# Snow Patrol

SONG TITLE: CHASING CARS

ALBUM: EYES OPEN

RELEASED: 2006

LABEL: POLYDOR

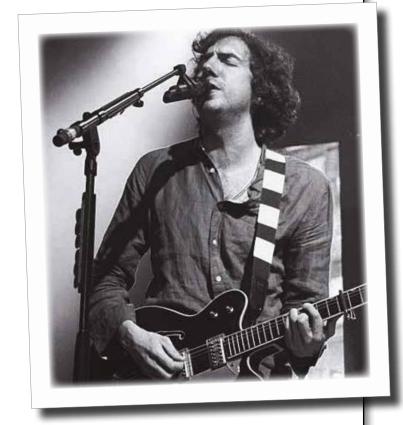
GENRE: INDIE

PERSONNEL: GARY LIGHTBODY (VOX+GTR)

NATHAN CONNOLLY (GTR)

PAUL WILSON (BASS)
JONNY QUINN (DRUMS)
TOM SIMPSON (KEYS)

UK CHART PEAK: 6
US CHART PEAK: 5



#### BACKGROUND INFO

'Chasing Cars' is the second single from Snow Patrol's 2006 album *Eyes Open*. It is a based on a single three-chord progression, but 'Chasing Cars' is far from simple. The song starts with a sparse picked eighth-note guitar line which is augmented by subtle keyboard parts. The arrangement uses changes in dynamics to develop the song. The third chorus sees 'Chasing Cars' move up another notch adding drums and several distorted guitars playing different inversions (where the notes of a chord are arranged in a different order) to create an orchestra-like wall of guitars. The end of the song sees the song return to its sparse beginnings with the re-stating of the simple picked guitar part.

### THE BIGGER PICTURE

Snow Patrol's rise to super-stardom has been slow and steady with their first top ten hit ('Run') coming in 2004, six years after the release of their first album. They have grown to become one of the most successful British indie acts of the last decade and even have the dubious distinction of a reality TV winner, Leona Lewis, achieving a UK number 1 with her cover of 'Run'.

#### NOTES

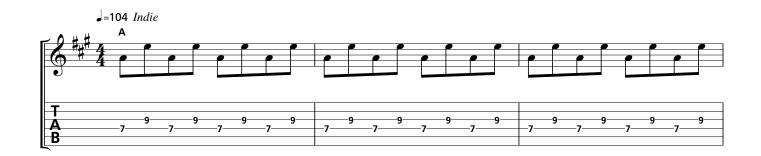
Although it didn't achieve a number 1 in the UK or the U.S. 'Chasing Cars' still receives massive airplay and can be heard almost constantly in TV shows. A moving acoustic version of 'Chasing Cars' appears on the soundtrack for the US TV show *Grey's Anatomy*.

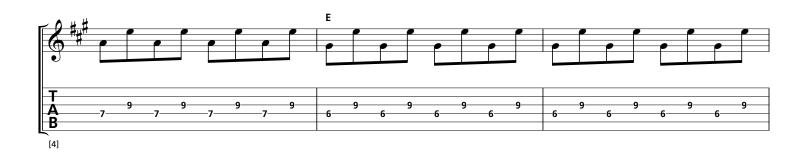
### RECOMMENDED LISTENING

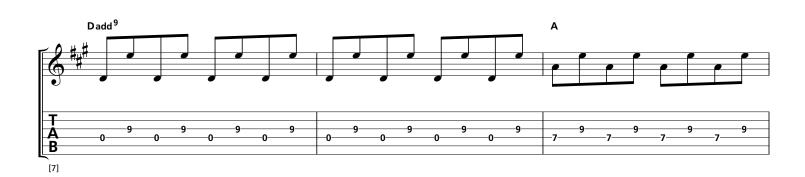
Snow Patrol's songs are masterpieces of arrangement and see the guitar adopting a supporting role on their songs rather than the dominant riffs and extended guitar solos you might expect to hear from a rock, blues or metal band. Their other megahit is 'Run'. A single from their third album, 2004's *Final Straw*. It starts with the same understated feel as 'Chasing Cars', based primarily on a simple guitar riff before moving to a dramatic, perfectly crafted chorus. 'Set Fire To The Third Bar' from 2006's *Eyes Open* has an earthy rhythm and some subtle acoustic and electric guitar playing. It also features Martha Wainwright on vocals.

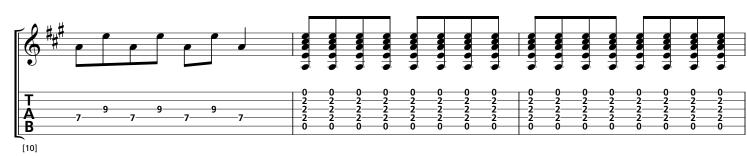
## **Snow Patrol**

Words & Music by Gary Lightbody, Nathan Connolly, Tom Simpson, Paul Wilson & Jonathan Quinn









SONG TITLE: ZEPHYR SONG

ALBUM: BY THE WAY

RELEASED: 2002

LABEL: WARNER BROS.

GENRE: ALTERNATIVE ROCK

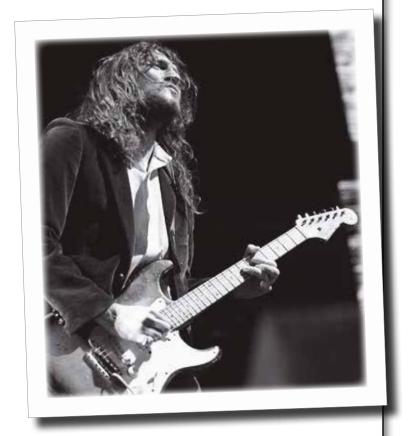
PERSONNEL: ANTHONY KIEDIS (VOX)

JOHN FRUSCIANTE (GTR)

FLEA (BASS)

CHAD SMITH (DRUMS)

UK CHART PEAK: 11
US CHART PEAK: 49



#### BACKGROUND INFO

'The Zephyr Song' was the second single from the 2002 release *By The Way*. It follows a familiar format to a lot of Chili Peppers' songs such as 'Californication' and 'By The Way', where the verses are built on a repeated catchy riff while the choruses make use of simple strummed open chords to allow room for Anthony Kiedis' vocal.

#### THE BIGGER PICTURE

Like a lot of bands that have been successful for a long time, the Chili Peppers' sound has gradually evolved. They started life as a wild funk-rock outfit centred around Flea's hyperactive slap basslines and Kiedis's rap-influenced vocals. After the death of their original guitarist, Hillel Slovak, John Frusciante (himself a lifelong fan of the band) was drafted in as replacement. He introduced a different take on the Chili Peppers' funk sound, adding Leo Noncentelliinfluenced single-note lines and more pronounced variations in dynamics to Mother's Milk and Blood Sugar Sex Magik. The Chili Peppers have continued this process of maturation towards a more 'straight' rock sound, with their trademark funk stylings making less frequent, more controlled appearances in their latest work.

#### NOTES

Although John Frusicante played on five albums with the Chili Peppers, they recorded *One Hot Minute* with former Jane's Addiction guitarist Dave Navarro in between *Blood Sugar Sex Magik* and *Californication*. Frusciante left the band in 1992 (reportedly struggling with drug addiction) before returning in 1998. *One Hot Minute* was a more straight-ahead rock album as Navarro was not comfortable playing funk. While it contained hits like 'Aeroplane' and 'My Friends', it is now largely ignored by band, media and fans alike. John Frusciante left the band again in 2009.

#### RECOMMENDED LISTENING

The Chili Peppers' discography falls into three distinct phases. From their early, frenetic albums *The Uplift Mofo Party Plan* contains 'Backwoods', 'Fight Like A Brave' and the Beatles-influenced 'Behind The Sun'. The first Frusciante period features the outstanding *Blood Sugar Sex Magik* which contains the funk-rock classic 'Suck My Kiss', dance floor favourite 'Give It Away' and mega-hit 'Under The Bridge'. The second, mellower, Frusciante period yielded *Californication* which contains the hits 'Scar Tissue' and the acoustic gem 'Road Trippin'.

# Red Hot Chili Peppers

Words & Music by Anthony Kiedis, Flea, John Frusciante & Chad Smith

