Ross’s current release with Pinecastle, \textit{Blazing the West}, was named as “One of the Top Ten CD's of 2003” by Country Music Television, True West Magazine named it, “Best Bluegrass CD of 2003” and \textit{Blazing the West} was among the top 15 in ballot voting for the IBMA Instrumental CD of the Year in 2003. Ross Nickerson was selected to perform at the 4th Annual Johnny Keenan Banjo Festival in Ireland this year headlined by Bela Fleck and Earl Scruggs last year. Ross has also appeared with the New Grass Revival, Hot Rize, Riders in the Sky, Del McCoury Band, The Oak Ridge Boys, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band and has also picked and appeared with some of the best banjo players in the world including Earl Scruggs, Bela Fleck, Bill Keith, Tony Trischka, Alan Munde, Doug Dillard, Pete Seeger and Ralph Stanley.

Ross is a full time musician and on the road 10 to 15 days a month doing concerts, workshops and expanding his audience. Ross has most recently toured England, Ireland, Germany, Holland, Sweden and visited 31 states and Canada in 2005. Ross is hard at work writing new material for the band and planning a new CD of straight ahead bluegrass. Ross is the author of \textit{The Banjo Encyclopedia}, just published by Mel Bay Publications in October 2003 which has already sold out it's first printing.
***True West Magazine’s annual Best of The West issue named Blazing the West best bluegrass CD of the year! ***

*** Country Music Television has voted Blazing the West one of the top ten albums of 2003 ***

*** The International Bluegrass Music Association voted Blazing the West one of the top 15 instrumental CD’s of 2003! ***

“Ross Nickerson is indeed a big dog 5 stringer. He can PLAY, and a gentleman too! His solo CD, “Blazing The West” is RECOMMENDED!!! – Mike Weber

“I just received Ross Nickerson’s BLAZING THE WEST...it should come with the following instructions: Enter onto expressway, place in CD player, crank up volume, and put the pedal to the meda”! ....Joe Willis

“Just got that Ross Nickerson cd in....I only have 2 words:.......AWESOME & COOL..Jay Shankle KKNG

“What great talent! What a great musician!” – Melanie Jackson, WMOQ

“Award-winning banjo wizard Ross Nickerson does a bang-up job on his new release, “Blazing the West.” Bluegrass Now

“He takes his impressive credentials, his mastery of his instrument, his sensitivity and taste, and adds to them a splendid selection of classic and original material” - Ranger Doug, Riders in the Sky

....world class player...an exemplary teacher...tailored instruction...great resource.

....what a book!!! Blown away at the content...this book is gold...great curriculum!!!

Awesome!!!

....most comprehensive work...a “must have”...all will benefit...Ross’ leadership and clarity of instruction is tremendous.

....what you have created is the new gold standard for banjo instruction.

....Now that I see the qualities of this gentleman, I’m REALLY looking forward to meeting him.

....thank you for all of your hard work.
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The Banjo Road Show with Ross Nickerson
Telluride Bluegrass Champion

“…..hotly picked tunes that break new trail for demonstrating the great versatility of the instrument and its master.” Bluegrass Now

Jan. 5, 2005 - Five-string banjo master, Ross Nickerson performs in support of his CD Blazing the West on Pinecastle Records. Country Music Television named Blazing the West as one of the top ten albums of 2003 and True West Magazine named it, “Best Bluegrass CD of 2003”. Blazing the West takes bluegrass into new, un-chartered territory. Ranger Doug of the Grammy winning group, Riders in the Sky, says, “Ross has created from these diverse ingredients a sound which detracts from neither form, but instead adds up to something unique, expressive, beautiful and thoroughly wonderful!”

Ross has most recently toured England, Ireland, Germany, Holland and Sweden. He has recorded with some of the best in the business including Tim O’Brien, members of the David Grisman Band, and The Del McCoury Band. He has appeared in concert recently with Riders in the Sky, and Ralph Stanley and was a member of bands that were two-time winners of the Telluride Band Contest and the Four Corners States Bluegrass Festival. Ross is the author of The Banjo Encyclopedia, just published by Mel Bay Publications, as well as a number of other Books, CD’s, Videos and DVD’s for learning how to play the five-string banjo. Ross Nickerson was selected to perform at the 4th Annual Johnny Keenan Banjo Festival in Ireland this year headlined by Bela Fleck and Earl Scruggs last year.

Don’t miss “The Banjo Road Show” when it rides into town!

For complete tour dates and more information log on to www.rossnickerson.com or www.banjoteacher.com
Ross Nickerson. What great talent! What a great musician!”
Melanie Jackson, WMOQ - Georgia

“Just got that Ross Nickerson cd in....I only have 2 words:.......AWESOME & COOL...
Jay Shankle., KKNG - Oklahoma

it's a pleasure to introduce Ross Nickerson's new solo project.”
Jay Allen, WBRF-North Carolina

Ross Nickerson's BLAZING THE WEST...it should come with the following instructions: Enter onto expressway, place in CD player, crank up volume, and put the pedal to the medal. I'd love to hear him live sometime!”
Joe Wills, WBZC - New Jersey

“I just received Ross Nickerson CD. Good radio material. -
Dave Snyder, Bluegrass in Dixie

"Blazing the West"-- This recording is OUTSTANDING! Flat out, this is the best acoustic CD I have purchased in a few years. - Beau Brown

"Ross Nickerson is indeed a big dog 5 stringer. He can PLAY, and a gentleman too! His solo CD, “Blazing The West“ ...is RECOMMENDED!!!
Mike Weber

Ross Nickerson sets his banjo on fire with his El Cumbanchero. You can almost smell and taste the gunpowder in Ross’s original Gunslinger Blues. VERY well produced. -
Jerry Paul, Acoustica Magazine

This CD is a must have for any banjo player or banjo enthusiast. The response from my listeners on this CD was overwhelming. My request line kept ringing the entire time the CD was playing. I look forward to his next project.”
Al Shusterman, KCBL Backroads Bluegrass

"Blazing the West" is a lot less talk, and a lot more action! Ross Nickerson blazes right past the line of mixing bluegrass and traditional western music. Ross does a great job of mixing traditional western songs with some contemporary compositions." - Joey Black

Radio Stations playing “Blazing the West”

KBCS WNCW
KGLT WOBC
KBOO WLUR
KBTC WICR (on the chart)
KFDI (on the chart) WQOX
KUNQ WROG
KYOO WSCP
WDVC WUCF
KSBR WUWG (on the chart)
WFSS WVMR
WLKV WYEP

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