

# Mp3 Damian Green Band - The Best Of The Damian Green Band



[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

The world's best-selling album by Damian Green. A mixture of the best twelve western swing, gypsy jazz and big band jazz tunes that we play. Special guests: Ray Benson, Floyd Domino and Eddie Rivers. 12 MP3 Songs COUNTRY: Western Swing, JAZZ: Swing/Big Band Show all album songs: The Best of the Damian Green Band Songs Details: In the Swing of Things By James Reel Classical violinists dont play Western swing. Dang! Someone must have forgotten to tell Damian Green. Want to find out Damian Greens musical hero? The 16-year-old fiddler likes to tell a joke about Jascha Heifetz, the most famous classical violinist of the 20th century. Theres this story that Heifetz was trying to get his dog into his hotel room, he says. The manager stopped him, and the violinist puffed up and said, But Im Jascha Heifetz. The manager said, I dont care if youre Bob Wills, youre not bringing that dog in here. Sure, Green knows his way around the classical violin; he has a lot of concertos in his fingers, and he plays in an orchestra in his native Texas. But at heart, hes less of a Jascha Heifetz fan than a keeper of the flame of the great Texas swing fiddler Bob Wills. Wills and his Texas Playboys played country dance tunes as if they were jazz numbers. Wills didnt invent Texas swing in the 1930s, but he pretty much perfected it, and hes Damian Greens hero. In fact, Green keeps getting compared to Wills, both in his playing and his stage presence. Thats how Green wants it. Yes sir, he says with his polite Texas accent. I like his overall charisma, the way he moved on stage, the way he got the audience going. I collect a bunch of Bob Wills recordings, and I listen to those a lot, and learn a lot, and I even get to play with the Texas Playboys and learn from them in person. Thats right. He hasnt even graduated from high school, but Green already has played with the old Bob Wills band, not to mention his touring with the famed Texas swing group Asleep at the Wheel in a tribute show called A Ride with Bob. The subject, you might guess, is Bob Wills. When

Green, the band, and the shows other participants played at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., a few months ago, Green even got to shake hands with a big fan of Texas swing: President George W. Bush. None of this exactly happened overnight Green got what you might call an early start. I wanted to play the bass when I was two and a half year old, he says. Hed seen what that instrument and others could do because his aunt was a high-school orchestra teacher. But I was too little for the bass, so they gave me an 1/8-size fiddle and I started with a Suzuki program. When he was seven, Green attended a western-swing camp, where he got his first real introduction to the style. It combines the blues, the jazz, the country, and the big-band swing all into one, Green says. He couldnt resist. I love the classical stuff for the technical training, he says, but I really enjoy playing the western swing and country jazz, to be on stage and to hear the audience its a different reaction. Says Greens teacher, Bill Dick, The thing about Damian thats most impressive to me is that he has a sense of the moment. By that I mean when hes onstage hes got the costume, hes got the moves, hes got the showbiz part of it down, but it doesnt seem cheesy. Hes doing a great show and having fun doing it. But then, at his lessons, hes matter-of-fact, and hes not resistant to criticism or change. Whatever hes doing, hes doing it 100 percent and honestly. As a student hes receptive and not insecure, and onstage hes struttin with the best of them. He can switch styles easily, too, says Dick. This semester he played the 16th Paganini Caprice for All State, and hes good about adjusting his bow stroke so hes not swinging Paganini. He can address whatever musics in front of him, like theres a little needle that goes wherever it needs to go whatever the repertoire is. And hes such a friendly, happy kid. His parents certainly raised a very secure kid without his being an arrogant jerk. If anybody has reason to be arrogant, its Damian Green. Success came to him early. When he was still a chubby-faced preteen he was called Fiddle Boy, which was also the title of his first CD. The CD cover depicted him dressed like Superman, flying through the air with a fiddle under his arm. Like fellow Texan and teen concert violinist Caitlin Tully, Green was a Texas Cultural Trust Council Young Master, an honor he received in 2006. The year before, he won the American String Teachers Association alternative-styles award in his age category. Now hes got his own band, and he goes around romping with Asleep at the Wheel and the Texas Playboys. Why wouldnt he be a little full of himself? But, like his teacher says, hes not. And he knows the next few years are going to be tricky for him. Before long, hell be too old to get by as your friendly neighborhood child prodigy. Hell have to establish a place for himself amid all the other great adult Texas-swing fiddlers out there. Hes homeschooled now, which gives him

time to play gigs without missing out on his education. In a couple of years hed like to be studying at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, which takes alternative styles as seriously as most conservatories regard classical. And then? According to Bill Dick, itll be a combination of being discovered by the right people, and proving that he can do more than emulate his hero, Bob Wills. The sound hes producing is going to have to be innovative, he says. Right now hes a great mimic, but I dont think he does his own material yet. In Texas swing, I dont think he can just cover songs the way classical violinists cover the Mendelssohn concerto. If someone comes up just playing Charlie Daniels tunes, that wont make it. Hes got the show side, and if he can spin that off into something original, thats what it would take to get him to the top of his field. Hes very hardworking and very gifted; hes got things to learn, but once he picks up enough music theory to write his own stuff, the career is basically in his pocket. Thats why Green wants to go to Berklee, to develop that musical foundation. And he wants to keep learning secrets from all kinds of violinists, classical and jazz, living and deadltzhak Perlman, Stphane Grappelli, Joe Venuti, and Stuff Smith all are in his iPod. I try to keep myself well-rounded, Green says. And, he points out, even though hes gotten famous around Texas pretty fast, hes had to work at it. I never take time off from practicing, he says. If Im getting ready for something special, like a concert or a competition, I spend four or five hours a day working on it. If Im just maintaining, I spend two-and-a-half to three hours a day. Bill Dick gives me a bunch of exercises for speed and accuracy, a lot of arpeggios and basic scales, and then sometimes different etudes like the Rode and the Paganini caprices; those help me maintain my technique. Before a concert or a competition, we get the guys in the band together and have a rehearsal. We play a couple of hours and run over all our tunes and make sure we know everything and dont get nervous. Usually in a show I feel a lot more loose than in a competition, because in a show I feel like I have more control over what Im doing. In competitions I have to follow a more structured pattern. So hes got all the right habits and strategies. Bill Dick repeats that theres just that one more thing he has to develop. He needs theory, he says. Thats whats going to unlock his creative side, and open him up to his own voice and his own music and his own career. \_\_\_\_\_

This article appears in Teen Strings magazine, Aug./Sept./Oct. 2007, No.7

[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

## Similar manuals:

[MP3 In Color - In Color \(the Lamp Album\)](#)