

# The Rusty Wright Band

## Press:

(Wednesday, September 16, 2015) - Each year, Vintage Guitar magazine honors those who inspired and awed us as guitar players, fans, and listeners by inducting the great players, innovators, and instruments to the VG Readers' Choice Awards. We also choose Album of the Year, Featured Artist of the Year, and Player of the Year in four categories.

Nominations are solicited from editorial contributors and visitors to VintageGuitar.com, then a list of finalists is compiled with input from VG staff.

This years nominees are:

Jeff Beck - LIVE

Joe Bonamassa - Different Shades of Blue

Pink Floyd - The Endless River

Sonny Landreth - Bound By The Blues

Rusty Wright - Wonderman



### Album of the Year



**Jeff Beck, *Live*** Though essentially a fusion player, on this set, Beck focused on song-oriented material featuring singer Jimmy Hall. From Stevie Wonder's "Superstition" to Sam Cooke's "A Change Is Gonna Come" and Mahavishnu Orchestra's "You Know You Know," Beck shines whether the songs are slow-and-mellow or require a wall of melodic solo with effects and overdrive. "Little Wing" gets a nice dose of Beck nuance; the 71-year-old continues to amaze.



**Joe Bonamassa, *Different Shades of Blue*** Bonamassa's predilection for British blues-rock is evident, but he also steps into new ground, employing velvety organ textures courtesy of Reese Wynans and highlighted by a rhythm section that includes bassists Carmine Rojas and Michael Rhodes. Bonamassa takes familiar blues tropes and polishes them to perfection on songs like "Heartache Follows Where Ever I Go" and "I Gave Up Everything For You, 'Cept The Blues".



**Sonny Landreth, *Bound By The Blues*** Doing what seems beyond the capabilities of most slide players, Landreth served up 10 tracks in a stripped-down trio format that allows his tones to permeate old favorites and invoke honesty rather than caricature. His Louisiana swamp juice and no-frills vocal style keep the disc devoid of blues shenanigans, and his band (bassist David Ranson and drummer Brian Brignac) is the perfect marriage of groove and stomp.



**Pink Floyd, *The Endless River*** Mostly instrumental and recorded in the mid '90s, it was released following the death of keyboardist Rick Wright and is highlighted by guitarist David Gilmour mining classic Floyd sounds and art-rock ambiance with his soulful, bluesy Strat leads. Though borrowing heavily from its own catalog, it's hard not to be moved by the iconic sounds of this effort.



**Rusty Wright Band, *Wonder Man*** Blending blues and Southern rock, Rusty Wright and company (whose stringers include Wright and his wife, on guitars - often swapping leads - along with Dennis Bellinger on bass), create big rock-and-roll sounds by blending hints of Allman Brothers with other bluesy country-rockers (think Skynard, Tucker, and Daniels) on 10 original tracks.

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Screen shot from original website

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