

## 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.

The Minnesota Guitar Society ● PO Box 14986 / Minneapolis MN 55414 ● Vol. 36 No. 1 / Spring Issue 2020

# Spring is **Hear!** These Concerts at Sundin Music Hall!





# Austin Wahl Saturday, March 14th

any of us remember Austin Wahl as a young student here in the Twin Cities, from his performances at Open-Stage to his playing in the Mac-Phail Guitar Ouartet. Not all of us have had a chance to follow his career since he moved to Rochester (NY) to study at Eastman. We're delighted that, in the midst of intense studies and much travel, he's coming back to present a concert. Check out his YouTube videos to get a glimpse of his talents. Read on to learn more...

Austin Wahl, a native Minnesotan, has won prizes at 23 classical guitar competitions in the US and Canada, including seven first prizes. He has performed in masterclasses for Leo Brouwer, David Russell, Paul Galbraith, Manuel

# Classical Guitarathon Saturday, May 16th

ur annual classical guitarathon provides a way to share the talents of locally based (and often internationally known!) artists playing a wide variety of music. This year's program, curated by Annett Richter, is rich in both virtuosity and variety. It is especially noteworthy (pardon the pun) for the return of old friends, some delightful duets, and the debut (on our series) of the remarkable Guitar Orchestra from Southwest High School. Read on to meet the performers!

Guitarist and composer **Jeffrey Van** has premiered over 50 works for guitar, including Dominick Argento's *Letters from Composers*, five concertos, and a broad variety of chamber music. He has performed in Carnegie Hall, London's Wigmore

## Raphaël Feuillâtre Friday, April 24th

ighlighting every concert season is the appearance of the currently touring Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition first-place winner. We are particularly delighted to present Raphaël Feuillâtre, whose program is a special blend of the familiar and the new, as his playing is a blend of great artistry and great feeling.

Raphaël Feuillâtre is a young Paris-based virtuoso of the classical guitar. Born in 1996, he started classical guitar lessons at the age of nine, first with Hacène Addadi at Cholet Conservatory and later with Michel Grizard in Nantes. In 2014, he was accepted by the Paris National Superior

continued on page 2 continued on page 3 continued on page 4

March Concert continued from page 1

Barrueco, Sharon Isbin, Eliot Fisk, Lorenzo Micheli, Matteo Mela, Roland Dyens, and Raphaella Smits, among others. He began his study of the classical guitar at age five with Alan Johnston, a founding member of the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet, and was active as a young artist in the regionally known MacPhail Guitar Quartet with Xavier Jara, Henry Johnston, and Luke Banchy.

Subsequently, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees as well as a performer's certificate at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, where he is currently a doctoral student of Dr. Nicholas Goluses. While still a student, he has performed for the Great Lakes Guitar Society (NY), Guitar Hamilton (Canada), and Festival Internacional de Guitarra en Lagos (Jalisco, Mexico). Upcoming engagements include concerts for the Southern Guitar Festival (SC) and Toronto Guitar Society.

In addition to his classical guitar playing, Wahl enjoys many other styles of music. He won the 2009 youth division of the Minnesota State Fair Bluegrass Flatpicking competition and has performed in a bluegrass band masterclass for internationally known banjoist Bela Fleck. At age 14, he built a fully functional electric guitar (dubbed the "Wahl-o-Caster") with a body of solid purpleheart, which weighed in at nearly fifteen pounds. Furthermore, since the fall of 2017, Wahl has led the bass section of the Mount Hope World Singers community choir in Rochester. Beyond music, Wahl enjoys traveling, having visited 45 US states, 10 countries, and 21 American national parks.

## Minnesota Guitar Society

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## **Austin Wahl Concert Program**

Junto al Generalife by Joaquin Rodrigo (1901–99)
Songe Capricorne by Roland Dyens (1955–2016)

Aquarelle by Sergio Assad (b. 1952)

I. Divertimento

II. Valseana

III. Preludio e Toccatina

-Intermission-

Partita II, BWV 1004 by J. S. Bach (1685–1750) V. Ciaccona

Etudes 1, 7 by Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887–1959) Shenandoah by Robert Beaser (b. 1954)

This activity is supported, in part, by the City of Saint Paul Cultural Sales Tax Revitalization Program.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



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May Concert continued from page 1



Hall, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. As part of Duologue, with flutist Susan Morris De Jong, he premiered and recorded commissioned works from more than a dozen composers, including Stephen Paulus, Roberto Sierra, Tania Leon, Michael Daugherty, Libby Larsen, and William Bolcom. He is a founding member of The Hill House Chamber Players, with whom

he performed for 30 seasons. He has been featured on many National Public Radio broadcasts, has made several solo and ensemble recordings, and appears on ten recordings with the Dale Warland Singers. Van's compositions include works for guitar, guitar and violin, guitar and flute, chorus, chamber ensemble, and solo voice. The Van-Dixon Duo's recording of Van's *Reflexiones Concertantes* (Concerto for Two Guitars and Chamber Orchestra) was released on the Centaur label. His music is published by E. C. Schirmer, G. Schirmer, Walton, Boosey & Hawkes, Morningstar, earthsongs, and Hal Leonard.



Jim Falbo is an eclectic and accomplished guitarist, composer, instructor, and music arranger from St. Paul, Minnesota. His music has been featured on KSJN Classical MPR 99.5 and KBEM Jazz radio 88.5. He started playing guitar at the age of 11 after listening to Led Zeppelin, Eric Clapton, the Beatles, and many 1990s alternative bands. His love of music developed into a passion for classical

and acoustic guitar when he studied with guitarist Dean Harrington at the K&S Conservatory of Music. Jim has received glowing reviews for his ability to play a wide range of genres and styles, including classical European, South American, contemporary, gypsy jazz, pop classics, and steel-string fingerstyle guitar. As an in-demand and award-winning performer, Jim plays in many settings including concerts, weddings, corporate events, and venues throughout the Twin Cities and Upper Midwest. This is his third time playing in the MGS Classical Guitarathon, at which he has featured works from the four albums he has released since 2008. These can be purchased at <www.jimfalboguitar.com>.

Praised for his virtuosity and deep musical interpretations, **Samuel Hines** is an award-winning guitarist from Southern California and a former student of worldrenowned Cuban guitarist René Izquierdo, who has de-



scribed his pupil as "a profound musician!" An Augustine Strings Artist, Hines maintains a busy performance schedule while winning prizes in over 35 competitions. Recent first prizes include the 2019 Houston Guitar Festival, 2019 Gohar and Ovanes Andriassian Competition at Cal State LA, the 2019 New Orleans International Guitar Festival, and the

2019 Appalachian Guitarfest. Hines was selected as one of 15 competitors from around the world at the Parkening International Guitar Competition in 2012, 2015, and 2019. He is pursuing his Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of Minnesota with Maja Radovanlija, and works there as a teaching assistant. He plays a 2014 Antonio Marin Montero guitar and uses Augustine Regal Blue Strings. You can keep up to date on news and upcoming concerts at <www.samhinesguitar.com> or follow him on social media at <www.facebook.com/samhinesguitar>.



Ruth LeMay graduated in 1987 from the University of South Dakota and began her career in a Mennonite high school. She completed graduate studies at the University of MN in Choral Conducting (2002) and Music Education (2003). Her career focus is providing opportunities for students. Under her direction, students have experienced MMEA

presentations, the MSHSL annual contest, annual national tours, the NAfME National Conference, the MSBA kevnote performance, and the Minnesota Orchestra Hall Sensory Concert Series. In addition to her classroom work, Ruth provides lectures and trainings in her methodology "GuiTaRs UnLocKeD," which focuses on engaging diverse learners in creating instrumental music. The guitar program built by LeMay at Southwest High School in Minneapolis includes beginning, intermediate, and advanced classes, an Exploratory Guitar class for students who benefit from individualized instruction, and the Guitar Orchestra, which is designed for students with classical guitar proficiency. Students in the Orchestra also play in small ensembles that cover other styles and perform at private events throughout our community during the year. The Guitar Orchestra performs multiple times a year and takes an out-of-state tour each spring.

continued on page 6

April Concert continued from page 1

Conservatory of Music and Dance (CNSMDP) into the class of Roland Dyens and his assistant Jean-Marc Zvellenreuther and obtained his Bachelor of Performing Arts degree in 2017 with highest honors. He is currently working on his master's degree in classical guitar performance with Tristan Manoukian. Various internships and training courses contributed to his musical development, in particular those with Arnaud Sans, Gabriel Bianco, and Judicaël Perroy, with whom he has been working for the past three years. Feuillâtre likes to enrich his repertoire by arranging the works of J. S. Bach, D. Scarlatti, and E. Granados for the classical guitar.

Raphaël Feuillâtre is regularly invited to perform chamber music and as a soloist at multiple guitar festivals in France. Among recent major solo performances are concerts in Seville, Spain, with the Nantes Conservatory String Orchestra and a five-concert tour with the Pau orchestral ensemble.

He has won prizes at numerous classical guitar competitions. Among them, in 2017, he won First Prize at the International Guitar Competition Jose Tomas—Villa Petrer in Spain, and Third Prize in the Kutna Hora International Biennial Guitar Competition in the Czech Republic. His performance on our Sundin Music Hall concert series is one stop in a 50-concert international tour arranged by the Guitar Foundation of America as part of his First Prize awarded at the 2018 GFA International Concert Artists Competition.

## Raphaël Feuillâtre Guitar Foundation of America 2018 Rose Augustine Grand Prize

Three Pieces by Agustín Barrios Mangoré (1885–1944)
Preludio Saudade from *La Catedral*Valse, Op. 8, No. 3 *Mazurka Appassionata* 

Variations on a Theme of Sor by Miguel Llobet (1878–1938)

Three Pieces by Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683–1764)

Le rappel des oiseaux (arr. Michel Grizard)

Les tendres plaintes (arr. Michel Grizard)

Les Indes galantes (arr. Michel Grizard)

—Intermission—

Alfonsina y el mar (arr. Roland Dyens) by Ariel Ramirez (1921–2010)

La Gran Sarabanda by Leo Brouwer (b. 1939)

Aquarelle by Sérgio Assad (b. 1952) I. Divertimento II. Valseana

III. Preludio e toccatina

Three Preludes

Prélude 5 (Homenagem ao Vida Social) from Cinq Preludes by Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887–1959) Prélude pour la main gauche, Op. 9 (arr. Antoine Fougeray) by Alexander Scriabin (1871–1915)

Prélude, Op. 23, No. 5 en Sol min (arr. Antoine Fougeray) by Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943)













This concert is made possible with the above sponsors and in cooperation with the Guitar Foundation of America.







Dear Friends,

A spring newsletter, assembled over a week of mid-February snow and cold. Hot off the press, as a long-before-digital expression goes. Three great concerts to promote, and good news to share.

Grants. In January, we received funding from the Augustine Foundation (for the second consecutive year) and the D'Addario Foundation (after a long break), for our Guitar In Our Schools program. (See the article on page 7 for more news about GIOS.) Also in January, we learned that we received our first grant from the City of St. Paul Cultural STAR program, to support our current Sundin Music Hall concert series. We thank all these funders, and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, for their support.

Memberships. From an all-time low of 134 in 2018, our membership has steadily rebounded and is now at 174. Back in the day, we had over 200 members. We know the potential is there. We can reach it, one at a time, with your help. Tell someone you know about the MGS. We don't offer snazzy member benefits but we do provide two unique and valuable services to the greater community of guitar lovers—wonderful concerts, and innovative guitar-in-the-schools partnerships. Memberships are what keep us strong. When it's time to renew yours, please consider the monthly-payment option now available through our website.

Fundraising. We will have four new grant applications pending by April. But guidelines from funders evolve and the MGS, like every arts organization, needs to evolve in response. We need a robust, many-sided approach. That's where you can help. We want to establish a Fundraising Committee that will plan and implement things like a bigger and better Guitar Raffle, special events, and maybe a bake sale (hmm, probably not that). Contact me if you're interested. Which brings up... Volunteering. We need help in the lobby at concerts. Be an usher (hand out programs and say 'hi' to all who attend). Assist in the box office. Staff the information and merchandise tables. Bring (bake?) something for intermission treats.

Our Board of Directors. We're delighted to welcome Enrique Ortega, a 2014 Hamline U grad who worked at Sundin Music Hall as a student, and David Buending, a board member long ago who has rejoined. We're glad that long-time MGS member Bill Mask, retired accountant (and active guitarist), has joined the board as treasurer. We're grateful that Doug Whorton, who served a long term as treasurer, has agreed to stay on the board and continue to pilot OpenStage. Other board members' terms end this year. We need new members with enthusiasm for our mission and time to help with fundraising, publicity, or community outreach. If that sounds like you, get in touch. I'll buy the coffee. We'll talk about how much fun you'll have helping the MGS.

Every donation matters. Every membership matters. Thanks, again. See you at Sundin!

-Paul Hintz / Phone: 612 210 9055 / Email: <mgdir@mnguitar.org>



75 Compositions and Arrangements also Available via tonyhauser.com





May Concert continued from page 3



Robert Everest is a multilingual vocalist, composer, and multi-instrumentalist who has toured the world for nearly 30 years, bringing his original compositions and diverse international musical styles to performances in many countries, including Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Ecuador, and Bra-

zil. His musical studies have been varied and mostly impromptu—jazz guitar in Minneapolis, Brazilian guitar in California, classical guitar in Portugal, African guitar in Togo, flamenco in Spain, tango in Argentina, percussion in Ghana and Brazil. Local concert appearance include Orchestra Hall, the Fitzgerald Theatre, the Dakota Jazz Club, and the MN State Fair International Bazaar. He has recorded 5 CDs featuring his original compositions and world music repertoire. He leads several ensembles or plays solo on his 7-string Brazilian classical guitar. He recently served as musical director for Ten Thousand Things Theater Company. More at <www.roberteverest.com>.



Clarinetist **Pat O'Keefe** is active in a variety of musical genres. He has performed as soloist with symphony orchestras, wailed for belly dancers, and rocked samba in the streets. He is the woodwind player for *Zeitgeist*, and also performs with *Batucada do Norte*, *Choro Borealis*, *No Territories*, and *The Maithree Ensemble*. He holds a Bachelor of Music

from Indiana University, Master of Music from the New England Conservatory, and Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of California, San Diego. In 2015, he was awarded a Performing Musician Fellowship from the McKnight Foundation. He teaches at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls.



Annett Richter, native of Halle, Germany, has been active as lutenist and guitarist in the Twin Cities and Fargo/Moorhead for over 15 years. She has appeared on lute with sopranos Linh Kauffman, Candace Magner, Dawn Sonntag, Kim Sueoka, and Holly Janz, flutists Tiana Grisé and Deb Harris, lutenists Richard Griffith, Edward Martin, Philip Rukavina, and Tom

Walker, as well as with Consortium Carissimi. She studied guitar with Jeffrey Van and Todd Green, and learned 10-

course lute under Lucas Harris. Annett teaches courses in music iconography, history, bibliography, and writing about music at Concordia College in Moorhead and at North Dakota State University in Fargo. As a musicologist, she has given conference papers nationally and internationally. Her essay on Missouri artist Thomas Hart Benton recently appeared in *Grove Music Online*. She's delighted to return to the Classical Guitarathon.



Soprano **Linh Kauffman** has an active career in early music, concert, and opera. Recent performances include *Joshua* with the Panama National Symphony, *Carmina Burana* for the Prague Choral Festival, Mahler Symphony No. 2 with the Minnesota Orchestra, and at early music festivals in Paris, Urbino, Montreal, Indianapolis, and the Twin Cities. Kauffman has also ap-

peared with the Minnesota Opera, Oregon Bach Festival, Seraphic Fire, Spire Chamber Ensemble, and symphonies in Pittsburgh, Akron, Richmond, and the Quad Cities. She has been a guest soloist with such Twin Cities organizations as Lyra Baroque, Bach Roots Festival, Oratorio Society, and Consortium Carissimi. She is Associate Artistic Director of Antiqva Panamá and a founder of the Minnesota Bach Ensemble. She teaches at Macalester College.

### **CLASSICAL GUITARATHON PROGRAM**

## Jeffrey Van

F. Sor: Andante cantabile, Op. 43, No. 3; Minuet, Op. 11, No. 6 Heitor Villa-Lobos: *Mazurka-Choro* and *Valsa-Choro* 

## Jim Falbo

Dilermando Reis: *Ima Apaixonada*J. S. Bach: Gavotte I, II, Suite for Violoncello No. 6, BWV 1012
Gary Ryan: *Hot Club Francais* / Jim Falbo: *Sixteen Raindrops* 

## Robert Everest, with Pat O'Keefe, clarinet

Antonio Lauro: *Vals Venezolano No. 3* ("Natalia") Erik Satie: *La Gnossienne No. 1* / Ernesto Nazareth: *Odeon* Robert K. Everest: *Canto de Esperança* 

## Southwest High School Orchestra, dir. Ruth LeMay

Miroslav Lončar: Mediterranean Dance Yiruma (arr. Dan Jones): River Flows in You David Gaudreau: Dulce Vida Dávid Pavlovits: Open Your Head The Gipsy Kings (arr. Richard Charlton): Gypsies and Vaqabonds Inspiration

## **Samuel Hines**

J. S. Bach: Chaconne, from Partita for Solo Violin, No. 2, in Dm Sergio Assad: Preludio e Toccatina, from *Aquarelle* 

## Annett Richter, lute, with Linh Kauffman, soprano

Thomas Campion: Author of Light, Never weather-beaten saile
Philip Rosseter: Sweet come again
Jacques Mauduit: Eau vive, source d'amour

## **GUITAR IN OUR SCHOOLS**

s we start the second year of Guitar In Our Schools, we have lots of news and all of it is good! First, as reported on page 5, we are happy to announce that the Augustine Foundation has renewed their support and that we have received both financial and donated-product support from the D'Addario Foundation.

Our partnership with Ruth LeMay and her guitar program at Southwest High School continues. Jared Waln from our GIOS team of teachers did a 4-week teaching residency there last fall and returned for a 12-week residency this semester.

Our partnership with Nick Wilson and Roosevelt High School is expanding this spring to include a 4-week residency by Milena Petković from our GIOS team. Artists from our Sundin series visited both these schools.

Austin Wahl will visit White Bear Lake High School in March while here for his concert at Sundin Music Hall. Ben Abrahamson will do a 4-visit residency at White Bear Lake in April and May.

We have made initial contacts with other schools and expect to have news on those potential partnerships in our next newsletter.

In some ways, our biggest news is the most recent. We now have a grant pending with the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council (MRAC) Arts Learning Program that would fund a new partnership and project that will significantly enlarge our GIOS program.

<u>Guitar Opportunities for All Learners</u> (GOAL) is a project that will bring together three partners. The Special Education Department at <u>White Bear Lake High School</u>, in particular their teacher David Melvin, who a year ago

launched a Guitar Club for students with disabilities at the school, will identify 45 students in their department who are not able to take part in the Guitar Club and who would benefit (most for the first time in their lives) from the chance to have musical instruction (the department has no funding or staff for this). Ruth LeMay will act as consultant on her innovative methodology for special needs students (see page 3). The MGS will provide the visiting, trained teacher, Jared Waln, who will work with the 45 students (divided into two separate classes), using as appropriate either standard guitars and methodology, or the adaptive guitars and methodology of LeMay.

We will know whether we're approved for MRAC funding after their panel meets in late April. While we are optimistic, the MRAC program has limited funds, large numbers of worthy applicants, and strict guidelines. So we're working on a Plan B to fund our project. For our GIOS program overall, as for our concert series, our most important source of financial support will always be the generosity of MGS members and friends.

We can always use <u>more guitars</u> to give to schools. You could consider donating that second-best, still-playable-and-tunable-but-no-longer-loved instrument. And we will also need the donation of a new or mint condition, concert worthy instrument, for next season's raffle.

Of course, we always need donations of like-new, gently used guitar accessories, sheet music, or CDs. Bring those items to a Sundin concert, and we'll add them to the the MGS Store table in the lobby. While you're there, you might be tempted to pick up an item or two!

For more info, please contact me at (612) 210 9055 or <mgdir@mnguitar.org>.

—Paul Hintz

Thanks to all our friends and members for their continuing support of the Guitar In Our Schools program, especially the D'Addario Foundation and the Augustine Foundation.







Our February Sundin Music Hall concert artist, Andrea González Caballero, answers questions after playing for the Advanced Guitar class at Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis, talks with their teacher, Nick Wilson, and smiles for the camera with Nick and with Milena Petković of our GIOS staff (pictures by Doug Whorton from the MGS board).





Classified ads are free to MGS members. Place ad by email to <mgdir@mnguitar.org>. Limit ads to 50 word maximum. All ads will run for 1 year, unless cancelled, and can be renewed. Contact the editor for deadlines and other information.

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**LESSONS.** Sign up for personalized classical or acoustic finger-style guitar lessons with award-winning guitarist Momcilo Moma Aleksandric. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Find more info at <www.momaguitar.com>.

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**GUITAR FOR SALE.** 2008 Stephen Kakos classical guitar. Spruce top, Honduran rosewood back and sides. Excellent condition. Hiscox case included. \$6,000. Contact Chris Garwood at <chrisgarwoodmusic@gmail.com> or (612) 578-4057.

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## **Sundin Music Hall Concerts**

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