6

The control bar (Fig.6) provides the commands for a number of functions. Let's look at them in detail:

- 1 **REC:** Recording of the audio from the input source of your PC
- 2 **STOP:** Interrupts the reproduction of the sequence
- 3 **PLAY:** Beginning of the sequence
Next to the play button is the "Measure counter" and the relative beats.
- 4 **LOOP:** Activates the loop (cycle) in the sequence. This function is particularly useful for studying or listening to an individual part of the sequence repeatedly. By selecting the In and Out measures by clicking first with the left mouse button (IN) and then at the point desired with the right mouse button (OUT), the measures to be included in the cycle are selected. Clicking on the Loop button will activate the cyclical reproduction.
- 5 **METRONOME**
- 6 **PRECOUNT:** This function enables you to listen to an additional empty measure before beginning the sequence. This function is very useful, for example, in the "Recording Studio" to prepare you to record.
- 7 **TEMPO:** Regulates the tempo of each sequence. Positioning the mouse over the colored half-moon and dragging it downward will decrease the tempo of the sequence up to 50% of the default tempo set. Use this function to decrease or increase the performance of the sequence.
- 8 **MIXER** (The mixer and its functions are explained later on.)
- 9 **TUNER:** There is a digital tuner available to tune your guitar (This function is described in more detail later on).
- 10 **MASTER:** This function regulate the general volume of the all the mixer channels.

Work Area | page12

Description of the work areas

* Recording your own instrument – procedures and useful advice

To record a good guitar sound, you must first have a correct input level reaching the audio card of your computer. Here's how:

- First of all, we advise you to buy a pair of earphones to avoid unpleasant "Larsen effects". This is the best way to separate the sounds coming from the bases (virtual band and lead guitar) from the sound of your guitar.
- Let's continue by selecting the input source (line, mic, external card, etc.) from the "Audio Setup Panel". For example, if you want to record the guitar with the internal computer microphone, select "mic" from the drop-down menu under the item "audio input" or select your alternative audio source.
- Now you will have to regulate the input volume. To do so, just observe if the LED of the first track to the left inside the mixer (the My Guitar track) moves while you are playing. This indicates that the sound of your instrument is reaching the recording system correctly.
- At this point, regulate your input volume with the fader so that your sound more or less reaches the yellow/red area of the Vumeter.
- If you wear earphones, deselect the "mute" button of your track and listen to your sound directly through the earphones.

ATTENTION: Do not deselect the mute button without first checking that the fader of the recording channel is positioned at minimum volume. This will prevent the "Larsen" effect, protecting both your ears and your system.

Description of the Mixer

Description of the parts:

- **FADER:** use this control to increase or decrease the track volume.
- **MUTE:** Excludes the sound coming from the track. This function may be useful for excluding, for example, the lead guitar while you play a part. For this purpose, to the left of each video is a Mute button.
- **SOLO:** Select this to listen immediately to only that track without hearing the others. This control may be useful, for example, to be able to listen to a track you like more closely, like your guitar or voice.
- **PAN:** This moves each sound to the right or left of each of your tracks. For example: If you want to highlight one track, check that there are not too many instruments in the direction the Pan is set. Have fun moving this control back and forth to make your mix more "open".
- **EQUALIZER:** Use these three knobs to remove or add Bass (low), middle (Med) or high (Hi) frequencies from or to your track. The best way to understand this concept is to try it. For example, move the Hi knob of a track in Solo and listen to how the sound changes. If you remove it by moving it towards the left, you will remove the high frequencies, making the sound less defined and brilliant.
- **REVERB:** This function regulates the quantity of the sound that permeates the room when the direct signal has died.
- **CHORUS:** This enriches the sound by doubling the signal, giving the illusion of listening to two or more guitars simultaneously.

Further details and instructions on how to use the mixer can be found in the videoguide available [on the site](#).

Installation, activation and removal of the contents

This section, contained in the Main Menu (Fig.6), manages all the My Guitar Show contents.



fig.6

- Installation of Contents -

To install the contents in My Guitar Show, open "Contents Management" (Fig.6), from the Main Menu and select the item "Install contents". Identify the file/files to install (.mip or .zip) on your hard disk, then click on "Open". The installation procedure will start automatically and will be visualized in the installation progress bar. When installation is complete, a message will appear confirming that the contents have been installed.

- Activation of Contents -

If the contents installed require activation, open "Contents Management" from the Main Menu and select the item "Activate contents". A control window will open automatically. The titles of the contents that require activation will appear in the upper part of the window. In the central part, instead, you must insert your log in information to access the site. If you do not yet have login data, just register on the site to obtain them ([go the site user registration page now](#)). Insert your username and password chosen during registration on the site in the software

contents activation window where required. The lower part of the contents activation window will then ask you to insert the serial numbers of the contents purchased and installed and click on the "activate" button to conclude the procedure. Upon conclusion, a message of confirmation will notify you that activation has been successful. Please remember that your serial numbers are available on your personal page on the site and in the e-mail of confirmation sent to you when you purchased the contents.

- Remove Contents -

If ever you wish to remove the contents, for example, to free up some space on your hard disk, you will have to open "Contents management" from the Main Menu and select the item "Remove contents". A window will illustrate the contents installed. Select the contents to be removed by clicking on the image representing a circle to the side of the "title" menu, checking your selections twice (checkbox), and then proceed by clicking on the "Remove" button.

Instruments | page15

Setup



This section, contained in the Main Menu (Fig.7) includes instruments, preferences, and setups.

- Dictionary -

This item opens the dictionary of musical terms (description on page 17)

- Language Selection -

This item allows you to set the language you prefer from among the seven now available.

- Audio Setup -

See page 2

- Graphic themes-

This function allows you to set the size of the program and to personalize the graphic appearance.

- FactorySkin: Ideal for screens with resolution equal to or higher than 1024x728 pixels
- MiniSkin: Ideal for screens with resolution equal to or higher than 1024x728 pixels

- Do not open texts automatically -

This item sets the preference of opening the Study Page in the "Lessons" section. If selected, no Study Page will open while consulting the contents.

Assistance and guide | page16

Help and contacts

This section, contained in the Main Menu (Fig.8) contains guides, contact forms,



and the Dictionary of Musical Terms.

- Help -

Opens the software guide

- Online Help -

Opens the Internet link for the help page

- Information on My Guitar Show -

Information on the version currently installed, on "About Us" and licensing descriptions.

- Dictionary -

The Dictionary contains all the fundamental terms useful for following the different courses of study. It is organized in alphabetical order. For an analytical search of terms, use the "summary" at the end of the document.

- Contact us -

Contact forms to be used to indicate and send claims about technical problems and/or program performance.

Resources | page17

Offline and online

My Guitar Show also contains various types of resources for in-depth analysis of didactic areas and themes that are deliberately treated separately from individual pieces or lessons. Here is a way of finding and visualizing them quickly:



Tuner: After having correctly connected the instrument (or the microphone in case of an acoustic instrument) to the computer, open the tuner by clicking on the relative button on the control bar.

Play one string at a time and check the name of the note that appears below, referring the following legend:

E1 F1 G1 A1 B1 C2 D2 E2 F2 G2 A2 B2 C3 D3 E3

6ª corda a vuoto 5ª corda a vuoto 4ª corda a vuoto 3ª corda a vuoto 2ª corda a vuoto 1ª corda a vuoto

(Corda a vuoto = Open string)

The number that appears beside the note represents the octave; the lower the number, the lower the note, the higher the number the higher the note.

If the tuner indicates a note name lower than the name of the string being tuned, the string must be tightened until the name is exact.

If the tuner indicates a note name higher than the name of the string being tuned, the string must be loosened until the name is exact.

Resources | page18

Offline and online

Once the name corresponding to the string has been reached, fine tune according to the position of the needle.

If the needle tends to the left, the string must be tightened until the needle moves to the center:



If the needle tends to the right, the string must be loosened until the needle moves to the center:



When the string is tuned properly, the display becomes green.



Troubleshooting | page19

Problem	Solution
While installing the software, error messages appear on the monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Check that the program is not running . Check that the support has no visible damage
While installing the contents, error messages appear on the monitor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Try rebooting the software and selecting the contents to be installed again . Check that the contents are not on a damaged support or that errors were not present during downloading, if these are retail contents
I cannot hear any sound when playing a video or audio track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . It may be that the audio card is not configured correctly in My Guitar Show. . Consult the guide under "Audio Setup" to solve the problem
I cannot see the video or they are not visualized correctly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Check that the PC meets the minimum requirements for the software . Contact technical assistance
The user name and password are not recognized during activation of contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . The login data of "username" and "password" must correspond to those chosen and used during registration on the www.mussidamusica.it website or to www.myguitarshow.com website (it's the same company) . If still not available, consult the guide under chapter "Contents Management".
I cannot see the entire software interface.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . The monitor or the screen are set at a resolution of less than 1024x768 . Consult the guide under "Tools/Graphic Themes"
Can I install My Guitar Show on an external hard disk?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . No, it is necessary for the installation file to be on a computer hard disk.
The download section results in an error page	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . To consult the section, you must be connected to the Internet

After having connected the instrument to the computer, I don't hear any sound.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Check that the instrument is configured correctly . Consult the guide at the chapter on "Configuring your instrument".
Is it possible to add effects to the recorded guitar?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Yes, it is possible to add: reverb and chorus. . Consult the guide at the chapter on "Mixer".

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