

Washington Guitar Society

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The Alexandria Guitar Festival August 7 - 10

Concerts, classes and a vendors fair will take place from August 7-10 in the form of the 2002 Alexandria Guitar Festival, sponsored by the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association. This is exciting news for the local guitar community. Aside from the annual Mid Atlantic Guitar Ensemble Festival (organized by the guitar teachers in the Fairfax County school system), it is the first all around guitar festival that I can think of since the 1986 Guitar Congress held at the University of Maryland.

Featured Artists

Nathan Fischer is the festival director and will offer the first concert of the series on August 7 at 8 pm. Mr. Fischer is on the faculties of the Hochstein Music School and Finger Lakes College. His first recording, *Images*, was released in 2000.

Joseph Mayes and the VCU Guitar Quartet will present a concert on August 8 at 8 pm. Joseph Mayes will also be conducting a class on *The 19th Century Guitar* on August 9 from 10:30 - 11:30 am. Mr. Mayes is on the faculty of Rowan University. His latest CD, a collection entitled *Parlor Gems*, was performed on 19th century instruments.

John Patykula will be presenting a class on *The Music of Manuel Maria Ponce* on August 9 from 10:30 - 11:30 am. Mr. Patykula is the Assistant Chair and coordinator of the guitar program at the Virginia Commonwealth University. His recordings with classical banjoist John Bullard for the Darguson and Albany record labels and publications for Mel Bay have earned him a reputation for quality.

Nicholas Goluses will perform on August 9 at 8 pm. Mr. Goluses teaches and is director of the guitar programs at the world-renowned Eastman School of Music. Dr. Goluses has recorded for BMG, NAXOS, and Albany records, and is committed to performing new music for guitar by today's leading composers. www.goluses.com.

Larry Snitzler will be performing the final concert on August 10 at 8 pm. He will also be offering a class Form and Analysis in Roland Dyens on August 8 from 10:30 - 11:30 am. Mr. Snitzler is on the faculties of American University and George Mason Universities. His recordings are available on the Concord Label.

Peter Kodzas holds degrees from the University of Belgrade in Yugoslavia, Ithaca College, and a DMA from the Eastman School of Music. He has performed throughout Europe and the eastern United States for guitar societies, universities, concert series and with orchestra. He is the first guitarist to hold the Jack L. Frank position as the Director of Community Education in guitar studies at the Eastman School of Music.

Location

The Athenaeum at 201 Prince St. in Old Town Alexandria. The Athenaeum plays a small role in the history of Alexandria. It began as the Old Dominion Bank in 1851 and was later used as a library and a church. At the time of the Civil War, the Athenaeum was turned into a commissary headquarters for occupying Union Troops. It is now a gallery for the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association and offers the perfect blend of intimacy and ambiance for salon guitar music.

Students

Students of all levels (performing students, auditors, and beginners) are encouraged to participate in the Alexandria Guitar Festival. Please register for the course that best suits your ability. All individual master-classes and private lessons are forty minutes long.

Performing Students will receive three master-class lessons, entrance to the concerts, and entrance to the classes. It is required that performers be at the intermediate level with recommendation from their instructors. Master-class instructors will be assigned to you, but you may sign up for private lessons with select faculty. \$200 for Performers, \$50 for additional private lessons.

Auditors will receive admission to the master-classes, concerts, and the classes. If you choose, you may sign up for private lessons with select faculty. \$50 Auditor, \$50 for additional private lessons.

Beginning Students should register as auditors and then sign up for additional private lessons. Instructors will be assigned to best accommodate the ability of the students. A \$50 private lesson fee applies to each lesson.

Contact Information

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