

January and February Artists at Sundin Music Hall



Pete Huttlinger—*Fingerstyle Guitar* Friday, January 24, 8 pm

Pete Huttlinger has become widely known as one of the most awe-inspiring acoustic guitar players in the world. His unique arrangements and spell-binding musicality and precision have entertained audiences all the way from Los Angeles to Milan.

As a recording artist Huttlinger has released numerous albums and received wide-acceptance ranging from his critically acclaimed *Naked Pop* continuing to his current instrumental tour de force, *The Black Swan*. Praise from the media has been overwhelmingly positive and Huttlinger continues to expand his musical breadth.

As part of our statewide outreach, Mr. Huttlinger will also perform on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2014, 7:30 pm, in Grand Rapids, MN, at the Reif Center—followed by a concert and school visit the next morning.

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Colin Davin—*Classical Guitar* Saturday, February 15, 8 pm

Hailed as “the real thing, a player with a virtuoso’s technique, a deeply expressive musicianship, and a probing imagination” (*American Record Guide*), guitarist Colin Davin is quickly emerging as one of today’s most dynamic young artists. He has performed across the United States, including appearances at Alice Tully Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art (on historic instruments from the museum’s collection), and venues in Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, Cleveland, Portland, and Austin, in addition to international appearances in France and Spain. In the summer of 2012, Davin taught and performed at the Aspen Music

As part of our statewide outreach, Colin Davin will appear on Friday, Feb. 14, 2014, 7:30 pm in Zumbrota at the Crossings at Carnegie.

Festival as the teaching assistant to Sharon Isbin. Competition accolades include: Portland International Guitar Competition (1st Prize and Audience Choice), Miami International Guitar Competition (1st Prize), Columbus

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Also in this issue: Book Review, Member Spotlights and Insights, and News and Notes

From the editor:

Greetings! The snow and the cold have arrived and suddenly we are halfway through our Sundin Music Hall concert series! In November, Rovshan Mamedkuliev brought energy and brilliance to the hall with his passionate, thrilling performance. In December, Duo Tamayo-Montesinos offered a wonderful master class with four students from MacPhail and that evening delighted the audience with their charming, beautiful presentations of duets from around the world. Now the cold, hard months of the long winter are upon us. We have a great line up of music to keep us warm and refresh our flagging spirits. Pete Huttlinger of Nashville fame comes on Friday, January 24th, playing fingerstyle guitar. Our second annual board concert, featuring nine (!) of our board members will be held Saturday, February 1st at McNally Smith College of Music. The MGS is blessed with many board members who are professional musicians and this is a rare chance to hear them in one place at one time! The concert will include solos and duets with a variety of styles: jazz, classical,

folk, fingerstyle, guitars, lutes, even a ukulele and a charango as our offering of thanks to the members of the MGS community and as a fundraiser for the organization. Colin Davin, a phenomenally talented former student of Sharon Isbin, will be coming February 15th playing classical guitar. His concert will be free for students. Teachers! Please send your students! He will inspire them to practice! On February 16th our popular "Community Concert Series" returns, with a free concert at 7 pm at Yellowtree Theatre in Osseo. These concerts feature local artists who offer their time to share their music with the community. We are calling this first concert "guitar potluck" and it will include a variety of styles and performers all showcasing the diversity of the guitar. If you are interested in performing in a supportive environment, there is the ongoing "Openstage" on the second Sunday of each month at The Coffee Grounds in Falcon Heights at 2 pm. Show up, sign up, and play! I hope to see you at all of these events. I will be there! Stay warm, hang in there and come hear some fabulous music. For more information and to purchase tickets online, please visit our website.

Sincerely,

Emily Wright, Guitarist Editor and

Managing Director of the Minnesota Guitar Society

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MGS 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.

"AT A GLANCE" ... 2013-2014 UPCOMING SUNDIN HALL CONCERTS

Fri., Jan. 24—Peter Huttlinger (Fingerstyle Guitar)
Sat., Feb. 15—Colin Davin (Classical Guitar)
Sat., Mar. 22—Simon Shaheen (Oud) with Guest Percussionist
Sat., Apr. 12—Cavatina Duo (Classical Guitar & Flute Duo)
Sat., May 10—Classical Guitarathon – local players

NEW! All Student Tickets are now \$10

Single tickets:

- \$22 (general admission) • \$17 (MGS members & seniors);
- \$10 (students with valid ID & patrons of limited means)

**To reserve tickets for any Sundin Hall concert,
please call 612-677-1151 or visit the
MGS website, www.mnguitar.org.**



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Directions: from I-94, head north on Snelling Ave. in St. Paul, past University Ave. to Hewitt Ave. Turn right, Sundin Hall is on your left, a half-block east of Snelling. Free parking is available one block past the hall, in lots off Hewitt (on your right) or off Pascal (1 block north).

Sundin Music Hall Concert Series

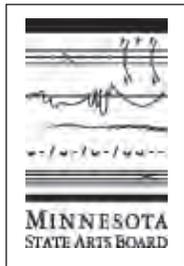
Pete Huttlinger, *continued from p. 1*

In 2007, Huttlinger made his debut at New York City's Carnegie Hall. He was invited back in 2008 and made his first appearance there as a solo artist demonstrating what audiences around the world know him best for—his fantastic sense of humor and mind-blowing chops. In 2004, 2007 and 2010, he was invited to participate in Eric Clapton's Crossroads Festivals.

Huttlinger also makes appearances as a side-man. Country/pop superstar LeAnn Rimes often requests him for her acoustic performances. Some of the most recent ones include the filming of "Live From Abbey Road" a BBC TV series taped at the famous London studios. It aired in America on BRAVO! Huttlinger also appeared with Rimes on ABC's "Dancing With The Stars" and made an acoustic recording with her that was sold as an exclusive download through Kellogg's. He toured with John Denver for the last four years of John's life and often tours with pop icon John Oates of Hall & Oates.

For videos and samples of Huttlinger's music go to <www.petehuttlinger.com>.

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



Colin Davin, *continued from p. 1*

State University Competition (1st Prize), and Juan Serrano International Competition (1st Prize).

Davin is also a two-time prizewinner in the prestigious Guitar Foundation of America International Solo Competition (2005 and 2006). In both years, he was the youngest finalist as well as the only American prizewinner. In 2011, Colin Davin released his debut solo recording, "The Infinite Fabric of Dreams". Featuring the music of twentieth-century composers Benjamin Britten, Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, and Hans Haug, as well as the Romantic-era composer Johann Kaspar Mertz, the recording explores a broad emotional palette through a mix of guitar favorites and rarities. The album has been praised as "some of the finest interpretations I've heard...achingly beautiful...a thoughtful, perceptive interpretation, filled with details often missed" (American Record Guide) and "a first-rate disc...Davin knows the pieces deeply and delivers virtuosic and exciting performances...state of the art" (Soundboard).

Currently residing in New York City, Davin is also highly active in the creation and performance of new music. He has performed numerous premieres in both solo and ensemble contexts, and has performed with new music ensembles Axiom, Symphony Z, and as soloist with the New Juilliard Ensemble and Contemporaneous.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Davin holds a Master of Music degree from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Sharon Isbin. Previous studies include a Bachelor of Music Magna cum Laude from the USC Thornton School of Music with William Kanengiser, and preparatory studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music with Jason Vieaux.

For videos and samples of Colin Davin's music, visit <www.colindavin.com>.

We offering free student tickets to this concert. Teachers, please encourage your students to attend. Students can ask for a free ticket at the box office.

MGS T-Shirts are back!

Designed by our own artistic director, Joe Hagedorn: **Fernandosaur - Minnesota Guitar Society t-shirts come in sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL and shirt colors: black, green, or blue.**

Available for \$20 each at MGS Sundin Hall concerts, or e-mail Joe at: hagedorn@visi.com



Book Review

by MGS Board Member, Joe Haus

Andrés Segovia published his memoirs in 1976 at the age of 83. This first volume covered his childhood and the very start of his career up to the year 1920. The guitar world waited in vain for the next volumes; he never wrote them down.

A recent book by Alfredo Escande entitled "Don Andrés and Paquita," roughly covers the years 1938 to 1948: a period that saw Segovia marry his second wife, Paquita Madriguera, leave Europe ahead of the Spanish civil war, run afoul of American concert promoters and work on two of the most important guitar concertos of the twentieth century.

This is a fascinating book. It sets out to correct some factual errors (Segovia would say that his date of birth was February 21, 1893, yet a diary kept by his wife observes that he celebrated his birthday on November 11 and his passport states November 21st). But it reads like a novel with a love story at the center. The author used many source documents such as periodicals and interviews with two surviving daughters. This gives a wonderful flavor of the era. There are many concert posters and concert

reviews. There's even a photo of Segovia at the grave of Tàrrega.

The book also gives a very good profile of Segovia's second wife, Paquita Madriguera. A child prodigy of the piano, she was a favored student of Enrique Granados. The reviews of her performances have put me on the hunt for a piano roll recording of her playing. She had given up her concert career to marry a Uruguayan banker. When he suddenly died leaving her with 3 daughters to provide for she returned to the concert stage.

Segovia was impressed with Paquita when they were briefly introduced at a concert hall. She thought him haughty and arrogant; the fact that he never bothered to attend one of her many concerts didn't help. But Paquita did attend one of his recitals and was won over by his performance of Mozart's Sonata in C major.

Segovia and his new family left Spain just ahead of the outbreak of war in 1938. They settled in Montevideo, Uruguay. Being a supporter of Franco put Segovia on the blacklist of North American concert promoters and he concentrated on performing around South America. It was also during this time that he premiered guitar concertos by Ponce and Castelnuovo-Tedesco. Segovia and Paquita often gave joint concerts together. Each playing half and finishing with a joint performance of one of the new guitar concertos.

The book was translated into English by Charles Postlewait and his Spanish-born wife Marisa Herrera Postlewait. They also did an excellent job and we should thank them for getting the music publisher Hal Leonard to print it. I highly recommend this book to you.

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The Dream Songs Project

MGS Members, The Dream Songs Project, a classical voice and guitar duo, presents L'Etoile du Nord concerts on January 17, 18, and 19 in Minneapolis and St Paul. The concerts celebrate our community's musical wealth with new works for voice and guitar by Minnesota composers.

Founded in 2010 by mezzo-soprano Alyssa Anderson and guitarist Joseph Spoelstra, TDSP produces several concerts every season dedicated to the intimate pairing of guitar and voice. The ensemble has engaged audiences with a wide-ranging repertoire from Renaissance lute songs to Romantic arias, 20th and 21st century masterpieces, and newly commissioned music. TDSP has been presented locally in concert series by Macalester College, Minnesota Guitar Society, Schubert Club, Thursday Musical, and Zeitgeist, as well as broadcasts on Minnesota Public Radio. MPR host Steve Staruch praised TDSP's recording, Mauro Giuliani: Songs for Voice and Guitar, as "superb...clean and colorful."

L'Etoile du Nord features four new pieces for voice and guitar, including commissioned works by Katherine Bergman and Christopher Gable. Commissioned as part of a Metropolitan Regional Arts Council Community Arts grant award, Bergman's *The Old Wide Way* sets the words of Minnesota poet Todd Boss and explores images of nature. The five songs in this work are interconnected through their tonality and recurring pitch relationships and also showcase extended techniques



Joseph Spoelstra and Alyssa Anderson

such as the use of a bottleneck slide to create an ethereal effect that is echoed by the vocal line.

A Minnesota Timetable by Gable is a cycle of seven songs that also set texts by Minnesota writers, including a heart-breaking letter home from a Civil War soldier, a land surveyor platting Roseville Township, and a reading of a train timetable across Minnesota destinations. As with his other works for voice, Gable masterfully combines beautifully melodic vocal writing, rich harmonies for guitar, and texts that can be humorous and deeply touching. This commission was made possible by Alyssa Anderson's State Arts Board 2013 Artist Initiative grant award project.

In addition to the two commissions, these concerts also feature the premieres of Gary Ruschman's *From Dreams of Thee* and *Bamboo Cottage* by David Evan Thomas. A setting of Shelley's "The Indian Serenade," *From Dreams of Thee* plays with combining the tonality of classical Indian music with the rhythm and drive of modern rock music. *Bamboo Cottage* contains six songs on texts of ancient Chinese poems interspersed with contemplations by the poems' translator, Doug Westendorp. Thomas's soaring melodies and modern harmonic language make this set of songs stunningly beautiful and serene.

Support local music! More information and tickets are available through www.thedreamsongsproject.org

My Experience with Guitar

by student volunteer, Milo Wittenberg

Iplayed the last note of Pujol's *Septiembre*, stood up, and took a bow. The audience of three people stood up and clapped. I was in Rothenburg, Germany, playing in front of my first international audience. After the concert, a man, one of the three, congratulated me on my playing, and told me it deeply moved him and brought back memories of his childhood, and I was incredibly flattered. Though the hall reverberated due to the empty seats, it was one of my most rewarding performances. While lying in bed that night, I puzzled over why I was so moved by his statement of nostalgia. I realized that it was because the ultimate goal of a musician is to move people with their music. That's what makes great musicians great: their ability to touch people's emotions by plucking or bowing strings attached to a wooden box.

I began playing guitar at the age of 5, as a replacement for the banjo. For whatever reason, my five-year-old self felt that he was incredibly fascinated with that twangy tambourine on a stick. As my mother could not find any Suzuki banjo teachers in the immediate area (and I'm not convinced that she searched very hard), she suggested I play classical guitar. Being as flexible as I was back then, and recognizing that it had the same number of

strings, I decided it would be okay. The Suzuki Method was conceived by Shin'ichi Suzuki in the mid 20th century. The method's core belief is that all people are capable of learning from their environment. My parents enrolled me with a Suzuki teacher at the MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis. I flourished with my teacher, who was excellent at nurturing me, rather than trying to set ridiculously high goals. In this safe and caring environment, I excelled. During those early years, I recall sitting down with my mother every day to practice, and most of the time, having fun while doing it. I'm convinced that the reasons I continue to play are at the essence of my beginning lessons: it's a comfortable ritual and I still enjoy it.

Now, at the age of 16, guitar is an essential part of my life. If I go a day without practicing, it feels as if there's something missing. Sometimes, however, practice feels more like tedious work, rather than lots of fun, but the challenge that guitar brings to my life on a daily basis seems rather crucial at this point. In the end, the struggle is very much worth it, as the feeling of accomplishment after solving a particularly tricky measure is most rewarding. It truly doesn't matter if there are only three people in an audience, so long as I can bring joy and happiness to one of them with my music.

♥ Minneapolis Guitar Quartet

Concerts, Masterclasses and a live radio broadcast!
 January 17-18 in Willmar
 February 14-15 in Lanesboro
 See <minneapolisguitarquartet.com> for locations and times.

♥ Dreamsongs Project, L'Etoile du Nord

A weekend of concerts featuring new music by Minnesota composers with works by Christopher Gable, Katherine Bergman, David Evan Thomas, and Gary Ruschman. <<http://thedreamsongsproject.org>>. Tickets are \$15/\$10.

Friday, Jan. 17, 7:30 pm
 Fall Out Arts Initiative, Studio 3
 2601 2nd Ave. S., Minneapolis
 Saturday, Jan. 18, 7:30 pm
 Studio Z
 275 E. 4th St., 2nd Floor, St. Paul
 Sunday, Jan. 19, 2 pm
 Dreamland Arts
 677 Hamline Ave. N., St. Paul

♥ Minnesota Guitar Society 2nd Annual Board Concert

February 1, 7 pm
 McNally Smith College of Music
 Soundbite Cafe
 19 Exchange St. E., St. Paul
 A Fundraiser and Musical Thank You Note. Admission is free, donations of all sizes accepted and encouraged. We will be providing appetizers and non alcoholic beverages. There will be a cash bar offering beer and wine.

♥ Community Concert Series

February 16, 7 pm
 Yellowtree Theatre (763-493-8733)
 320 5th Ave. SE, Osseo
 "Guitar Potluck" featuring local guitarists. Admission is free, donations are accepted, snacks and beverages available for purchase.

♥ Openstage

January 12 & February 9 at 2 pm
 The Coffee Grounds (651-644-9959)
 1579 Hamline Ave N, St Paul

♥ Twin Cities Classical Guitar Meetup

The Twin Cities Classical Guitar Meetup is an informal group of players interested in getting together to perform pieces, attend concerts, or simply enjoy sharing ideas about

classical guitar. Whether you are a rank beginner or a seasoned pro, you are welcome here. Through our website we organize regular meetings and performance events at various venues (members houses, cafes, etc.), as well as provide a discussion forum where members can exchange information on a variety of topics related to classical guitar. The group has met several times with very positive feedback from participants. Membership is free and open to all. The only requirement is an interest in the fascinating world of classical guitar. To find out more about our group, you can visit us at www.meetup.com/classicalguitar (where you can also read about our past gatherings).

♥ Ukulele Corner:



The Twin Cities Ukulele Players, (T-Cup), are continuing to meet at Olivet Congregational Church, 1850 Iglehart Avenue, St Paul (6:30 pm, lessons and 7 pm, Orchestra Practice). In January we will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, the 9th and 23rd. In February we will return to our 1st and third Thursdays of the month. Come share in the fun of learning to play an instrument (for beginners) creating our own arrangements, (for more advanced players), choosing songs we enjoy and performing for the community. The group is led by folk musicians Emily Wright, teaching beginning ukulele, Doug Wright, offering instruction on more advanced ukulele techniques and gamba virtuoso/instructor and secret ukulele player Julie Elhard, creating beautiful classical arrangements and keeping us all together. Be careful, playing the ukulele is contagious. For more information call Emily at (612) 275-4701, look for us on <www.facebook.com/TCukuleleplayers>, or email <TCUkuleleplayers@gmail.com>.

♥ Send Us Your News

Got a CD release planned? New teaching studio or schedule? Concert coming up in your area? We want to hear about it! We want to tell the (MGS) world! Want to write an article for the newsletter? Send all and any news of a guitaristical nature to <editor@mnguitar.org>. *Nota bene:* the deadline for each issue is the 25th of each odd-numbered month. (So, to get stuff in the March/April issue, send it to us by January 25th.)

♥ Support Our Friends

We appreciate the support of music stores and schools throughout the metro area who help distribute our newsletter. Wherever you see copies

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LESSONS: Guitar, banjo, Suzuki guitar and violin, piano, elec. bass, voice, mandolin! Everything from rock to blue grass. Instruction and instruments. Northern Pine Studios in Lino Lakes. Call Chris at 651-780-1625.

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News & Notes, *continued from p. 6*

available, please take a minute and thank the people in charge for helping the MGS!

♥ Have Fun with the MGS—Volunteer!

Our members make it all possible. If you are a friend of the MGS but haven't joined, or haven't renewed your membership, please do so! If you'd like to get (more) involved with our many activities—well, we need help! Specifically:

Distribute our newsletter. Time commitment: 2 to 4 hours every other month.

Help in the lobby at Sundin Hall concerts. Be an usher. Bring refreshments. Time commitment: less than an hour a month.

Help publicize our concerts. Time commitment: Variable.

To learn more about these and other opportunities, email <editor@mnguitar.org>. Thanks!

ting that guarantees results. Sundays at 11 am. 2-hr session. Cost: \$20. Also helpful to classical players (nylon-string guitar required). Visit <www.scottmateo.com> or call 612-749-2662.

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GUITAR FOR SALE: 2009 New Masters Landler II, spruce top, maple back and sides, elevated fingerboard, dual sound ports, 12 hole tie block, \$650. Contact Steve Ulliman at 715-748-2457 or <kabuslu@tds.net>.

GUITAR FOR SALE: 2010 Kevin Aram classical guitar, spruce/Indian, 20th fret, played in, better-than-new condition! \$8,950 or best offer. Call Jeff Lambert at 952-546-1429 or email <jeffguitar@gmail.com>.

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Classified Ads, *continued on p. 8*

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Classified Ads, *continued from p. 7*

Studio is located in Lowertown and features individual rooms and a lounge. For schedules, availability, and pricing, visit the studio website at <www.stpaulguitarstudio.com>.

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BOOKS FOR SALE: Chris Proctor (Travelogue, Fingerstyle Magic, Runoff), Al Petteway (Whispering Stones), Eric Schoenberg

(Beatles), Joe Spence, Parkening Plays Bach, The Music of Blind Blake. \$5 each (plus shipping). Email: <georgepseifert@gmail.com>.

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