Song Specific Performance Notes
Brittni Paiva's wonderful interpretation of Somewhere over the Rainbow uses a number of innovative, jazzy chords and hammer-on passages. Still, the song is relatively accessible to players of most levels. The key is to learn the written notes in the tab but then to really pay attention to Brittni's YouTube live performance of the song. She adds a number of subtle timing nuances that are essential to properly playing her arrangement. Focus on her wonderful sense of touch with both her right and left hands, which contributes to the dynamism of her performance. Tab is a fine way to learn a song, but having access to the video of Brittni's performance is an amazing asset, one that allows you to closely observe how she makes this song all her own. YouTube Link: Copy and paste into your web browser.
http://youtube.com/watch?v=JArvrYw50X4

General Performance Notes
Keep in mind that the tablature is just a guideline. I try to transcribe the parts as close as I can to the original recording, however, that doesn’t mean that I play them exactly as written. It is hard to duplicate the exact strums that the player is using so I get something close and go from there. The main reason I transcribe is to learn the song and have a permanent reference to make it easier to learn the song again after I have forgotten it months later. I find it very helpful to follow along in the tab while listening to the recording several times before actually attempting to play the song. This gets you familiar with the tab as it relates to the recording.

Tablature can be intimidating to some people. Here is a tip I realized one day. Playing some of the individual fret numbers seemed awkward and uncomfortable until I noticed that they came from within the “shape of the chord”. So whenever possible fret the chord and then play the other notes from within the chord. This should eliminate some moving around and make things a bit easier.

Above all else, have fun and if you have any questions feel free to contact me at dominic@rcsis.com
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