

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.



A Publication of the Minnesota Guitar Society • P.O. Box 14986 • Minneapolis, MN 55414

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2016

VOL. 32 NO. 6

Award-Winning Guitarists Headline Sundin Music Hall Winter Concerts



Dean Magraw

Saturday, November 12

Composer, arranger, producer, guitarist **Dean Magraw** has fine-tuned his "Heavy Meadow" approach to music from years of performing and recording with some of the finest musicians in the United States, Europe, and Japan. His first recording, *Broken Silence*, came out in 1994 and won the NAIRD award for Best Acoustic Instrumental Album of the Year.

Dean has since produced myriad passionate albums, including his latest release, in 2014, *Fire on the Nile* (Red House Records), a duo collaboration with renowned percussionist, Eric Kamau Gravatt. *Vintage Guitar Magazine* writes: "The uniqueness of this record can't be stressed enough. Just guitar and percussion, but we're not talking the White Stripes here. It's stripped down, but the sound is still big. Magraw's guitar work is simple, complex, and majestic at the same time, and far off the beaten path."

Dean Magraw's life as a guitarist, composer, arranger, and producer reveals an artist uniquely consistent in his ability to rise to the highest level of musical expression in a dazzling array of contexts. Dean's passion transcends all perceived musical boundaries, yet the vital essence of his distinctive style is ever present, whether he's performing and recording as a solo artist, leading his own ensembles such as the experimental jam band *Eight Head*, or

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Thibaut Garcia

Saturday, December 10

Born in Toulouse, France, **Thibaut Garcia** began to play the guitar at the age of seven. He credits his Spanish origins as an influence on his way of thinking and approach to guitar and life. He grew up with his father playing the guitar and listening to recordings of Segovia and Julian Bream so when he began to study, he felt like he already knew how to play the guitar. He studied in Toulouse where he got his chamber music diploma in the class of Renaud Gruss, and his guitar diploma with the honour mention in the class of Paul Ferret. At sixteen he entered the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris (CNSMDP) and studied with Olivier Chassain, with whom he got his bachelor with the honours. He currently studies privately with Judicael Perroy.

At twenty one, Thibaut has won first prize of international competitions: GFA, Oklahoma City (U.S.A) 2015; "Jose Tomas" (Spain) 2014; Sevilla (Spain) 2013; "Terra Siculorum" (Romania) 2013; "Ana Amalia", Weimar (Germany) 2011; and "Valle de Egues" (Spain) 2008.

Thanks to placing first in the international competitions of Sevilla and "Jose Tomas," Thibaut was invited to play all around the world (France, Spain, England, Germany, Romania,

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From the editor:

Each fall, as winter approaches, I remind myself that one of the things I love about living in Minnesota is the music. Community music in living rooms, exquisite soloists in a concert hall, informal and formal music, classical, modern, folk, traditional, simple, elaborate – music is everywhere. Of the many things in my life that I am thankful for, music is always near the top of my list. Thank you for choosing to come to concerts that feature the guitar! In this issue we highlight two performers: one of our local legends, Dean Magraw, playing a concert for us on November 12 of music from near and far that he has written and arranged for acoustic guitar; and Thibaut Garcia, playing classical guitar on December 10 - the newest winner of The Guitar Foundation of America competition.

The citizens of Minnesota voted to set aside a portion of our tax dollars to support the arts. Our state gives more money to the arts than every state in the country except New York. We are happy to report that the Minnesota Guitar Society was awarded a grant for \$10,000 from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council to support our concert season at Sundin Music Hall for the remaining concerts in our 2016-17 season. We are fortunate to have a strong membership base who support our concerts and whose generous donations allow us to keep bringing beautiful music to the stage. Please consider a donation to the MGS on Give to the Max Day, November 17 – you can visit find us on the givemn website: <www.givemn.org/organization/Minnesota-Guitar-Society>.

Sincerely,

Emily Youngdahl Wright, Managing Director
mgdir@mnguitar.org

Minnesota Guitar Society

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Season Artist Change for March 25!



Unfortunately, due to visa difficulties, Emanuele Buono has had to postpone his concerts scheduled for the U.S. in 2017. In his place will be **Vladimir Gorbach**, whose last concert in Minnesota, as part of a GFA tour during our 2012-13 season, nearly sold out. In addition to his performance at Sundin Music Hall on March 25, he will offer a masterclass at MacPhail on Sunday March 26, 2:00-4:00. Since his last visit, Vladimir's career has continued to grow and flourish. In 2013 he took on new duties to lead the guitar program at California State University, Fullerton, and became the first International Artist Fellow in Music at the University of Southern California, Thornton School of Music to pursue his Doctoral of Musical Arts (DMA) studies. (USC's most elite graduate fellowship, nick-named the "Rhodes Scholarship" for the Arts, which is granted annually to only one fellow in each of six arts schools at USC).

He has performed in recital and as soloist with chamber ensembles of Orchestra de Las Beiras, the Orchestra de Aveiro (Portugal), the Russian Academic Chamber Orchestra Musica Viva, the Symphony Orchestra of New Russia, and Junge Philharmonie Köln, as well as appearances at the Moscow Philharmonic Concert Series, Koblenz International Guitar Festival (Germany), Guitar Art Festival Belgrade (Serbia), Vienna Guitar Forum (Austria), Nantes Summer Guitar Academy (France), Vondelpark Festival (The Netherlands), and Sydney Crows Nest Concert Cycle (Australia), in addition to giving master-classes at numerous festivals.

In 2015 Vladimir started his appointment as Head of Guitar at The University of Sydney, Sydney Conservatorium of Music.



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Sundin Music Hall is on the Hamline University Campus at 1536 Hewitt Ave. in St. Paul.

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 is handicap accessible and there is ample free parking available.

Sundin Music Hall Concerts

■ Dean Magraw, *continued from p. 1*

collaborating with such notables as Japanese shamisen prodigy Nitta Masahiro, classical violinist Nigel Kennedy, South Indian vocalist and vina virtuoso Nirmala Rajasheker, epic songstress and storyteller Ruth MacKenzie, folk icon Greg Brown, Irish supergroup Altan, radio and film celebrity Garrison Keillor, jazz bassist Anthony Cox, and countless others. His list of musical collaborators is extensive and impressive. He calls them his teachers and writes: "I have learned so much from you all."

Growing up in a musical household, Dean soaked in a smorgasbord of musical influences. His parents danced to big band swing; his sister listened to show tunes and his guitar and veena playing brother's record collection was full of folk, jazz, rock, and classical Indian albums. But it was the opening riff to the Rolling Stones' "19th Nervous Breakdown" that caused him to fall in love with the guitar.

In his formative years Dean quickly expanded his musical knowledge by incorporating his love of myriad musical styles into his playing and writing. With his eclectic background and musical versatility, he quickly evolved into one of the most innovative guitarists on the international scene as well as one of the most accomplished and original composers, arrangers and producers around. From playing on public radio's *A Prairie Home Companion* to leading up his own experimental jam band Eight Head, Dean has literally generated a new world of music.

In addition to his role as an in-demand sideman on over a hundred recording projects, Dean has proven pivotal in creating more than a dozen albums, including four for Red House Records: *Wise-Magraw* (1985), *Broken Silence* (1994), *Seventh One* (1998) and *Duo* (1991), an album he recorded with Emmy Award winning multi-instrumentalist Peter Ostroushko.

Diagnosed with MDS, a bone marrow disorder, in 2009, a new chapter opened in Dean's life perspective and artistic endeavors. A bone marrow transplant prevented him from performing...but not recording. During the early stages of his medical treatment, Dean went into the studio with his longtime friend and collaborator Marcus Wise. Proving the healing power of music, Dean and Marcus Wise released *How the Light Gets In*, an engaging collection of highly original compositions nurtured in a refreshingly distinctive soundscape. As is evident on this new album, Dean continues to radiate positive energy through his music. Playing with insight, passion and joy, he shows why he is one of the most groundbreaking musicians of our time.

In 2014, Dean collaborated with the iconic jazz drummer Eric Kamau Gravatt (Weather Report, McCoy Tyner) for their improvisational masterwork, *Fire on the Nile*. The spare yet full sound of Dean's guitar and Eric's drumming, created a aural journey that only musicians of their caliber could create.

Of his playing, critics and colleagues have written:

"Dean Magraw's guitar playing transcends, transports and lifts the soul to a higher level as he weaves, cajoles and entices every note from his instrument. The note, length of note, tone of note, the bending of the note; every colour of the note is explored and delivered with a master's care and love. Just as important are the silences with which he knits his music... these can only come with being at one with one's art. Dean Magraw is an incredible world class musician who's modesty only makes him more appreciated by the listener."—Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh of Altan

"Dean Magraw... so liquid, lyrical and effortless it's like listening to a dancer."—Steve Tibbetts

"Coaxing an intoxicating array of incisive rhythms, restless melodies and striking lyricism from his acoustic guitar, Magraw dazzles quietly."—Star Tribune

(Biography material compiled from Red House Records and the Dean Magraw website)

Sundin Music Hall 2016-2017 Concert Season

Lily Afshar - Saturday, September 17

Iliana Matos - Saturday, October 22

Dean Magraw - Saturday, November 12

Thibaut Garcia - Saturday, December 10

**All Strings Considered -
Guitarathon - Saturday, January 21**

Mobius Trio - Friday, February 24

Vladimir Gorbach - Saturday, March 25

Raphaella Smits - Saturday, April 22

Classical Guitarathon - Saturday, June 3

Tickets can be ordered online or via mail.

Individual Tickets: \$25 (general admission)

\$20 (MGS members & seniors)

\$10 (students & patrons with limited means).

To reserve tickets for any Sundin Music Hall concert, please call 612-677-1151 or visit the MGS web site, <www.mnguitar.org>.



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Sundin Music Hall Concert

■ Thibaut Garcia, *continued from p. 1*

Hungary, Canada, United States, Brazil, Greece, Argentina, Mexico, Russia, China...).

Now 22 years old, he just won the first prize of the Guitar Foundation of America 2015. The GFA competition is one of the most prestigious and respected event in the classical guitar world and results in more than 50 concerts in the USA, a recital at Carnegie Hall, a Naxos recording, a GHA (world famous guitar record label from Brussels) recording, and a Mel BAY collaboration).

In his native France, Garcia was recently featured on La Boîte à Musique (The Music Box) where he was invited to perform on national television by Jean-François Zygel. In December 2015, he also performed on France Musique for Gaëlle Le Gallic's program. Garcia was also recently awarded the distinction of "filleul" (Godson) by the Académie Charles Cross, a cultural organization that acts as an intermediary between government policy makers and professional musicians in France.

His first disc *Demain dès l'aube* (Tomorrow at Dawn) was produced by the label Contrastes Records in 2014. Released in September 2016, Thibaut Garcia made his Warner Records debut with *Leyendas* (Legends), an atmospheric recital of music by Spanish and Argentinian composers: Albéniz, Falla, Rodrigo, Tárrega (his famous, shimmering Recuerdos de la Alhambra), Manjón and Piazzolla. "I wanted to show the guitar in its full glory," says Garcia. "These legendary works are so close to my heart because they are part of my life and my travels."

"This is music which made me love the guitar and which also reminds me of my Spanish roots. It shows various facets of the instrument, from the more popular style of Piazzolla's Estaciones Porteñas and Falla's Siete canciones populares españolas to the more classical, intimate and elegant world of Albéniz. I am a great fan of music from the early 20th century – it displays the full palette of colours that the guitar can offer."

He is very involved in promoting new music and is in the process of playing and recording world premieres of pieces by Jean-Frédéric Neuburger and Vincent A. Jockin. Most of the time he plays solo recital, but collaborates with other artists in several ensemble, guitar duo with Antoine Morinière, violin, cello guitar, quatuor with Jean-Frédéric Neuburger (piano), Raphaël Sévère (clarinet) and Antoine Morinière (guitar).



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The Lute Cafe 2016-2017 Season

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Thursday, September 15, 2016

Dutch Light

The Solo Music of Nicolas Vallet (1583-1642)
Phillip Rukavina, 9-course bass lute



Thursday, October 20, 2016

Rhétorique des Dieux

Solo Lute Music of the French Baroque Era
Thomas Walker Jr., 10-course lute



Thursday, November 17, 2016

Ladyslipper Ensemble

Germanic Music by Italians and
Italianate Music by Germans



Thursday, December 15, 2016

On Yoolis Night

A Festival of Songs and Dances to
Celebrate the Holiday season.



Thursday, January 19, 2017

The Scottish Lute

Music from the Straloch Lute Manuscript
Richard Griffith, 10-course lute



Thursday, February 16, 2017

Rocky's Delight

Rocky Mjos, archlute
Peggy Larson, soprano



Thursday, March 16, 2017

Au Courante!

Edward Martin, Baroque lute
Thomas Walker Jr., Baroque lute



Thursday, April 20, 2017

An English Songbook

Annett Richter, 10-course lute
Kim Sueoka - soprano



Thursday, May 18, 2017

Lutapoluzza 2017

A concert featuring this season's
performers and their friends!

The Lute Café is sponsored by the Twin Cities Lute Cooperative
Admission is by donation (\$15 suggested). Tickets available at the door only. Visit our website at: <http://sites.google.com/site/lutecafe>
For more information please call 651-699-1808 or email: lute.cafe@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! Send all and any news of a guitar-istical nature to editor@mnguitar.org. *Nota bene:* the deadline for each issue is the 25th of each odd-numbered month, (So, to get your news in the January-February issue, send it to us by November 25). Please check the Calander on our website for concert dates and events and for contact information to post your events – the calendar is updated by outstanding MGS board member and volunteer, Al Norton. Our website is created and maintained by the efforts of valiant MGS volunteer webmaster, Amy Lytton, with technical support from MGS Board President, Mark Bussey.

♥ Concerts

OpenStage 2nd Sunday of the month

Nov. 13, 2016	Feb. 12, 2017	May 14, 2017
Dec. 11, 2016	Mar. 12, 2017	
Jan. 8, 2017	Apr. 9, 2017	

Underground Music Café
1579 Hamline Ave N, Falcon Heights, MN 55108

Open stage is a welcoming environment for unplugged, acoustic and classical guitarists to perform instrumental pieces in front of a supportive audience.



Harvest Jam

– “Acoustic Music Experience” and “Great Minnesota Fall Ukulele Gathering” hosted by the Minnesota Bluegrass and Old Time Music Association November 18-20, Minneapolis Marriot

West Hotel - featuring a Friday night concert with MGS editor and managing director’s band, Ukulele Drive. Tickets and more information at minnesotabluegrass.org or call 800-635-3037.

Lute Café (see poster this issue)

The Lute Café is a series of casual lute concerts offered monthly at Immanuel Lutheran Church. It’s sponsored by the Twin Cities

Lute Cooperative, with the generous donation of the East Lounge space by Immanuel Lutheran Church.

It’s officially called “Thursday at the Lute Cafe” because it takes place on the third Thursday of every month. It’s a kind of “coffee-house” experience in the East Lounge area at Immanuel. The performance of live lute music is the center of attention, rather than a background experience. It’s a casual concert setting featuring live, beautiful and relaxing lute music while having a coffee or a snack, reading a book, or just staring out the window and relaxing.

The performances last about an hour, maybe a bit more. Each month features one or more lute players from the Twin Cities area and can include lute solos, duets, trios and even a lute quartet. Small instrumental ensembles which include the lute are also presented. The music comes from a variety of European countries and was composed during the medieval, Renaissance and Baroque musical eras. Sometime a concert will feature modern music arranged and performed on the lute.

Doors open at 7:00 and performances start at 7:30 p.m. There is no set charge for attending the performances, but a \$10-15 per person donation is suggested to help defray costs and support our performers.

♥ Groups & Gatherings:

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. 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). Classical guitar open stage showcase is the third Saturday of the month at 2 p.m. at the Underground Music Cafe

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

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Q.

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■ News & Notes, *continued from p. 6*

♥ **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. Thank you to new Newsletter distributing volunteers! Hooray for you! Go team!

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 <mgdir@mnguitar.org>. Thanks!

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Classified Ads are free to MGS members. Place ad by mailing (please type or print clearly) to: MGS, PO BOX 14986, Mpls., MN 55414 or send an email to: <editor@mnguitar.org>. Please limit ads to a 6-line maximum. Ads will run for a maximum of 6 issues (1 year) unless renewed. Ads are due the 15th of each odd-numbered month for the next issue.

FLAMENCO GUITAR TECHNIQUE. Scott Mateo Davies teaches all-levels group class based on the Canary School of Madrid, created by Aquilino Jimenez el Entri, in a relaxed setting 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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■ Classified Ads, *continued from p. 7*

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