

2019 - "Anthology bears all of the hallmarks of the Don Muro sound: musical restlessness, stylistic diversity, tracks that jump and pop with creative energy...Muro is a technical wizard, but he never loses sight of the music's soul. And as always, he's D.I.Y to the bone, doing it himself because, well, he can." JOE MCGASKO, WFMU RADIO

1969 - "Don plays and sings his music into a double-tape recorder system one track at a time to create a finished product that is in many ways more musically interesting and original than much of what is heard on radio and records today." BOB MICKLIN, NEWSDAY

Don Muro is a composer, performer, author and educator specializing in music technology. As a composer he has been the recipient of several ASCAP composition awards. His music has been performed in settings ranging from London's St. Paul's Cathedral to Disneyland. He has composed music in several musical genres including electronic (abstract, imitative, pop), rock (psychedelic, hard, pop, jazz-rock, alternative) and New Age. He has also composed music for orchestra, chorus, concert band, jazz band and organ. His educational music is widely used throughout the United States as well as in Europe and in Japan. His demonstration compositions for the legendary Korg M1 helped to make it the world's best selling synthesizer.

Don Muro is recognized as a master synthesist specializing in live performance techniques for electronic keyboard. He began working with tape recorders in the early 1960s and with synthesizers in 1970. He played his first solo performance in 1967 and has presented electronic music concerts, lectures, and master classes throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. In 1983 he commissioned the creation of the world's first MIDI 32-note pedalboard. He has recorded eight albums of original music and has performed/recorded with musicians including John Scofield, T Lavitz, Chuck Leavell, Roger Powell, Chuck Loeb, Arnie Lawrence, Narada Michael Walden and Paul Winter.

Don has been an active advocate for music technology throughout his career. In addition to producing two videos, he has written six books as well as the *Music Expressions Music Technology/MIDI Keyboard Curriculum* (Alfred). He is a contributing author of the *Technology Guide for Music Educators* (Thompson) and *Technology Integration in the Elementary Classroom* (Hal Leonard). He is also a co-author of the TI:ME (Technology Institute for Music Educators) Level II instructional materials for advanced sequencing and was the editor for the TI:ME 1A course revision. He has written more than ninety articles about music and technology for publications such as *International Musician*, *The Instrumentalist*, *Keyboard*, *Music Educators Journal*, *Music Education Technology* and *The American Organist*. He has taught music technology classes to thousands of music educators through his summer workshops. He served as an adjunct faculty member at Columbia University Teachers College and as Artist in Residence at Duquesne University. He served as a contributor to the New York State Education Department and as a member of the National Association for Music Education (MENC) Technology Task Force. In addition, he was the first chairman of Electronic Music for both IAJE (International Association of Jazz Educators) and NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) as well as one of the founding members of TI:ME.

In 2013 Don started the [MuroMusicProject](#), focusing on the release of new music as well as recordings and videos of music composed and performed over the past fifty years. The first project was the re-mastering and re-release of his 1977 LP *It's Time* (2013). The second project was the Flannelgraph Records release of *Souffrances et Extases du Jeune Amour*, a collection of previously unreleased songs recorded between 1969 and 1974 (2014). In 2015 Flannelgraph released *As Long As I've Got You* (7' EP) as well as *We All Need Each Other: The 1968-69 Recordings*. Flannelgraph released *Synthesizer Pop For A New Age (1974-1978)* in 2017 and *Off We Go: More Synth Pop from 1970-1979* in 2018. In 2019 his 1981 album *Anthology* was re-released. In 2021 he will be releasing an album of experimental electronic music recorded in the 1970s. In addition, he has more than 60 videos posted on his YouTube channel (JDWall).

Reviews and Comments

Performer

"Few synthesists have taken live performance techniques to as lofty a degree as Don Muro." *KEYBOARD*

"a musician's musician..." *JOE MCGASKO, WFMU RADIO*

"...undeniable talent..." *NEWSDAY*

"...his musicianship is impeccable." *MUSIC PERFORMANCE RESOURCES*

"How did this guy not sell millions of records?" *SPECTRUM CULTURE*

Composer

"Don Muro...brought his amazing keyboard facility and musicianship along. His pieces...are spacious, multi-dimensional..."
REGISTER GUARD (Eugene, OR)

"The compositions, arrangements, and instrumentation are exceptional, and the layers, melodies, and solos to die for. Finally, many others have the opportunity to hear this great musician's talents." *KEYBOARD*

"Mr. Muro's creative genius incorporates the best of two components: the sensitivity of a traditionally trained musician and the proficiency of a skilled technician." *AMERICAN RECORDER*

Educator

"Anyone who has seen Don in performance, or who has had the great fortune of taking one of his annual workshops will attest to the wealth of knowledge this man possesses in the areas of electronic music, composition, performance, education, and music technology. Combine this knowledge with a relaxed, natural affinity for teaching and you have the makings of a master music educator." *THE SCHOOL MUSIC NEWS*

"He is a gifted communicator and master synthesist; he inspires audiences with his vision, quick wit, and keyboard artistry. Those of you who attended Muro's recent Michigan appearances will attest to his virtuosity as a teacher." *MICHIGAN MUSIC TECH*

"He is a capable teacher, whose years of experience make possible the clarity of his teaching and with a wit that rivals Robin Williams." *GIA QUARTERLY*

Clinician

"Don Muro is 'Mr. Technology,' a first-rate musician who can teach us how to use technology to serve the needs of teaching and music making. His workshops are a joy for novices and professionals." *Will Schmidt, Past President, Music Educators National Conference*

"Your musicianship and creativity are beyond words, and the insightful ideas for technology use in the classroom were outstanding." *MM, Massachusetts Music Educators Association*

"...one of the most persuasive things that you do is the demonstration of your own wonderful musicianship and your love of music. It is always a pleasure to see a masterful clinician and teacher inspire an audience and you did just that." *SG, New York University*

Feedback from workshop participants

"You are truly a gifted musician and teacher...Your knowledge and mastery of your subject is a marvel to behold. Thanks again." *RM, New York*

"One of the things I most enjoy is the eagerness with which you offer your talents and knowledge to others. You animate those you come in contact with and leave them with the spark to go out and try to find what you have already found, a joy in creating music! Where most musicians hide their trade secrets, your attitude of 'sharing the wealth' is very gratifying." *DM, Martha's Vineyard*

"Lessons in orchestration, aesthetics, musical statement, and the humanities – the class was a real recharging of the batteries on so many levels. Thanks again." *BN, London*