

new release



Jazz Promo Services

file under: **JAZZ** RELEASE DATE: November 7, 2025

WAYNE WILKINSON "HOLLY TUNES"

For years, fans have asked guitarist Wayne Wilkinson to record a Christmas album. Now *Holly Tunes* delivers a joyful new holiday collection.



Artist: WAYNE WILKINSON

Release Date: November 7, 2025

Artist Website: waynewilkinson.com, waynewilkinson.bandcamp.com

Title: HOLLY TUNES

UPC Code: 195269384814

TRACK LISTING

1. **God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen** 4:17 (*William Sandys*)
2. **Deck The Halls** 3:51 (*Thomas Oliphant*)
3. **Silent Night** 4:49 (*Lyrics Joseph Mohr, Music Franz Xaver Gruber*)
4. **White Christmas** 5:57 (*Irving Berlin*)
5. **The Christmas Waltz** 4:12 (*Sammy Cahn & Jule Styne*)
6. **O Christmas Tree** 3:25 (*Ernst Anschutz*)
7. **Santa Claus is Comin' To Town** 4:42 (*J. Fred Coots & Haven Gillespie*)
8. **You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch** 3:51 (*Lyrics Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel, Music Albert Hague*)
9. **Little Drummer Boy** 5:00 (*Katherine Kennicott Davis*)
10. **Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas** 5:00 (*Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane*)
11. **What Are You Doing New Year's Eve** 3:47 (*Frank Loesser*)

Total CD Time 46:51

Produced By: Thomas J. Dawson Jr. Productions, Colorado Springs Colorado **Mixing Engineer:** Thomas J. Dawson Jr. **Recording Engineer:** Chris Cullins, Colorado Springs Colorado

Wayne Wilkinson Trio: Wayne Wilkinson - Guitar, Andy Burtschi - Bass, Scott Barbier - Drums
Special Guest Thomas J. Dawson Jr. - Piano, Strings & Organ (tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, & 11)

It's Christmas through the voice of the guitar — lyrical and inviting — supported by bass and drums in the timeless trio format. Piano and organ add sparkle and soul while strings lift carols into moments of beauty and reflection.

Holly Tunes captures the full spirit of the holidays and is a long-awaited gift to listeners: swinging favorites that bring joy, nostalgia, and cheer along with reimagined sacred carols. Listening feels like stepping into a timeless holiday film where the glow of vintage Americana meets sophisticated jazz harmonies.

Inspired by Joe Pass's iconic Six-String Santa, *Holly Tunes* is perfect for listeners who want the spirit of Christmas wrapped in warmth, elegance, style, and a touch of swing, whether they're a lifelong jazz listener or just discovering the beauty of these melodies in a new way.

Wayne Wilkinson is a headliner guitarist that performs and tours across the country and internationally. Throughout his over four decade career, he has shared the stage with iconic jazz musicians and world class performers at major jazz and music festivals, the White House, and Carnegie Hall. He was a member of the premier Air Force Jazz Ensembles The Airmen of Note and The Falconaires. In addition, he is a Benedetto guitar artist and is regularly featured as a special guest. The Wayne Wilkinson Trio performs a mix of straight ahead and traditional jazz and American songbook standards, innovative jazz arrangements of other music genres, and inspired original compositions. Wilkinson's touring performances have included the London, Tel Aviv, and Vail Jazz Festivals, Paris, the United Kingdom, and Hawaii. Wilkinson is known for his high-octane melodic playing which world-renowned jazz trombonist Bill Watrous said "is the greatest guitar playing I've ever heard." *Holly Tunes* is Wayne's seventh self-produced recording.

Andy Burtschi has worked as a professional bassist for over twenty years in Dallas, Memphis, Nashville, Central Illinois, and Colorado Springs. He studied music at the University of Evansville and at the University of North Texas. He taught adjunctly at Millikin University from 1998 to 2008. He was on the faculty of the Colorado Springs Conservatory. He has performed as a member of the Wayne Wilkinson Trio since 2011. An in-demand bassist with extensive studio and live experience in a wide array of musical styles, he enjoys a full playing schedule with many fine musicians. Jazz recording projects have included his own group, The Beatniks, with Randall Reymann Rose of Loami, with Sam Crain, and Proceed to Route with the Wayne Wilkinson Trio. He has also recorded with contemporary Christian artists Jared Anderson, with Michael Gungor (Grammy-nominated Beautiful Things), and Shannon Wexlerberg.

Scott M. Barbier is a native of Colorado Springs, CO and has played in numerous top musical organizations throughout the Pikes Peak region. Scott followed in his father's footsteps joining the United States Air Force Academy Band where he spent the next 30 years performing world-wide with the highly acclaimed premier military band. A very versatile drummer and percussionist, Barbier came under the mentorship of many great Air Force drummers. He also studied with world champion rudimental drummer Mitch Markovich, and Tom Mendola of the Faunt School of Creative Music in Los Angeles, CA. In 1998, Scott earned his BA in music graduating Summa cum Laude from Regis University. Barbier has performed with artists in many musical genres and is proud to have performed on the Nashville Now TV show and the Grand Ole Opry. Scott currently serves as the Classic Worship Manager and Percussionist at First Presbyterian Church. One of Scott's greatest joys is supporting and taking care of the church's Sanctuary Choir, Big Blue.

Thomas J. Dawson, Jr.—A founding member of the legendary soul-funk band The Commodores and proud resident of Colorado Springs, CO he has left an indelible mark on the music industry as an accomplished musician, producer, composer, and film editor, who collaborates with some of the most successful artists in the music industry today. His diverse talents as a keyboardist are only exceeded by his genius as a studio engineer who is at the forefront of music technology trends. Thomas has performed on stage with internationally renowned artists such as Kelly Rowland, Eric Benet, Howard Hewitt, and the Commodores. Thomas is the Commodores' music director, lead keyboardist, and has co-produced many of their songs and CDs for this legendary group. His credits include projects with music icon Beyonce and J-Lo. Thomas has produced several projects of his own with the jazz group Finger Roll. The first of these projects won the Black Entertainment Television (BET) Jazz Discovery competition.

NATIONAL PRESS CAMPAIGN: JIM EIGO, JAZZ PROMO SERVICES, 272 State Route 94 South #1, Warwick, NY 10990-3363
Cell / text: 917-755-8960

jim@jazzpromoservices.com • www.jazzpromoservices.com

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