



Guitarist

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Minnesota Guitar Society Mission Statement

Promote the guitar in all its stylistic and cultural diversity through sponsorship of public forums, concerts, and workshops. Serve as an educational and social link between the community and amateur and professional guitarists of all ages.

Spring Concerts at Sundin Music Hall



Classical Guitarathon on June 4

Performers (clockwise from top left): Momčilo Aleksandrić; Cassius Stein; Jeff Lambert; Juanito Pascual; Not pictured: Maria Heck; the student guitar quartet from Southwest High School in Minneapolis.

plus...

Grisha Goryachev on March 26

Kupinski Guitar Duo on April 30

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Society news, page 6; Guitar education, page 7

Grisha Goryachev March 26

We are happy to present the Minnesota debut of this rising star in the world of flamenco guitar. His unique approach to the tradition is attracting wide attention. Join us to see, and hear, what all the fuss is about!



A native of St. Petersburg, Russia, Grigory (“Grisha”) Goryachev is renowned for his extraordinary musical sensitivity and technical virtuosity in both classical and flamenco styles. He is one of a handful of guitarists in the world who are reviving the tradition of solo flamenco guitar in a concert setting that was practiced by legendary flamenco masters such as Ramón Montoya (1879–1949) and Sabicas (192–1990).

Grisha Goryachev began to play the guitar at the age of six, studying first with his father, Dmitry, an acknowledged master teacher of the instrument. Following his debut at the age of nine, Grisha enjoyed an extensive career as a child prodigy, performing regularly before large audiences in the most prestigious concert halls of St. Petersburg, Moscow, Minsk, Riga, and other major cities in the then Soviet Union. He also appeared regularly on Soviet television and radio and was featured in numerous major newspapers and maga-

zines. His participation at the age of 13 in the TV marathon “Revival of St. Petersburg” was transmitted live to more than one hundred countries worldwide.

In 1991, Goryachev was awarded second prize in the Danny Kaye International Childrens Awards held in the Hague, Netherlands. Sponsored by UNICEF, this competition featured participants on all instruments from 26 countries. Later that same year, he was invited to perform at the UN headquarters in New York City. Directly thereafter, he toured Scandinavia and performed by special invitation for the Royalty of Iceland. In 1993, he was chosen to represent his native city in the Days of St. Petersburg in Jerusalem Festival; in 1994, at the invitation of Vladimir Spivakov, he per-

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Grisha Goryachev Program

Zapateado en Re (Zapateado) by Sabicas

Impetu (Bulerías) by Mario Escudero

Malagueña by Ernesto Lecuona
(arr. Paco de Lucía)

Reflejo de Luna (Granadina) by Paco de Lucía

Guajiras de Lucía (Guajira) by Paco de Lucía

Aires Choqueros (Fandango de Huelva)
by Paco de Lucía

Ventanas al Alma (Minera) by Vicente Amigo

Brisas (Guajira) by Rafael Riqueni

Monasterio de Sal (Colombiana)
by Paco de Lucía

Piedras Negra (Taranta/Soleá por Bulería)
by Gerardo Nuñez

Montiño (Fandango) by Paco de Lucía

La Barrosa (Alegrias) by Paco de Lucía

Almoraima (Bulerías) by Paco de Lucía

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formed at the Festival International de Colmar held in memory of Andres Segovia in Colmar, France.

Following a tour of Spain, Goryachev was invited to play for flamenco legend Paco de Lucía, who soon after personally intervened in support of his application for an American visa (subsequently awarded in the year 1997 on the basis of Extraordinary Ability).

Since coming to the United States, he has continued his lifelong love affair with flamenco while deepening his involvement with the classical style. His repertoire now includes classical solos, chamber music and guitar concertos, and more than six hours of flamenco solos by Paco de Lucía, Vicente Amigo, Manolo Sanlúcar, Rafael Riqueni, and others. As the flamenco repertoire is for the most part unpublished, he has learned these pieces by transcribing them entirely by ear from recordings.

Goryachev strives to keep alive older flamenco masterpieces that now exist only on records by performing them in concerts. In doing this, he shares with the audiences some of the best guitar compositions flamenco has to offer. Instead of merely copying, he creates his own interpretations of these masterpieces, using dynamics and tone colors usually associated with classical music.

In May 2005, he received a special prize for the Best Performance of Spanish Music at the VI International Classical Guitar Competition “Julian Arcás” in Almería, Spain. As a winner of this prize, he performed recitals in Spain at the Festival de Música Española de Cádiz and the Festival de Música de Jimena de la Frontera.

He received his Bachelor, Master, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, where he studied under Eliot Fisk. He was one of the 30 people in 2006 to become a fellow of the prestigious Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship, recognizing him as exceptional in his chosen field.

A firm believer in exposing younger generations to the beauty of classical and flamenco guitar, he likes to include outreach performances and workshops at schools as part of his concert tours.

His YouTube videos have collected over 2 million views and many notable comments. He has recorded two CDs, *Alma Flamenca* and *Homenaje a Sabicas*, using classical guitars by Stephan Connor (Cataumet, Massachusetts).

He currently plays a flamenco blanca and a flamenco negra guitar by Lester DeVoe (Nipomo, California), as well as a 7-string flamenco negra and a classical guitar by Matthew Morello (Ogden, Utah). For many years, Grisha played guitars made by the master luthier Georgy Babichev.

Kupinski Guitar Duo April 30

They may be new to us, but these young artists are widely known in Europe for their seamless duo playing, fresh arrangements, and unique repertoire. We welcome them for their Minnesota debut.



The Kupiński Guitar Duo is one of Europe’s most renowned guitar duos, acclaimed by both the public and critics alike for their brilliant technique, passion, quality of sound, and matchless elegance.

After graduating from the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice (Poland) and the Hochschule für Musik in Weimar (Germany), Dariusz Kupiński and Ewa Jabłczyńska decided to establish their guitar duo, in addition to their numerous solo achievements. They bring to their performances a masterful sense of ensemble and charming personal chemistry. They have been honored multiple times with awards and scholarships for artistic achievement. They have played recitals throughout Europe, the US, Mexico, China, and Japan.

As a result of their passion for education, they have been invited to give masterclasses in Europe, Asia, and the US. Jabłczyńska holds a degree in guitar performance and is a tenured professor at the Jan Długosz University in Częstochowa (Poland). Kupiński holds a doctorate in guitar performance and teaches at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice (Poland).

In 2018–19, the Duo resided in the US for an 18-month research and recording project at the University of Louisville, funded by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland.

In 2011, their debut CD, *Spanish Music*, was released, and attracted fans all over the world. Their 2016 CD, *Recital*, features arrangements of music by

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Chopin, Rossini, Piazzolla, and Gershwin. Two new CDs are devoted to contemporary music and Romantic music.

Kupinski Guitar Duo Program

Fantaisie, op. 54 by Fernando Sor (1778–1839)

Lieder ohne Worte by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809–1847), arr. Kupinski Duo

Hunting Song, op. 19, no. 3

Lost Illusions, op. 67, no. 2

Unrest, op. 30, no. 2

Meditation, op. 67, no. 1

Passion, op. 38, no. 5

Cenas Brasileiras by Sergio Assad (b. 1952)

Three Works by Frédéric Chopin (1810–49)
arr. Kupinski Duo

Mazurka, op. 24, no. 2

Mazurka, op. 17, no. 4

Waltz, op. 64, no. 2

Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin (1898–1937)
arr. Kupinski Duo

Our In-Person STAY SAFE Plan

Please visit our website the week before each concert to learn the latest pandemic-related protocols.

As conditions or circumstances require, we will post new information there and on our Facebook page, and email everyone on our list. Questions? Please contact us at <mgdir@mnguitar.org>.

Classical Guitarathon June 4

Guitarathon-style concerts have a long history for us. In fact, the earliest concerts we presented were guitarathons, and no season would be complete without a Classical grand finale. We are glad and grateful to present this season's line-up of both well-known and new-to-us artists.

Momčilo Aleksandrić

Momcilo “Moma” Aleksandrić is a classical guitarist and composer. He is the winner of the 2018 Hong Kong Altamira International Guitar Competition and Southern Guitar Festival Ensemble Competition. He gave concerts and lectures at the events and institutions such as the Miami International Guitar Festival, Hong Kong International Guitar Symposium, Melbourne International Guitar Conference, University of Costa Rica, University of Arts in Belgrade, Thailand International Guitar Festival, ShenZhen International Guitar Week, and many others. Since 2020, he has been devoted to composing and performing his original solo guitar and chamber music. He is also a Guitar Instructor in the Music Department of the University of Minnesota and is Co-founder of the Belgrade Guitar District in Serbia.

Maria Heck

Maria Heck is from rural Minnesota. She is a junior at the University of Minnesota where she is completing dual degrees in music and Russian. She has been studying classical guitar for eight years. Her instructors have included Ben Kunkel, Maja Radovanlija, Joe Hagedorn, Rene Izquierdo, Elina Chekan, and Anton Baranov.

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2021-22 season continued from page 4

Maria is a regular guest within the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Minnesota, where she presents lecture-recitals on the topic of the 19th-century Russian 7-string guitar and its repertoire. In 2021 she had an internship with the MGS, helping us build databases—one of area guitar teachers and another of community organizations that might want to hear about or partner with us for future concerts.

Jeff Lambert

Jeff Lambert wears many musical hats. He has been a classical guitarist for about 25 years, but started off playing rock and roll and continues to do so. He loves recording, producing, composing, and arranging, and he has students of all ages. When not focused on music, Jeff likes to watch horror movies, read sci-fi, and play chess.

Juanito Pascual

Juanito Pascual, a guitarist whose sound is an organic blend of traditional and contemporary flamenco, is recognized in both Spain and the US as a creative composer and improviser. He has performed at internationally known arts centers, clubs, and festivals in the US and elsewhere. He has produced three albums of original music: *Cosas en Común* (2003); *Language of the Heart* (2009); and *New Flamenco Trio* (2014). In addition, he has performed on many soundtracks, including *Call Me Francis*, the 2016 Netflix biopic based on the life of Pope Francis. In 2022 he will release a new EP, and is recording his fourth full-length album. He hosts workshops in the US, the Middle East, Europe, and Central America. He created and directed the annual Flamenco Institute at the New England Conservatory in Boston (2005–09). In 2011, his method book, *The Total Flamenco Guitarist*,

was published by Alfred Press. He holds a Bachelor of Music in Contemporary Improvisation from New England Conservatory, where he graduated with honors in 1997.

Cassius Stein

“In the beginning, there was Parkening.” At age 16, \ Cassius began his classical guitar studies with Kevin Carlson after being inspired by the “beauty and perfection” of several Christopher Parkening recordings. Cassius earned his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Minnesota, and a Performer Diploma and Doctorate of Music from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. He has extensive teaching experience at colleges and universities and currently manages his own private teaching studio in Ham Lake.

Guitar Quartet

The Southwest High School Senior Guitar Quartet comprises four students who have played together all 4 years of high school. Three of the four members are All-National Honor Guitar Orchestra students. Last February, they presented at the Mid-Winter Clinic as performers and speakers. The presentation was “How to Begin a Guitar Orchestra.” In March, they gave a full recital of their own in the Guitar Studio at Southwest High.

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We Need Volunteers

Since its beginning, the MGS has depended on volunteers to do the tasks related to our concert series, our newsletter, and other publicity. For the past 20 years, the MGS has relied on the services of a half-time, paid Managing Director to coordinate and fill-in any gaps on those tasks. That position has been restructured to one-quarter time for the foreseeable future. This makes the usual need for volunteers even greater. Here's a summary of what's needed:

First, we need help at the concerts. Our board President Joe Haus has for many years managed the box office at Sundin Hall on concert nights. Joe needs to train in someone to share the load. In addition, we need greeters, ushers, and a team of folks to act as a Refreshments Committee to meet the intermission needs of our audience.

Second, we want to plan a series of fundraising events including, but not limited to, a raffle and a special concert or gathering of some kind. We need a committee of people to fine-tune the ideas and do the work of putting the pieces together.

Third, we want to connect with more members of the general guitar community. We need ideas on how to do that, and a committee of interested folks to meet and discuss, and, most importantly, implement some of those ideas (to see which ones work).

Lastly, we need someone with social media and (especially) video editing skills to help with our online presence and to be available if we need or want to record and upload (to our YouTube channel) one or more of our concerts next season.

The time commitment varies for each of these roles. But they're all important parts of making our concert season happen. If you're interested, please contact Paul Hintz at <mgdir@mnguitar.org>.

Board of Directors Update

We're sorry to say farewell to Enrique Ortega, who provided invaluable and good-humored support for the

technical challenges we've faced the last two years, especially in doing the all-online 2020-21 concert season. Enrique and his partner are moving to sunny San Diego. As a result, we have an opening for an at-large member on the board. In addition, the Secretary position is still vacant. The Managing Director has been pinch-hitting in this role at our last two quarterly board meetings, but he does a lousy job of taking notes. Bail him (and us) out. Email Paul at <mgdir@mnguitar.org>. He will be glad you did!

OpenStage Update

We're looking for a new home, or a set of homes, for this long-running monthly meet-up. For now, OpenStage is on hiatus, but we will be back! To get the latest news, visit our website page and sign up for the OpenStage email list. Or email us your comments, suggestions, and ideas on how to relaunch this much-loved program, at <mgdir@mnguitar.org> .

Powderhorn Park Music Project

Begun in 2020 by U of MN guitar professor and MGS member Maja Radovanlija (assisted by Milena Petković and Ben Kunkel), the Powderhorn Park Music Project offers free guitar lessons and classes every Saturday at Walker United Methodist Church (3104 16th Ave. S. in Minneapolis).

If you want to learn more about the project, make a contribution, or inquire about donating a guitar, email <mradovan@umn.edu> or visit the project's website at: <https://powderhorn-park-music-project.business.site/>.

Got news?

Maybe you've got a gig coming up, or a new teaching position. Maybe you want to submit a CD review or tell everyone about a new artist you've found (especially based here in MN). Maybe you want to comment on a recent concert at Sundin Music Hall. News about and views from MGS members are always wanted and welcome. Email <mgdir@mnguitar.org>.



We're very happy to announce that our Guitar In Our Schools program was awarded two large grants this past January. First, we continue (for the 4th consecutive year) to receive support and encouragement from the Augustine Foundation, whose initial grant enabled us to launch the GIOS program in 2019. Second, for the second year in a row, we have received a grant (this time, the largest single grant in our history) from the Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Support for Organizations program. That grant includes support for us to relaunch the Youth Guitarathon annual concert. We'll have specific news about this in our summer issue. Lastly, as this issue went to print we learned that

we have also received a grant from the D'Addario Foundation that includes both financial support and an in-kind donation of enough strings to restring our entire inventory of GIOS guitars!

Taken together, these three grants guarantee that we can continue to send our team of teaching artists to work with students at our partnering schools in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

This spring we are working with three schools. Ryan Picone is at Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis. Ben Abrahamson is at both Harding High School and Parkway Middle School in St. Paul. We'll have more information about these spring residencies, and the plans for next fall, in our summer issue.

We thank the following for their support of our Guitar In Our Schools program in 2022:



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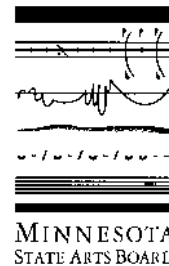
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DUO INTEREST? Banjo (and guitar player) looking for guitarist to play together. I started playing banjo in June 2020. Am improving all the time, but looking to truly become a better player by being part of a duo ... or a trio if there are two of you out there. Email Melanie at <jmchristianson@comcast.net> if interested. Ideally someone from western suburbs but doesn't have to be.

MANDOLINS FOR SALE: 2018 Kentucky KM-256 with hardshell case, strap, extra strings, \$450. **2012 Eastman MD605** with Schertler pickup, original violin-style case, humidifier, \$750. Both instruments are in mint condition. Email <paul@paulhintz.com> or call/message (612) 210-9055 for pics, more info, or arrange to meet and check out either one (or both!).

GUITAR FOR SALE: 2002 Kakos. French polish cedar top, Brazilian rosewood back and sides, Waverly tuners, recently refretted, with pickup and case. \$4,000.00. Text Steve Haskin at (512) 800-1949 for pictures or more info.

GUITAR FOR SALE: 1964 C. F. Martin D12-20 12-string, S/N 198954. Mahogany back and sides; rosewood bridge and fingerboard; original tortoise style pickguard. Original bridge, frets and tuners. Top and sides show some normal wear from almost 60 years of use, but no cracks or bowing. Tunes easily and maintains the tuning. Comes with padded, velvet-lined hard-shell case, capos, and numerous picks. \$3,000. For pics or more info call/text Dave Buending at (952) 486-0836 or email <ad2b@arrl.net>.

GUITARS FOR SALE: 2021 Cordoba C12, spruce/Indian rosewood, 650 mm scale, 52 mm nut, mint condition, \$1,549. **2005 Sakurai-Kohno Pro J,** spruce/Brazilian rosewood, 650 mm scale, 52 mm nut, mint condition, \$5,999. **2015 Cordoba Master Series Hauser,** spruce/Indian Rosewood, 640 mm scale, 51 mm nut, excellent condition, \$3,499. A hardshell case is included with each guitar. Email Paul at <BachBeethoven@Mail2World.com>.

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