

# Washington Guitar Society



No. 24

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WASHINGTON GUITAR QUINTET FOR WINNING WAMMIE!

*Washington Area Music Association Award for 1995 Best Classical Chamber Ensemble. Congratulations also go to Charlie Byrd for Best Classical Instrumentalist and to Myrna Sislen for being nominated for Best Classical Instrumentalist.*

past ten years.

As you can see this concert will be a bringing together of the various musical elements that have kept us together for these ten years. Charlie, Jeff, Larry, Phil and myself hope that you will join us in our celebration. We especially want to thank the Washington guitar community for supporting us through the years. See you on February 3.

*Myrna Sislen*

## WGS PRESENTS A YOUTH CONCERT for January 6 Program

On Saturday, January 6 at 2 p.m. at the Bethesda Public Library the WGS will be presenting a Youth Concert featuring students of high school age and younger. We already have about 10 students lined up, but as they say, "The more the merrier!" We welcome additions to this lineup all the way up until the last minute. A program will be typed up on the morning of the performance, so do not hesitate to join in the fun. If you are a student of high school age or younger and you would like to play a piece or two for the Washington Guitar Society, please call Kevin Vigil at (703) 644-1659. If you are a teacher with students meeting the criteria, please encourage them to play for this event.

## WGS PRESENTS A BAROQUE GUITAR LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION for February 3 Program

So, this must mean Bach or Weiss transcribed for the guitar? Not! Surprisingly few guitarists, even 'classical' ones, are aware of the past "Golden Age" of the guitar - its rise to become of the most popular instruments during the 1600s and its demise during the beginning decades of the 1700s. Certainly some of its leading composers are well represented in modern day anthologies of guitar music: de Visee, Sanz and Roncalli come to mind. Yet there are many reasons why this music, played on the modern guitar, obscures its true beauty. Michael Lorimer, well known for his performance of this music on historic instruments, has said that he actually never thought much of this literature until he played it on a replica Baroque guitar. We hope we have aroused your curiosity as to why this might be so since you now have an opportunity, thanks to the WGS, to attend a lecture on the history of the Baroque guitar. The lecture will include live performances of representative music on replica instruments.

The meeting is scheduled for February 3 at 2 p.m. in the Bethesda Public Library location (see the meetings calendar for the address). Three aficionados of the instrument will be involved with the presentation. Beverly Ross, who has been researching this history for a number of years, will lead the lecture presentation. Since we know that not much can be presented in such a short time (and still leave room for music-making) she plans to provide a packet of handouts: showing various ways these guitars were strung (hint - very different from the modern guitar), lists of references, representative music,



*The Washington Guitar Quintet at the White House  
Phil Mathieu, Charlie Byrd, Myrna Sislen,  
Larry Snitzler, Jeff Meyerriecks*

## THE WASHINGTON GUITAR QUINTET

On Saturday February 3, 1995, The Washington Guitar Quintet will celebrate our 10th anniversary by playing a concert at George Washington University's Lisner auditorium.

It's hard to believe that ten years have gone by so quickly. We began as a kind of pick-up group when we first played in Sophocles Papas' Memorial Concert at Georgetown University and have been together as a performing group/family ever since. During the ten years we have played concerts throughout the US and Costa Rica and Canada, recorded two CD's for Concord Records, and really gotten to know each other.

This concert will also be our Memorial Tribute to our good friend Laurindo Almeida. Laurindo passed away last July without getting to hear the last work he composed for us, *The Brazilian Suite*. We will be giving the world premier of that piece on February 3. Even more important, Laurindo composed and arranged music for us that we have performed on every concert that we have played. Laurindo was at that first concert and kindly agreed to start writing for us from that moment on. He was our great amigo and we miss him very much.

John Marlow's *Rondeau Pentagonia* will also be on the February 3 concert. As most of you know, John was a founding member of the quintet. He passed away in September, 1992.

And we will give the World Premiere of Glen Smith's *Box Toccata*, also written for the quintet. Glen is composer in residence at George Mason University. He has composed many other works for us in the