#### JAKE SHIMABUKURO

“Jake is taking the instrument to a place that I can’t see anybody else catching up with.” – Eddie Vedder, Pearl Jam

In his young career, ukulele wizard Jake Shimabukuro has already redefined a heretofore under-the-radar instrument, been declared a musical “hero” by Rolling Stone, won accolades from the disparate likes of Eddie Vedder, Perez Hilton and Dr. Sanjay Gupta, wowed audiences on TV (Jimmy Kimmel, Conan), earned comparisons to Jimi Hendrix and Miles Davis, and even played in front of the Queen of England.

Shimabukuro's mother gave him an ukulele at age four and he quickly took an interest in the instrument.   Shimabukuro was working at a music store in Honolulu when his group Pure Heart released its first album. Their album won them four Na Hoku Hanohano Awards (the Hawaiian counterpart of the [Grammy Awards](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grammy_Awards))

Between 2002 and 2005, Shimabukuro released four albums as a solo performer: he experimented with using effect pedals to make new sounds that few would associate with an ukulele.

In April 2006, Shimabukuro came to national and international attention when someone posted a virtuosic video of him playing [George Harrison](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Harrison)'s "[While My Guitar Gently Weeps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/While_My_Guitar_Gently_Weeps)" on[YouTube](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/YouTube).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puSkP3uym5k>

The video quickly went [viral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viral_video), and has received over 13 million views. Shimabukuro released his fifth album, [*Gently Weeps*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gently_Weeps_%28album%29), in September 2006.

An ambitious follow-up to 2011’s *Peace, Love, Ukulele* (which debuted at #1 on the Billboard World Charts), the Hawaiian musician’s new record *Grand Ukulele* finds him collaborating with legendary producer/engineer Alan Parsons, best known for his work on Pink Floyd’s *Dark Side of the Moon*, The Beatles’ Abbey Road and his own highly successful solo project

In 2012, a documentary was released on Shimabukuro, titled *Jake Shimabukuro: Life on Four Strings*. The film won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the [Ashland Independent Film Festiva](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ashland_Independent_Film_Festival)l and was aired on [PBS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PBS) in May 2013. Later that year, he released a live DVD recording simply titled, *Grand Ukulele, Live in in Boulder*, which captures Jake in all his glory.