

You can never have enough violins

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If you like violin music of any kind, Murray Nelson has set up an excellent show with a novel idea for May 28 at the Slice featuring Nelson, Shaela Miller, Tyler Bird, Brad Brouwer and most prominently, renown Lethbridge luthier and fiddle player Ed Dietrich and Okotoks fiddler Andrew Dexter. Nelson will be putting the whole show on DVD and Blu Ray to be released later thanks to a generous benefactor and big fan of Ed Dietrich. The show is called 89 Violins because Dietrich has built 89 fiddles. The music will include everything from old county like Bob Wills to classical music.

William Jones, who is also a fan of Dietrich's music gave Nelson a \$1,000 cheque to create a professionally produced Blu-ray/DVD of Dietrich's performance. "His father was a big fan of Ed and he is also a big fan of Ed," Nelson said adding having Shaela Miller being part of it was an important part of it as well as getting Nelson himself performing '60s classic "Yakkity-Yak" "I used to listen to Eddie play when I was 13. He might have been 20 then," Nelson said adding Dietrich has been a musical mentor to him.

"He has a national reputation as a fiddler but here he's that eccentric guy who makes teeth (Dietrich is known as denture maker by trade) and plays the fiddle," Nelson continued adding Dietrich has played with numerous pickers in Calgary and Edmonton plus Tom and Curt in Lethbridge and has earned a strong following.

Ed will often busk with Nelson during the summer.

"Ed was walking down the street one day and said, 'hey, can I bring my fiddle?' So we just started plying together. We played every day for three or four weeks. When I'm busking by myself, I'll make three or four bucks, but when he's there we'll make 30 bucks," Nelson recalled.

Tickets cost \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. The money goes towards producing the DVD. Admission includes the possibility of being on the DVD and entitles the ticket buyers to a significant discount on the DVD — they can buy it for only five dollars. Seats can also be requested out of the camera line. Nelson has arranged three cameras and Aaron Bay to do the sound for the show to ensure the best quality product.

The show will start at 8 p.m.