

## **B.C. entertainment hall of fame**

**Red Robinson, Vancouver Sun**

Published: Monday, October 01, 2007

Singer, songwriter and guitarist Valdy was born in Ottawa in 1946 to Danish parents (real name: Valdemar Horsdal).

Valdy began his career playing guitar in various rock and country groups. In 1966, he moved to B.C., which is his home today.

In his early career, he performed in Victoria coffee houses. His big break came in 1972 when he gained national recognition with his composition, Rock and Roll Song.

Other popular singles for Haida and A&M records followed from 1973 to 1976. His first four LPs each sold more than 50,000 copies in Canada and during this period he toured extensively in concert at folk festivals.

Valdy received Juno Awards for outstanding performances in 1972 and as a folk singer of the year in 1973.

Valdy has remained a fixture on the Canadian folk circuit and has appeared at children's festivals and on occasion with symphony orchestras. His early messages as a songwriter for environmental and social causes have generally been concerned and cautious rather than angry.

In recent years, he has teamed up with Gary Fjellgaard and the duo have toured extensively throughout Canada.

To date Valdy has 14 albums, 22 singles and four gold records to his credit and has sold nearly half a million records worldwide.

Also, since 1974, he has received 12 Juno nominations.

His songs have been recorded by many other artists, including his hit A Good Song which was recorded under the title Just A Man by American jazz genius Quincy Jones.

Valdy's name was added to the B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame a few years ago and his star can be seen on Starwalk on Granville Street.

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