MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL 2017
FEBRUARY 20-26  HERBERT AND NICOLE WERTHEIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

CONCERTS  LECTURES  MASTERCLASSES  LUTHIERS EXPO  COMPOSITION COMPETITION
Miami International GuitART Festival 2017

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WELCOME!

Welcome to the 2017 MIGF, presented by the FIU School of Music at the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center. It is my honor and privilege to serve as Artistic Director of MIGF. The inaugural edition of the MIGF last year was a huge success, thanks to all our guest artists, our generous sponsors at all levels, tireless student volunteers, and our audiences.

Without you, it wouldn’t have been possible for us to accomplish this tremendous task of organizing a major international festival and making it a successful contribution to the lives of South Florida residents and in general to the music and guitar world. Thank you so much for sharing our excitement and joy of being part of this great festival.

We present you again a wonderful group of artists from all around the world in 2017. This year, we begin a tribute concert series in the festival, celebrating the legacy of well-known musicians. The first concert in the series is dedicated to Italian composer Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco who migrated to the U.S. in 1939 and became a film composer for many Hollywood movies and also wrote prolifically for guitar. In this concert on February 22nd, the FIU Symphony Orchestra, directed by Raffaele Livio Ponti, will perform together with other festival artists, and Diana Castelnuovo-Tedesco, the composer’s granddaughter, will make a special presentation on “Memories from My Grandfather”. We are also excited to start a new collaboration with the wonderful Boston GuitarFest directed by maestro Eliot Fisk. As the winner of 2016 Boston GuitarFest Competition, virtuoso Turkish guitarist Celil Refik Kaya will present a concert for us on February 24th.

In addition to presenting concerts, the festival artists present masterclasses and lectures, which will give you informative and entertaining opportunities to study with master musicians and learn more about the Microtonal Guitars by Tolgahan Çoğulu, Encyclopedia of Tablature by David Dolata, and Lutherie, Commerce, Music, Satisfaction by Kenny Hill. You can also see and try out some of the best classical guitars built in the world during the Luthiers Expo. The 2017 MIGF Composition Competition judges Orlando Jacinto Garcia, Carlos Rafael Rivera, and Jacob Sudol evaluated 58 new works submitted by composers from 22 countries and selected Ó (Omaggio to Federico García Lorca) by Hachê Costa from Spain as the winner. I will be performing the world premiere of this composition in the opening concert on February 20th.

Hope you enjoy all the exciting events during the seven-day festival, as we celebrate the music, our beloved instrument, and the Art in general.

Sincerely,

Mesut Örgen
Artistic Director and Founder
¡BIENVENIDOS!

Bienvenidos al MIGF 2017, presentado por la Escuela de Música de la Universidad Internacional de la Florida en el Centro de Artes Escénicas Herbert y Nicole Wertheim. Es un honor y privilegio servir como el Director Artístico del MIGF. La edición inaugural del MIGF el año pasado fue un gran éxito gracias a la participación y empeño de los artistas invitados, la generosidad de nuestros patrocinadores, el trabajo incansable de un selecto grupo de estudiantes voluntarios, y la fortuna un gran público.

Sin ustedes no hubiéramos podido lograr esta hercúlea tarea de organizar un festival internacional de gran escala y hacer un aporte en la vida cultural de los residentes del sur de la Florida, y en el mundo de la guitarra y la música en general. Gracias por compartir nuestro entusiasmo siendo parte de este gran festival.

Les presentamos una vez más un maravilloso conjunto de artistas de diversas partes del mundo. En esta edición del MIGF comenzaremos una serie de conciertos tributo, celebrando el legado de grandes músicos. El primer concierto de la serie será dedicado al compositor italiano Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, quien luego de emigrar a los Estados Unidos en 1939, compuso la música para muchas películas en Hollywood, y quien también escribió prolíficamente para la guitarra. La FIU Symphony Orchestra, bajo la dirección de Raffaele Livio Ponti, va a tocar junto a otros artistas invitados en este concierto del 22 de febrero, y Diana Castelnuovo-Tedesco, nieta del compositor, dará una presentación especial de Memories from my Grandfather. Este año estamos entusiasmados por el comienzo de una colaboración con el maravilloso Boston GuitarFest, dirigido por el maestro Elliot Fisk. Celli Refik Kaya, virtuoso guitarrista turco, dará un concierto el 24 de febrero como ganador del Boston GuitarFest del 2016.

Además de los conciertos, los artistas invitados impartirán clases magistrales y conferencias, en las que ustedes tendrán la oportunidad de aprender de músicos maestros. Microtonal Guitars, por Tolgahan Çogulu, Encyclopedia of Tablature, por David Dolata, y Lutherie, Commerce, Music, Satisfaction, por Kenny Hill, serán algunas de estas informativas y entretenidas presentaciones. En el Luthiers Expo también tendrán la oportunidad de ver y tocar algunas de las mejores guitarras en el mercado. De 58 nuevas obras para guitarra, sometidas por compositores de veintidós países al 2017 MIGF Composition Competition, el jurado, compuesto por Orlando Jacinto García, Carlos Rafael Rivera, y Jacob Sudol, le otorgó el primer lugar a Hachê Costa, de España, por su pieza O (Omaggio to Federico García Lorca). Yo tocaré esta pieza, en estreno mundial, en el concierto inaugural del 20 de febrero.

Espero que disfrute de los grandes eventos durante este festival, en el que celebramos la música, nuestro querido instrumento, y el Arte en general.

Sinceramente,

Mesut Özgen
Fundador y Director Artístico

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7:30 p.m. Opening Concert: Celso Cano and Mesut Özgen – WPAC Concert Hall

Tuesday, February 21
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 pm Lecture: Tolgahan Çogulu – WPAC Instrumental Hall
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Guitar Orchestra Rehearsal – WPAC Concert Hall
7:30 p.m. Flamenco Concert: Felipe Carvajal and Friends – WPAC Concert Hall

Wednesday, February 22
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Master Class/Workshop: Microtonal Guitar Duo – WPAC Concert Hall
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 pm Lecture: David Dolata – WPAC Instrumental Hall
7:30 p.m. Castelnuovo-Tedesco Tribute Concert – WPAC Concert Hall

Thursday, February 23
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Master Class: Celil Refik Kaya – WPAC Concert Hall
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Guitar Orchestra Rehearsal – WPAC Concert Hall
7:30 p.m. Concert: Microtonal Guitar Duo – WPAC Concert Hall

Friday, February 24
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Luthiers Expo – WPAC Instrumental Hall
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 pm Lecture: Kenny Hill – WPAC Instrumental Hall
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Master Class: Arthur Dente – WPAC Instrumental Hall
7:30 p.m. Concert: Celil Refik Kaya – WPAC Concert Hall

Saturday, February 25
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Luthiers Expo – WPAC Instrumental Hall
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Master Class/Workshop: Muriel Anderson – WPAC Instrumental Hall
1:00 p.m. Concert: FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra – WPAC Concert Hall
4:00 p.m. Concert: Duo Alto Plano – WPAC Concert Hall
7:30 p.m. Concert: Evan Hirschelman – WPAC Concert Hall

Sunday, February 26
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Luthiers Expo – WPAC Instrumental Hall
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Master Class/Workshop: Evan Hirschelman – WPAC Instrumental Hall
1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Composers Panel – WPAC Recital Hall
4:00 p.m. Concert: Nylon & Copper – WPAC Concert Hall
7:30 p.m. Closing Concert: Muriel Anderson – WPAC Concert Hall
The MIGF contributes to FIU’s best qualities in pursuit of our mission. The Arts in general are essential to FIU’s life of the mind, and music has the potential for engagement at many levels. I would like to welcome all of you to this festival and enjoy wonderful musical performances representing different cultures and traditions around the world.

- Mark B. Rosenberg
President, Florida International University

The Miami International GuitART Festival brings renowned artists from around the world to our School of Music to celebrate music and culture. It’s a great opportunity to enjoy the wonderful musical performances and to experience Miami and FIU at our best!

- Kenneth G. Furton
Provost and Executive Vice President, Florida International University

I couldn’t be more proud of Dr. Mesut Özgen and the FIU School of Music for hosting the Miami International GuitART Festival. I encourage you to participate in this wonderful celebration of culture and artistic talent!

- Brian Schriner
Dean, FIU College of Architecture + The Arts

Dear Friends and supporters of the Miami International GuitART Festival!
I am delighted to welcome you to this unique and exciting series of concerts and events. Through his tireless efforts, my colleague Mesut Özgen has planned a wonderful festival that celebrates the art of the guitar. At the FIU School of Music we strive to “create, innovate, and inspire” and this festival fulfills that pledge. I’m sure you will enjoy the many styles of music represented on this festival and discover the many facets (and frets!) of the finest in music for guitar. Enjoy!

- Robert B. Dundas
Director, FIU School of Music
OPENING CONCERT
Monday, February 20, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Concert Hall

CELSO CANO & MESUT ÖZGEN

L’Encouragement, Op. 34, for two guitars
   I. Cantabile
   II. Theme and Variations
   III. Valse

HACHÉ COSTA
   I. Invocation (Profane Liturgy – Lament - The Neck and the Knife)
   II. Night (Up to the Hill – Sky - The Birth of the Fire - The Flame – Firmament – The Swan – Ritual Firedance)
   III. Moon (Beneath the Bleeding Shadows of the Bloody Moon)

WINNER of the 2017 MIGF Composition Competition

Misionera
Arranged by Jorge Morel

Mesut Özgen

Rumeli Türküsü (Song of Rumeli) for two guitars

FERNANDO BUSTAMANTE
   (1915-1979)

INTERMISSION

Souvenirs
   I. Café La Nuit
   II. Square Planchon
   III Girona
   IV. Avignon

ANTONIO LAURO
   (1917-1986)

Valses Venezolanos
No. 2. Andreina
No. 3. Natalia

Celso Cano

Yemen Türküsü (Song of Yemen) for two guitars

MESUT ÖZGEN

Spanish and South American Folk Songs for two guitars
   I. Villancico
   II. Cantar Montañés
   III. El Paño Moruno
   IV. Salamanca
   V. Boleras Sevillanas

Arranged by LEN WILLIAMS
Ö (Omaggio) is based on the visions, the images, the series of metaphors of the works by FEDERICO GARCÍA LORCA: a bridge that joins two different worlds, the folk-world from Andalucía-Spain and a modern and surreal one; both highly symbolic and deep in their own content. Ö is not a flamenco piece as Lorca is not a flamenco-poet; but there is a sort of the hondo-spirit (hondo as the poetic quality of the Art of Andalucía) here and there. The poetry by Lorca takes some elements from liturgy and popular faith giving to it a cosmic sense, always deep and tragic so that this is also the direction of this piece: a series of non-descriptive images (except THE SWAN in the 2nd movement, which includes 5 harmonic chords symbolizing the constellation that was over the Granada sky the night that Federico was killed by Spanish Civil War soldiers). Music works by itself and the poetical-sounded metaphors are a guide in order to create this poetic world. These images, these visions, these metaphors, don’t mean a thing: they are the way to create an atmosphere. Hachè Costa

Rumeli Türküsü is a term referring to the light urban style Turkish folk music from Thrace (türkü means Turkish folk song). Songs of this genre are composed within the scales and melodic progression of the classical makam system. Since the 17th century, some of the most distinguished composers of Ottoman classical music have written light tunes in the form of türkü, forming a bridge between the élite and popular taste. I incorporated two original Rumeli türküsü (Gidem dedim, yärenlerim darıldı and Bulut gelir seher ile) into this piece. Mesut Özgen

Souvenirs or “Souvenirs from Provence” as was the original title, is a work for solo guitar that dates back to sketches composed in 2005. The imagery for the piece was collected in 2001, a collection of experiences from a quick trip I took through the beautiful southern region of France while living Girona, Spain. The final version was completed early 2017 and is dedicated to my son Julian. As it is presented tonight, the opening movement, Café La Nuit is a nocturnal ode to the beautiful city, once home to Vincent Van Gogh, Arles. Walking through the unfamiliar and haunting streets imagining what Van Gogh’s strolls must have been through his eyes was the original idea I had while writing the piece. Walking through dimly lit streets that culminated with seeing historic landmark of the original café that inspired the famous painting. In the city of Montpellier, the fountain at the Square Planchon was one of the most vivid images in my mind from the trip. This movement depicts the joy of children playing in the park, people in love walking through the park, the general feeling of restlessness and of being young and in love. There is playfulness combined with restlessness and originally, this was supposed to open and be a contrasting counterpart to Café la Nuit. Between 2001 and 2003 I was fortunate to live in Girona, Spain. It was in this magical city that I began writing music and though this movement was originally not envisioned as part of the Souvenir set, the original sketch dates from around the same time in 2005 I was composing Souvenirs and in the recent reworking of the piece, I decided to add it to the set as an homage to this beautiful city. In 2005, Avignon, the scherzo closing the set was only partially completed. In fact, there were only eleven bars when I decided to retake the work and complete it more than a decade later. Originally, the Papal Palace of Avignon was the inspiration for the movement. However, during the revision and composing most of the movement, I felt compelled to include the reason the trip was cut short. The coda was added when remembering that on that beautiful spring morning, after feeling the urge to take my guitar out and play in front of the amazing Palace, I discovered that the headstock on my guitar had cracked. At that moment the trip suddenly became about returning to Spain to fix my David Daily guitar. It seems only just that tonight I’ll be premiering Souvenirs on that same instrument, repaired by the wonderful guitar maker Antonio Marin to whom I’m eternally grateful. Celso Cano

Yemen Türküsü is based on a folk song (Havada bulut yok, bu ne dumandır – There is no cloud in the sky, why is there this smoke?) from the city of Muş in eastern Turkey. It is a kind of elegy about people who were sent to Yemen to fight in a battle against Arabs during the Ottoman Empire. Many of them died in a place far away from their homeland. The original melody is in 5/8 meter, I used 5/8, 9/8, and 3/8 meters in different sections. Mesut Özgen
FLAMENCO NIGHT
Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Concert Hall

FELIPE CARVAJAL & FRIENDS

Camarón (Rondeña)  PACO DE LUCIA
                    (1947-2014)
Albura (Bulerías)   FELIPE CARVAJAL
                    (b. 1988)
Luna Y Sombra (Tangos)  FELIPE CARVAJAL
Templo del Lucero (Soleá Por Bulerías)  GERARDO NÚÑEZ
                    (b. 1961)
Soneto de Arena (Balada)  FELIPE CARVAJAL

INTERMISSION

Trasgo  GERARDO NÚÑEZ
Arrebol (Farruca)  FELIPE CARVAJAL
Adio Querida  LADINO FOLK
Acariciame por dentro  MAYTE MARTIN
                    (b. 1965)
Zyryab (Tanguillos)  PACO DE LUCIA

Felipe Carvajal, guitar
Mario Icaza, second guitar
Ramses Araya, percussion
Aldo Salvent, saxophone
Susana Behar, singing
Kenneth Jiménez, bass
Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert Hall

CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO TRIBUTE
FIU Symphony Orchestra, directed by Raffaele Livio Ponti, & Celil Refik Kaya, guitar
FIU Singers, directed by Vindhya Khare, & Celso Cano, guitar
& Diana Castelnuovo-Tedesco, speaker

Memories from My Grandfather
Reflections on Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco Part I
DIANA CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO

Guitar Concerto No. 1 in D Major, Op. 99
I. Allegretto, II. Andantino alla romanza, III. Ritmico e cavalleresco
Soloist: Celil Refik Kaya, guitar
MARIO CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO (1895-1968)

El Sueño de la razón produce monstruos
Capriccio, Op. 195, No. 18
Celil Refik Kaya, solo guitar
MARIO CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO

INTERMISSION

Memories from My Grandfather
Reflections on Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco Part II
DIANA CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO

Romancero Gitano, Op. 152 for mixed choir and guitar
I. Baladilla de los Tres Rios, II. La Guitarra (Andantino), III. Puñal (Mosso - Feroce), IV. Procesion: (Procesion, Paso, Saeta), V. Memento (Tempo di Tango), VI. Baile (Tempo di Seguidilla), VII. Crótalo (Eurioso)
Soloist: Celso Cano, guitar, & FIU Singers, directed by Vindhya Khare
Soprano: Krystal Espada, Mary Espinosa: Alto: Liliam Teruel, Valeria Texeira
Tenor: Jose Ballon, Andrew Lujan: Bass: Adam Levine, Alex Toussaint

CO-SPONSORED BY TURKISH CONSULATE GENERAL IN MIAMI,
FIU GLOBAL JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM, and
STEVEN J. GREEN SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Miami International GuitART Festival celebrates the musical legacy of Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco (1895-1968), one of the foremost guitar composers in the 20th century. Born in Florence, Italian composer Castelnuovo-Tedesco was descended from a prominent banking family that had lived in Florence since the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492. Castelnuovo-Tedesco was first introduced to the piano by his mother, and he composed his first pieces when he was just 9 years old. He migrated to the U.S. in 1939 and became a film composer for MGM Studios for some 200 Hollywood movies and wrote almost 100 compositions for guitar, some of which were written and dedicated to the legendary Spanish guitarist Andrés Segovia.

The featured artists include Raffaele Livio Ponti, director of the FIU Symphony Orchestra, guitarist Celil Refik Kaya, winner of the 2016 Boston GuitarFest Competition and 2012 JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition, and Celso Cano, winner of the 2014 Florida International University Concerto Competition, as well as the FIU Vocal Octet directed by Vindhya Khare. Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s granddaughter Diana is also making a special presentation on her memories from his grandfather.

Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s Life and Works

Life
His formal musical education began at the Istituto Musicale Cherubini in Florence in 1909, where he received his licenza liceale in 1913 and his degree in piano the following year. In 1918 he completed the diploma di composizione at the Liceo Musicale of
Bologna. The most important musical figure in Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s early development was Pizzetti with whom he began to study in 1915. Pizzetti helped to bring him to the attention of Casella, who became an ardent supporter and whose patronage was crucial at the start of his career. In 1917 Casella, along with Pizzetti, Malipiero, Respighi, Gui, Carlo Perinello and Tommasini, formed the Società Italiana di Musica (later Società Nazionale di Musica Moderna); though not a founding member, Castelnuovo-Tedesco was strongly identified with the group. His reputation was further enhanced by performances sponsored by the Italian branch of the ISCM, which, over an 18-year period, put on more of his music than any other Italian composer other than Malipiero. In addition to composing, he was a successful performer (as soloist, accompanist and ensemble player), critic and essayist. Described as a writer who ‘demonstrated a quick-witted common sense and a good-natured scepticism for the new ... [an] attitude that came from his inborn aversion to any art that is characteristically fanatic’ (F. D’Amico), he contributed criticism extensively to La critica musicale (1920–23), Il pianoforte (1922–5) (later Revista musicale italiana) and La rassegna musicale (1928–36).

By the early 1930s Castelnuovo-Tedesco became increasingly concerned for Italian Jewry, and when Heifetz approached him for a concerto (I profeti, 1931), he saw an opportunity to take a stand, later commenting (in 1940) ‘... I felt proud of belonging to a race so unjustly persecuted; I wanted to express this pride in some large work, glorifying the splendour of the past days and the burning inspiration which inflamed the envoys of God, the prophets’.

In the summer of 1939, shortly before the outbreak of war, he left with his family for New York, staying in Larchmont for a year and a half before moving to California. There, in autumn 1940, he signed a contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, beginning a relationship (from 1940 to 1956) with several Hollywood studios including Columbia, Universal, Warner Brothers, 20th-Century Fox and CBS. During this time he also composed over 70 concert works, including songs and opera, the high-point of his postwar career occurring in 1958 when the opera The Merchant of Venice was awarded first prize in the Concorso Internazionale Campari. Sponsored by La Scala, it was given its first performance in 1961 at the 24th Maggio Musicale Fiorentino.

Castelnuovo-Tedesco had become a US citizen in 1946 and until his death was affiliated with the Los Angeles Conservatory of Music (later California Institute of the Arts). He was one of the most sought-after teachers of film music, his pupils including Goldsmith, Mancini, Previn, Riddle and John Williams.

Works

His early compositions, often considered too ‘progressive’ by audiences, were influenced by Pizzetti’s austere contrapuntalism, Debussy’s Impressionism and the neo-classicism of Ravel. He also experimented with unconventional harmonies, and developed a distinctively refined vocabulary based on successions of parallel chords, polytonal blocks of sound and a fluent counterpoint. Specific imagery is often the basis of his work: Il raggio verde, for example, represents the sun setting over the sea, sending out a final green ray, while the Tre fioretti di Santo Francesco was conceived as a set of frescoes to interpret Giotto’s paintings of the same name. A contemporaneous account described his music as ‘[reflecting the Florentine countryside] with soft undulating lines, all delicately traced by the whole gamut of colours, grays and greens of every hue’ (Gatti, 1918).

However, his brand of neo-classicism also reveals a reliance on traditional forms and an interest in early Italian music history. The Concerto italiano in G minor (1924) for violin and orchestra is a potpourri in the style of Vivaldi with themes modelled on 16th- and 17th-century Italian folk songs, while his finest neo-classical work, the Guitar Concerto no.1 in D (1939), adopts a Mozartian concerto style, the instrumentation intended, as he put it, ‘to give more the appearance and the colour of the orchestra than the weight’. Its success was immediate, Segovia considering it the main work that convinced others of the viability of balancing guitar with orchestra. There is little doubt that Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s most recognized contribution has been his body of almost 100 works for the instrument [guitar].

Though the various phases of his music suggest certain general categories, Castelnuovo-Tedesco himself, as he put it in 1950, ‘never believed in modernism or in neo-classicism, or in any other isms’. Music for him was above all a means of expression, going as far as to claim that everything could be translated into musical terms: ‘the landscapes I saw, the books I read, the pictures and statues I admired’. Three themes were central – his place of birth (Florence and Tuscany), the Bible and Shakespeare. His first theatrical attempts were all on Florentine subjects – the opera La mandragola, incidental music to Savonarola and the ballet Bacco in Toscana, while Shakespeare led him to write some of his most innovative and dramatic music including two operas, 11 overtures and numerous songs.

As his style evolved it became both increasingly neo-Romantic and programmatic. The late String Quartet no.3 (1964), for example, exhibits a narrative structure, recalling a trip to his friend Bernard Berenson’s villa near Settignano: the first movement portrays the hills above Florence, the second describes an intact medieval abbey, the scherzo depicts a train that ran from Florence to Vallombrosa before World War I, while the final movement recreates a conversation between Castelnuovo-Tedesco and Berenson. Of his music for film, Castelnuovo-Tedesco was involved, to various degrees, with some 250 projects. They fall into four categories: scores for which he was co-composer or subordinate composer (these forming the largest number, particularly for MGM); films for which he composed the complete score, including René Clair’s And Then There Were None; films for which he provided specific source music such as the ballet in Down to Earth (1947) and the opera scenes in Everybody Does It (1949) and Strictly Dishonorable (1951); and instances where previously composed film music was tracked into new films. Despite his efforts, he was seldom given screen credit, and described himself as a ‘ghost writer’.

[From Grove Music Online, written by James Westby]
Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Concert Hall

MICROTONAL GUITAR DUO
Tolgahan Çağulu, microtonal guitar & Sinan Cem Eroğlu, fretless guitar

Kara Toprak (Black Soil)  
Arranged by Ricardo Moyano

Yemen Türküsü  
Traditional Anatolian Folk Song

Giz (Mystery)  
ERKAN OGUR  
(b. 1954)

Eman Dilo  
MIHEMED ELI SAKIR  
(b. 1946)

Even If You Leave  
Keesher Bar (Night Dance)  
ARA DINKJIAN  
(b. 1958)

INTERMISSION

Adanayi Vokhpuh (Lament of Adana)  
Traditional Anatolian Folk Song

Yagmur (Rain)  
BÜLENT ORTAÇGIL  
(b. 1950)

Our Spanish Love Song  
CHARLIE HADEN  
(1937-2014)

Breathe  
PINK FLOYD  
(1965-2014)

Hewreman  
THE KAMKARS

Fidayda  
Traditional Anatolian Folk Song

All pieces except “Kara Toprak” are arranged by Microtonal Guitar Duo.

SPONSORED BY
Celil Refik Kaya started writing **Sonatina in D major** in New York City in 2012 and completed in Austin in 2013. Later he dedicated it to guitarist Adam Holzman, who premiered the work in New York City in 2014. Adam Holzman also performed the work in Boston Guitar Festival, Houston and many other various states in United States. Additionally Mr. Kaya performed his own work in 2nd Istanbul Guitar Festival in 2015 as well as in his other concerts. Mr. Kaya has blended his Jorge Morel, Miguel Llobet-like virtuosic instrument playing skills with the composition techniques of great maestros who wrote for guitar and at the age of 24. As a result he has come up with a “sonatina” that many maestros produced one or a few through their lifetimes in such great quality. Certainly this sonatina offers a lot in an exploring manner when compared to other Drop-D tuning pieces from the guitar literature. A texture of Sor (even sometimes it can be called “Beethoven-esque”) is there in the first movement delivering beautiful themes with chromatic harmonic modulations in a polytonal approach. Not only Sor’s energetic texture, but also contains the lyric style of Giuliani; romanticism of Barrios and so much more from all the great guitar composers in Mr. Kaya’s music. The second movement intended to be a “Renaissance pavane” (like those of L. Milan and J. Dowland) is a touchy one reminding a Debussy-Ravel approach to composing which Mr. Kaya successively sorted through. And in a “lively” and “anxious” 3rd movement, Mr. Kaya has produced highly creative chromatic motives blending them with those “march-like” themes sometimes, as he often did in the first movement.

**In Honor of Lou Harrison** was inspired by the music of Lou Harrison and Prince Cantemir. I was lucky to have met and become friends with Lou Harrison (1917-2003) in Aptos, California during his last years. When we were working on a project on the music of Moldavian-Turkish composer Prince Dimitrie Cantemir (1673-1723, known as Kantemiroglu in Turkish), we also included one of Harrison’s compositions “In Honor of Prince Cantemir” for strings, piano, and percussion that he had written a while ago. Harrison is commonly known for his deep interest in Javanese Gamelan music and instruments and not much known for his knowledge and fascination with Turkish music. He used to tell me about his travels to Turkey and his regular attendance in the classical Turkish music concerts in Istanbul during the 1960s. His “In Honor of Prince Cantemir” was a product of this period. In this composition, he didn’t use a standard Turkish usul (rhythmic mode) or makam (melodic mode). Rather, he created his own usul and makam. Having performed this piece as well as some of Cantemir’s works, I decided to use the Harrison’s usul and makam from that piece and also incorporate a tune by Cantemir in makam bestenigar into Harrison’s usul. While the sections alternate between Makam Lou and Makam Bestenigar, gradually transforming into remote harmonies and coming back to Makam Lou at the end, the Usul Lou remains constant throughout, after the introduction. Mesut Özgen
CONCERT PROGRAMS
2017 MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL

FIU MIAMI GUITAR ORCHESTRA & STUDENT SHOWCASE

Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center Concert Hall

Musha Study and Middle Ten
Based on a traditional Zimbabwean Dance
FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra

Adagio (Arranged by Glen Galuda / Mesut Özgen)
Soloist: José Luis Reyes Kapoudjian, violin
FIU Classical Guitar Ensemble

Lonnie’s Lament
Arranged by Thomas Lippincott
FIU Jazz Guitar Ensemble

Spaghetti Western Suite (Arranged by Sean Hayward)
I. Titoli (from “For a Fistful of Dollars”)  
II. La Resa dei Conti (from “For a Few Dollars More”)  
III. L’Estasi dell’Oro (from “The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly”)
José Blandon, Kevin Poblete, Shaun Rodriguez, Roald Lopez

INTERMISSION

Spanish Dance No. 5
Grave
Waltzer No. 15, Op. 39
Miami Beach Senior High Guitar Ensemble

La Vals Eterna
FIU Classical Guitar Ensemble

Following the Wind
FIU Classical Guitar Ensemble

The Chicken (Arranged by Thomas Lippincott)
FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra

FIU MIAMI GUITAR ORCHESTRA
FIU Classical Guitar Ensemble: Jose Blandon, Kevin Poblete, Shaun Rodriguez, Roald Lopez, Giancarlo Rojas, Lizardo Herrera-Blitman, Tomas Lopez, Wilfredo Aiello, Bryan Wilson, Augusto Di Cartanina, José Luis Reyes (violin)
Directed by Mesut Özgen
FIU Jazz Guitar Ensemble: Erik Anderson, Gabriel Florez, Dominick Mitchell, Joel Olaguibel, Nathan Vargas, Andre Cama (bass), Donald Thomas (drums). Directed by Thomas Lippincott
Miami Beach Senior High School Guitar Ensemble: Samuel Jimenez, Matteus Cobo, Marcelo Araujo-Cox
Directed by Nick Mastrovito

The FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra (FIUMGO) aims to present new ensemble works for guitar, in addition to transcriptions and arrangements of the traditional repertoire. Dr. Özgen commissioned and premiered many works for the guitar orchestra by renowned composers, such as Benjamin Verdery, Jack Vees, Phil Collins, and Christopher Pratorius. Among the orchestra’s repertoire are “Pick and Roll for guitar ensemble, basketball, two violins, and tenor saxophone” by Benjamin Verdery, “Strum” by Phil Collins, “Quaditorio” by Jack Vees, “Snapshots by the Bay” by Chris Pratorius, “Following the Wind” by Mark Aitken, “Segni Meravigliosi Nos. 3-5 for guitar ensemble and flute choir” by Gerald Garcia, “Acerca del cielo, el aire y la sonrisa” by Leo Brouwer, and the guitar orchestra arrangement of Giuliani’s “Grand Overture” by Peter Constant. The orchestra meets 3 times a week and presents regular public concerts both on and off campus in the fall and spring. In addition to classical guitarists, other instrumentalists, such as mandolin, banjo, ukulele, bass guitar, double bass, flute, violin, voice, and others, are also welcome to join the orchestra. Players who are not already an enrolled FIU student can also enroll as a non-degree seeking student. Auditions can be arranged by appointment with Dr. Özgen at mozgen@fiu.edu. Several video clips of the orchestra can also be viewed at www.mesutozgen.com

Miami International GuitART Festival 2017
Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.  
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center  
Concert Hall

DUO ALTO PLANO  
Valentine Dente, flute & Arthur Dente, guitar

solo guitar

L’Indien guerrier (2006)  
La prière du fadiste (1990)  
L’Indien démesuré (2007)  
El indio meditativo (2006)  
El indio americano (2006)  
L’Indien heureux (2008)

INTERMISSION

flute and guitar

L’Indien danseur (2008)  
L’Indien amoureux (2010)  
Dilemme (2003)  
Alto plano (2003)  
Monde entier (2007)

All compositions by Arthur Dente

In his compositions, Arthur Dente explores an interaction between the Iberian Peninsula, Europe and to some extent other cultures from the world through his Portuguese roots. Besides a prominent Latin inspiration, his compositions include other influences from Celtic nations, North America, South America, India, and Arabo-Andalusian.
Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Concert Hall

EVAN HIRSCHELMAN

Introduction  EVAN HIRSCHELMAN
Pace and Approach

May The Notes Be With You
  I. Presto-Rubato

Shapeshifting
  I.
  II.

Three Meditations
  I.
  II.
  III.
  IV.

INTERMISSION

Water in Darkness  EVAN HIRSCHELMAN

Three Lyrical Pieces  LEO BROUWER
  (b. 1939)
  Preludio No. 1 from Preludios Epigramáticos
  Etude No. 9 from Nuevos Estudos
  Etude No. 18 from Estudios Sencillos

Saudade No. 3  ROLAND DYENS
  (1955-2016)
  I. Ritual
  II. Danse
  III. Fête et Final

Homage to Michael Hedges  EVAN HIRSCHELMAN

Sponsored by

Hill Guitar Company, Inc.
Sunday, February 26, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Concert Hall

NYLON & COPPER
Federico Bonacossa & Jacob Sudol

Bee Sting
CHARLES NORMAN MASON
(b. 1955)

Shikantaza
FEDERICO BONACOSSA
(b. 1977)

…spaces to listen to from within (iii)
JACOB DAVID SUDOL
(b. 1980)

Inward, Drinking with my Shadow
CHEN-HUI JEN
(b. 1981)

Quasi Chitarra
ORLANDO JACINTO GARCIA
WORLD PREMIERE
(b. 1954)

Synchronisms 10
MARIO DAVIDOVSKY
(b. 1934)

**Quasi Chitarra** was written for guitarist Federico Bonacossa and the Miami International GuitART Festival for premiere in February 2017. The title refers to a type of strumming for orchestral strings in which they strum multiple strings in a similar fashion to how a guitar is strummed. In this work, several types of strumming are heard throughout in both the fixed media part as well as the "live" guitar part. In addition, the use of natural harmonics played at the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, and 12th frets are a prominent feature. As with most of my music the slow evolution of material as well as the exploration of the counterpoint between density, register, and timbre are important aesthetic concerns.

*Orlando Jacinto Garcia*
MURIEL ANDERSON

View from Space
A Fine Pickle
The Immigrant
The Matador
Sakura
Ammirabili Waltz
Bluegrass Medley
A Bakers Dozen
Under Paris Skies

MURIEL ANDERSON

Fantasia de Fuego
Two Shores
Summer Morning Rain
Train to Arnhem

HUBERT GIRAUD & JEAN DRÉJAC

INTERMISSION

Vincent
Why Worry
Ferryboat Crossing
Eleanor Rigby

DON MCLEAN
MARK KNOPFLER
MURIEL ANDERSON
PAUL MCCARTNEY

Muriel’s new program “Wonderlust” includes visuals compiled by brilliant photo-artist Bryan Allen. When Muriel first encountered Bryan’s work, she knew she had found her artistic soulmate. They combined their artistry in a live context, and this show is the result, a virtual tour around the world in music and imagery. In additions, this show is captured on a new updated DVD, together with behind the scenes moments, available at the CD table during intermission.

SPONSORED IN PART BY
LECTURES

Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.
Instrumental Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
TOLGAHAN ÇOĞULU
Microtonal Guitars

Tolgahan Çoğulu presents his award-winning instrument design *microtonal guitar* explaining its underlying concept and repertoire. The first prize winner in the 2014 Margaret Guthman Musical Instruments at Georgia Tech, *microtonal guitar* was accepted and funded as a scientific research project at the Istanbul Technical University Dr. Erol Uçer Center for Advanced Studies in Music (MIAM). All the frets of the microtonal guitar are movable in the channels under each string. Besides, any number of frets can be inserted into or removed from the fretboard.

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.
Instrumental Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
DAVID DOLATA
Encyclopedia of Tablature

David Dolata will introduce the *Encyclopedia of Tablature*, which is scheduled to be released in 2017, containing more than 450 essays on 40 types of tablature written by an international team of leading experts. After its release, the *Encyclopedia* will take its place as the only comprehensive reference source on tablature. The *Encyclopedia* is published under the auspices of the Centre d’Études Supérieures de la Renaissance/CNRS, the publisher of the famous series of books on French lute tablature, and Brepols in Belgium, and co-edited by Philippe Vendrix, John Griffiths, and David Dolata.

Friday, February 24, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
Instrumental Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
KENNETH HILL
Lutherie, Commerce, Music, Satisfaction

Internationally renowned luthier Kenny Hill presents a lecture on lutherie. Mr. Hill has been exploring the vast possibilities of classical guitar as luthier, player, and composer. He has developed a large team of luthiers at Hill Guitar Company, as well as the import brand New World Guitar through his ground-breaking work in China. Mr. Hill is the recipient of Industry Leadership Award by the Guitar Foundation of America in 2015.

COMPOSERS PANEL

Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 12:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Recital Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

Various compositional issues when writing for guitar will be discussed by guitarist and non-guitarist composers. Free and open to public. Panelists include Mesut Özgen (moderator), Fredrick Kaufman, Carlos Rafael Rivera, Jacob Sudol, Federico Bonacossa, Muriel Anderson, and Celso Cano.
2017 MIGF COMPOSITION COMPETITION

After evaluating 58 submissions by composers from 22 different countries, the Composition Competition judges Orlando Jacinto Garcia, Carlos Rafael Rivera, and Jacob Sudol announced the results:

Winner: Hachè Costa (Spain)
Composition: Ô | Omaggio to Federico García Lorca for solo guitar

Honorable Mention: Eric Verbugt (The Netherlands)
Composition: Three quarks for Muster Mark! for solo guitar

The winning composition by Hachè Costa will be premiered by Mesut Özgen in the opening concert on Monday, February 20th.

MASTER CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Taught by the festival artists, the MIGF master classes and workshops offer students of all ages and level a highly informational learning opportunity in a friendly environment. Students will be able to study with renowned musicians in person, and all community members will have a chance to audit these classes. Four students will perform for the teacher and audience in each class, and each student receives about 30 minutes lesson from the teacher. All master classes and workshops are free and open to the public for viewing.

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Concert Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Workshop on microtonal and fretless guitars with MICROTONAL GUITAR DUO

Thursday, February 23, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Concert Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Masterclass with CELIL REFIK KAYA

Friday, February 24, 2017 at 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Instrumental Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Masterclass with ARTHUR DENTE

Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Instrumental Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Workshop on songwriting with MURIEL ANDERSON

Sunday, February 26, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Instrumental Hall - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Masterclass with EVAN HIRSCHELMAN
MURIEL ANDERSON

Muriel Anderson was the first woman to win the National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship. Her recent video of “Why Worry” on 20-string harp guitar has over 6.5 million views on Dire Straits FB page. Her “Nightlight Daylight” CD won top honors in 11 national awards and featured many well-known guest performers including Victor Wooten and Tommy Emmanuel, and her “Heartstrings” recording accompanied the astronauts on the space shuttle Discovery. Muriel enjoys sharing her joy of music via workshops, instructional DVDs, and the charity she founded to help get instruments and lessons to kids, the Music for Life Alliance.

She has recorded with country legend Chet Atkins and performed in New York with Les Paul. In addition, she is host and founder of the Muriel Anderson’s ALL STAR GUITAR NIGHT® an annual concert event for 20 years.

Muriel fell in love with the guitar at an early age and learned every style available to her, beginning with folk, bluegrass, and then jazz in high school. She received a degree in music from DePaul University and went on to study with classical virtuoso Christopher Parkening and with Nashville legend Chet Atkins. She has composed music since age four or five, and has written solo instrumentals and vocals, choral and orchestral compositions.

FEDERICO BONACOSSA

Federico Bonacossa is a composer and classical guitarist based in Miami Florida. He studied classical guitar at the Conservatorio Statale G. P. da Palestrina in Italy before moving to the U.S. He holds a master’s degree for the Peabody Conservatory and a doctor of musical arts degree from the University of Miami in classical guitar performance. He also holds a masters degree in music composition from Florida International University where he studied composition and electronic music.

His recent work as a composer explores various forms of interaction between live performers and the computer, the relationship between pitch and rhythm, and the transcription of spontaneous vocal gestures with the aid of the computer. He is currently working on a series of pieces for solo instrument and live processing.

As a performer he is involved in promoting works by contemporary composers, and especially works that feature live electronics. Recent experiences include performances at the Mainly Mozart Festival, New Music Miami Festival, Compositum Musicae Novae, USF New Music Festival, Electronic Music Midwest Festival in Kansas City, Contemplum symposium in Philadelphia, Kendall Sound Arts, 12 Nights Electro-acoustic Series, the Miami World Music Festival, the Miami Dade College On Stage Series, the Miami International Guitar Festival, Guitar Sarasota, the Miami Bach Society, the Colony Theater, the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, the State College of Florida, the Bass Museum of Art, the Scuola Civica di Musica in Olbia, Italy, the Sephardic Jewish Synagogue in Lima, Peru, and a live concert for WLRN. He is currently an instructor of Music Theory and Musicology at Florida International University School of Music.
CELSO CANO

Guitarist/composer Celso Cano has captivated audiences in concert halls throughout the North and South America and Europe. The Aamulehti in Finland described him as “an artist with temperament, the model of good sound.” He has received numerous prizes and awards including Segovia International Guitar Competition and the D’Addario Foundation Fellowship.

As a composer, his recent projects include a soundtrack composed for the feature film Minotauro (Flor Linda Films). His piece for cello, guitar and percussion, Eclipse, was composed and premiered in residence at the Baryshnikov Arts Center in New York City as part of a multidisciplinary collaboration of photography, music, film and dance.

After moving from Perú to the U.S. with his family, he began his musical studies with Lou Mowad. He later received a full scholarship to study guitar performance with Tom Patterson at the University of Arizona where he earned his Bachelor’s degree. He studied guitar with Iliana Matos in Barcelona, and was fortunate to be mentored by Leo Brouwer in his composition studies while living in Spain.

Recently, he earned his Master’s of Music degree in Guitar Performance from Florida International University where he studied with Rafael Padrón and Mesut Özgen. He has also performed in masterclasses by: Leo Brouwer, David Russell, Oscar Ghilia, Sharon Isbin, David Leisner, Scott Tennant, and Christopher Parkening.

In addition to performing solo concerts, Mr. Cano has collaborated with many ensembles. He has been a guest artist with the Florida Grand Opera in productions of Il Barbieri di Seviglia and Don Pasquale and a soloist with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra. He also recently became the first guitarist to win the 18th Annual Concerto Competition of Florida International University’s Symphony Orchestra and performed Rodrigo’s Concierto de Aranjuez under the direction of James Judd. He is currently faculty of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Science at Nova Southeastern University and is working on a new CD featuring his own music, the music of Tárrega, Barrios, and Albeniz, as well as his own transcriptions of Scarlatti, Geminiani, and Mendelssohn.

FELIPE CARVAJAL

Flamenco guitar virtuoso Felipe Carvajal began his studies in Costa Rica at the age of 11. He has shared stage with many artists from Costa Rica, Peru, Venezuela, Ecuador, Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, and Cuba in a wide variety of projects from Latin, jazz, and classical to Rock and Flamenco. He has been featured in many international flamenco festivals in Costa Rica, Arequipa/Peru, Managua/Nicaragua, Seville/Spain, and Lima/Peru. Currently,

Felipe Carvajal has been studying classical guitar with Mesut Özgen and composition with Orlando Jacinto Garcia at FIU and working as a producer and composer for various projects.
DIANA CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO

Born in Los Angeles, Diana Castelnuovo-Tedesco grew up near the California home of her grandfather, composer Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco and her grandmother, Clara. Diana studied art history and Italian at Smith College in Massachusetts before settling in New York City. In tandem with career in communications, Diana dedicates herself to making her grandfather’s vast catalog of compositions more accessible to performers, scholars, and the general public.

In 2015, the Castelnuovo-Tedesco family began a collaboration with Edizioni Curci and the Comitato Nazionale Italiano Musica (CIDIM) to publish a number of works for the first time, including vocal, chamber, and piano music. In addition, Diana continues to augment the Castelnuovo-Tedesco Collection at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C., which encompasses more than 7,000 documents, including hundreds of original musical manuscripts.

Diana has been honored to participate in conferences and seminars in the United States and in Italy that have explored different aspects of Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s music, life, and legacy. In 2016, Diana, her sister, and cousins accepted the Mi Ricordo (I Remember) Award from the Consulate General of Italy in Los Angeles on behalf of their grandfather. She is delighted to be part of the Miami International GuitArt Festival 2017.

SINAN ÇAYIR

Prizewinner of the International Ahmet Adnan Saygun Piano Competition, Turkish pianist Sinan Çayır (b. 1992, Ankara) has been performing since the age of twelve, when he started his piano studies with Öznur Orbay at the State Conservatory of Hacettepe University. In 2006, he participated in Pamela Mia Paul’s masterclass and attended Idil Biret’s AIMA Masterclass in 2007. He studied under the guidance of Gulsin Onay, Emre Elivar, Alexander Madzar, and Misha Dacic at Eklisia Summer Music School. He worked with Walter Ponce, Francesco Libetta, Ilya Itin and Jorge Luis Prats at Miami Summer Piano Academy.

In 2010, he was awarded to study at the Belarussian State Music Academy, Piano Department in Minsk under the guidance of noted Russian pianists Valery Shatsky and Igor Olovnikov, and in 2014 with Misha Dacic in Mersin State Conservatory. He won the second and the ‘best Adnan Saygun interpreter’ prize at the 2nd International Ahmet Adnan Saygun Piano Contest in Gümüşlük, Turkey in 2013.

Çayır has currently been pursuing his Master of Music at Florida International University School of Music in Piano Performance in the studio of Kemal Gecic.
TOLGAHAN ÇOGULU

Co-founder of the Microtonal Guitar Duo, Tolgahan Çogulu received both his Master of Music and PhD degrees in classical guitar from Istanbul Technical University, Center for Advanced Studies in Music where he studied with Soner Egesel and Bekir Kucukay. His PhD thesis is entitled ‘The Adaptation of Baglama Techniques into Classical Guitar Performance’ and published by VDM Publishing in 2011. His microtonal and fretless guitar duo ‘Microtonal Guitar Duo’ and lecture recital ‘Microtonal Guitar Music’ takes him to many festivals, universities and conferences such as New York Guitar Festival, Iserlohn Guitar Festival, Zihuataneco Guitar Festival, Brno Guitar Festival, Sarajevo Guitar Festival, Santo Tirso Guitar Festival, Malaysia CGS Guitar Festival, Plovdiv Guitar Festival, Postojna Guitar Festival, Balkan Micro Fest, Alessandria Echos Festival, University of Athens, University of Surrey, Aberdeen University, University of Memphis, Mozarteum University, Wien University, Codarts University, Toronto York University, among others. He founded the classical guitar duo ‘Duost’ with Erhan Birol in 2007. The duo’s CD, It Takes Two (Pan Classics, 2011), features a collection of world premiers commissioned by the duo over the past decade. It is hailed by Soundboard’s Al Kunze as ‘Very cool stuff! Melody, meter, harmony, timbre, percussion effects and tuning are all exploited in original and exciting ways. When Bartok and Dusan Bogdanovic are the conservative composers on a disc, you know you are on the new ground’. He founded the classical guitar department at the Turkish Music State Conservatory of Istanbul Technical University in 2010 as well as the world’s first microtonal guitar department at the same school in 2016. Tolgahan now lives in Istanbul, Turkey where he teaches at Istanbul Technical University, Turkish Music Conservatory (High School and Undergraduate) and Center for Advanced Studies in Music (Graduate and PhD).

HACHÈ COSTA

Hache Costa (1980), also known as Borja Costa (born Borja Carou Costa) is a Spanish composer and producer, better known for his musical works closely related to the poetry and video creation but cinema & TV also. He has been also trained in Literature and Philosophy. WORKS AS COMPOSER: While he is best known for his works for cinema, Costa has also written a large amount of avant-garde music, contemporary-classical. As classical composer of chamber music & choir, he is closely related to the spectralism and the sacred-minimalism, through graphical-notation music scores and improved passages often based in the natural resonance of the overtone series and physical basics on sound, all of them combined with traditional music writing and a strong counterpoint feeling. He has put into music words of classical poets such as Sappho, Federico Garcia Lorca, Arthur Rimbaud or Allen Ginsberg in concerts than often has also conducted with the collaboration of famous writers such as Manuel Rivas, Fran Alonso or Xoan Abeleira, while his solo guitar music is considered more relevant due to its technical innovations in the classical guitar writings that often includes some guitar techniques taken from flamenco music from Spain or strumming guitar from Ireland music. FILM-SCORING: Costa has worked in Spanish TV & Cinema for the last twenty years. While many of these works are TV spots, stage productions, short-films, he is better known for the music of documentary films such as “Madrid Siglo XXI” about modern Spanish architecture or cultural ones such as “Rafael Azcona” about the famous screen-player, and also for his music about social change and Human Rights in films as “El Viaje de Carla” or “Camino” by Javier Fesser (as orchestrator). Costa is also the composer for independent filmmakers as Fernando Olmeda or Jeronimo Garcia Castela.
ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES
2017 MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL

ARThUR DENTe

Trained in classical music and improvisation, Arthur Dente is a French guitarist, composer and interpreter. He tours with his daughter flutist Valentine Dente as the Duo Alto Plano. In his compositions, he explores an interaction between the Iberian Peninsula, Europe and to some extent other cultures from the world through his Portuguese roots. Besides a prominent Latin inspiration, his musical compositions include other influences from Celtic nations, North America, South America, India, and Arabo-Andalusian. After graduating from the Music Conservatory of Toulouse, he completed his education studying in masterclasses with Léo Brouwer, Manuel Barrueco and Abel Carlevaro in classical guitar, Pierre Culaz in Jazz guitar, as well as with Paco Serrano, Vincent Pradal and Manolo San Lucar in flamenco guitar. He further completed his education with a concertist course provided by Raphaël Andia. In 2004, he founded the music orchestra Magellan, comprising 23 musicians: a chamber orchestra, a choir and a flamenco band with gypsy musicians. During the “Festival Off” held in Avignon in 2006, Magellan Ensemble presented a concert entitled “the Iberian Flagships,” a musical fresco covering three days of musical and dance performance. In 1992, he concertized touring in Portugal with the Alliance Française. He later offered a recital program in his home town Aix-en-Provence, then Toulouse, Marseille and Paris. He also performed concerts and conferences in the United States, including Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Sacramento and Los Angeles. For these performances he put together several themes, blending Portuguese Fado, Andalusian musical fragrances, and classical harmony, at the crossings between the popular and more sophisticated music. The theme of India, central in his musical compositions, poetizes the tribal nature of the modern mankind at the crossing point of several civilizations. His CD, entitled “Las India” and published in August 2008, puts together this favorite theme around the “indigene”, amplified by an intensively poetic guitar. In 2013 he composed a choral piece for the Aix-Marseille academy of education, entitled “Mundo Entero”, performed at Aix-en-Provence for a choir of 120 secondary school pupils and an ensemble of 15 flamenco dancers originated from several secondary schools of the larger Aix-en-Provence area.

VALENtINE DENTe

The young French flute player Valentine Dente studied at the Conservatory of Aix-en-Provence and has been performing with various ensembles throughout Europe and the United States of America. She has been a regular member of the Magellan Ensemble, comprising 14 musicians, singers, and dancers, led by the guitarist and composer Arthur Dente. In 2012, she joined the “Junior Orchestra” in collaboration with the London Symphonic Orchestra at the “Grand Théâtre de Provence’ and also performed with Las Indias Quartet in the “Off Avignon Festival. Recently in 2016, she toured with her father guitarist Arthur Dente as the Duo Alto Plano in California.

ROBERT DESMOND

I have been building fine concert classical guitars since 1991. In that time, I have had much success and very few failures. I’ve had lots of help along the way, and would like to acknowledge the following makers for their contributions to my knowledge base. Jose Matta was my first “teacher” and has become a good friend as well. Jose is a retired engineer, who fell in love with the classical guitar at an early age, and started making fine guitars some twenty years ago. Also, I would like to acknowledge Robert Ruck, for his tremendous help in the early and continuing years. Finally, I received some critical knowledge from Jeffrey Elliott, Cynthia Burton, Augustino LoPrinzi, Elman Concepcion and Ervin Somogyi, to all of whom I am deeply grateful. A special thanks to my dear friend Gene Duncan, who has encouraged me from the beginning and continues to uplift my spirit daily. Without his friendship I would be lost. I was very fortunate to meet the legendary classical guitar maker, Manuel Velazquez, in 1992. It is through his teachings and encouragement that I have become a guitar maker. Maestro Velazquez has shown me, through his own instruments, what qualities a great guitar should possess. With maestro Velazquez’ teachings always in mind, I go about my daily work, attempting to build world class instruments, in the style of Torres, Hauser, and Santos Hernandez. The work that I do is not easy, and that’s what I like about it.
DAVID DOLATA

The Bulletin de la Société Française de Luth has referred to Florida International University Professor of Musicology David Dolata as a “gentleman de la Renaissance” for his activities as a performer and scholar. A native of Buffalo, New York, Dr. Dolata graduated from Case Western Reserve University (PhD), the University of Cincinnati’s College-Conservatory of Music (BM & MM), and Niagara University (BA). At FIU, Dr. Dolata coordinates the Music History area, directs the Collegium Musicum, and is former Director of the School of Music. As a lutenist, he has appeared at such venues as the Glimmerglass Opera, the Florida Grand Opera, the Northwest Bach Festival, the Miami Bach Society, and on broadcasts and recordings for NPR, CBS, and BBC. With Il Furioso, which he co-directs with Victor Coelho, he has recorded Kapsberger’s 1623 Book of Arias and Battaglia d’amore: the Music of Bellerofonte Castaldi on the English label Toccata Classics. He appears on several other American and European recordings as well.

His research on early 17th-century Italian lute music has been published in Recent Researches in the Music of the Baroque Era, Early Music, Acta Musicologica, and Grove Music Online. He has been visiting research professor at the Centre d’Etudes Supérieures de la Renaissance (CESR) at the Université François-Rabelais de Tours – CNRS where he is co-editor of the CESR Encyclopedia of Tablature with John Griffiths and Philippe Vendrix. David Dolata also maintains a long-standing affiliation with Boston University’s Center for Early Music Studies. His book, Meantone Temperaments on Lutes and Viols, has just been released by Indiana University Press.

SINAN CEM EROĞLU

Co-founder of the Microtonal Guitar Duo, Sinan Cem Eroğlu is a multi-instrumentalist, recording artist, producer, composer, and arranger from Istanbul, Turkey. He plays fretless guitar, electric guitar, classical guitar, kaval (traditional Turkish woodwind instrument), and kopuz (traditional Turkish string instrument). He concertized internationally collaborating with other artists and presented lecture recitals and workshops, including in the Berklee College of Music, USA and Codarts World Music Academy, Netherlands.

He presented concerts as part of the “Karawane” project in the European Cultural Capitals in 2010. He taught in the “Folk Music Pedagogy” project in collaboration with the Swedish Musik Gävleborg and Turkish Music State Conservatory. He presented workshops on fretless guitar, traditional Turkish music and kaval in Codarts World Music Acedemy in Holland and Orentalische Musikakademie Mannheim in Germany.

Eroğlu collaborated with many other musicians, including Erkan Öğür for the BBC Radio 3 “World Routes,” Mezzo TV “Jazz Mix Festival in Istanbul,” and the 18th Izmir Europe Jazz Festival; and Akin Eldes for the “Hane-i Akustik” in 2011. His first solo CD “Tesadüf” was released in 2012 and the second one “Ocak” in 2014.

Eroğlu founded the first fretless guitar department in the world at the Turkish Music Conservatory of Istanbul Medipol University in 2016. Currently, Sinan works as a producer and composer for various projects and performs with Microtonal Guitar Duo, Mabel Matiz, and Azam Ali (Niyaz).
ORLANDO JACINTO GARCIA

Through more than one hundred and fifty works composed for a wide range of performance genres, Orlando Jacinto Garcia has established himself as an important figure in the new music world. The distinctive character of his music has been described as “time suspended- haunting sonic explorations” qualities he developed from his studies with Morton Feldman among others.

Born in Havana, Cuba in 1954, Garcia migrated to the United States in 1961. In demand as a guest composer, he is the recipient of numerous honors and awards from a variety of organizations and cultural institutions including the Rockefeller, Fulbright, Dutka, Civitella Ranieri, and Cintas Foundations, the State of Florida, the MacDowell and Millay Colony, and the Ariel, Noise International, Matiz Rangel, Nuevas Resonancias, Salvatore Martirano, and Bloch International Competitions. Most recently he has been the recipient of 3 Latin Grammy nominations in the best Contemporary Classical Composition Category (2009-11). With performances around the world, his works are recorded on New Albion, O.O. Discs, CRI/New World, Albany, North/South, CRS, Rugginenti, VDM, Capstone, Innova, CNMAS, and Opus One Records and available from Kallisti Music Press.

Garcia is the founder and director of the NODUS Ensemble and the Miami Chapter of the International Society for Contemporary Music as well as several international festivals including the New Music Miami ISCM Festival. A dedicated educator, he is Professor of Composition for the School of Music and Composer in Residence for the CARTA Miami Beach Urban Studios at Florida International University in Miami. Garcia has presided the 2017 MIGF Composition Competition together with composers Jacob Sudol and Carlos Rafael Rivera.

KENNY HILL

He was born in San Jose California, and it was in Santa Barbara in the 1970s Hill began his self taught journey, starting out with strong-headed original designs, but very little source information to guide him, only books, a few players and his own ideas. His first direct guitar making influence and goad was John Gilbert. During the 1980s, as his family of four children were spawned, he took a hiatus from guitar building, though he continued to play actively as a performer the whole time. In 1989 he returned to guitar-making with a renewed affection, and at that time concentrated on building a series of copies of iconic, contrasting guitars; Torres, Fleta, Hauser, Rodriguez, Panormo and others. This research and practice gave him a new grounding in the knowledge of traditions in guitar design.

In 1993 he received a 3 year grant to set up a guitar building shop in Soledad State Prison. This was the first time he had a crew of guitar makers to direct. It was a great opportunity to make more instruments and try many things. It turned out to be a very unusual study in management of people and learning, and an experience that indirectly led to the development of various workshops in California, in Mexico and in China.

During the 90s, through working with those venerable historic guitar designs, and also working in far flung cultural environments, he evolved his own guitar designs, eventually known as his Signature and Performance models, while concurrently developing the business experience and vision to grow beyond being an individual luthier, and into the entrepreneurial development of various lines that have expanded the capacities of the concert classical guitar, and have raised the everyday standards of commercial grade classical guitars as well.
This has all been done while maintaining a active musical life — playing, performing, learning music, music by friends and colleagues and more of his own composition. He emphasizes the usefulness of musicianship as the key to staying in love with the instrument and staying in touch with the needs of the players, as well as sharing the gift that only music can bring to the world. His home workshop is in Ben Lomond, in the mountains near Santa Cruz California. It’s a sweet workshop in a sweet place, with six workers including his son and son-in-law as well as other trusted workers who have been with him for many years, building and refining Signature and Performance guitars by hand, as he has for 40 years. He also continues to be a founding shareholder of the factory in Guangzhou China where New World Guitars are made under his close supervision, and he is designer emeritus for Cordoba Guitars, where he has been a design and production consultant for many years. After 4 decades in the field Kenny Hill continues to be fascinated with the instrument, the music, the people and the world of classical guitar. His attitudes and hopes are focused on the future, new players, new music, new capacities of the instrument and the view that, from where he stands, we are still only just beginning.

EVAN HIRSCHELMAN

Evan Hirschelman, award-winning guitarist and composer, has gained international acclaim for his unique compositions, virtuosic performances, and dynamic interpretational renditions. He has been heralded for “precise and prodigious technique” by Acoustic Guitar Magazine, “technical wizardry” by Los Angeles Times and “soulful musicality” by Malibu Times. Whether performing original compositions, traditional classical repertoire, or exploring diverse musical forms, Hirschelman seeks to find connections that stimulate the imagination.

As a composer, Hirschelman’s compositions reflect a fusion of musical influences. They range from classical to metal, creating a unique style of hybrid music hailed by critics and audiences alike. In addition to performing his own works, he has been commissioned by renowned musicians and received top accolades for his composing. The Grammy® award-winning recording Guitar Heroes includes Hirschelman’s composition “Lament and Wake”, performed by the preeminent Los Angeles Guitar Quartet. Peter B. King, music critic of the Post Gazette, described it as a “poignant, stirring six minutes of music.” He also wrote a Chinese influenced piece for guitarist Xuefei Yang, which received widespread acclaim, and his compositions are included in the new edition of the seminal classical guitar book Pumping Nylon. He has composed numerous solo and ensemble works for guitar, which have been performed throughout the world.

His recording Water in Darkness contains original and contemporary solo guitar works and duets with guitarist Scott Tennant. It was released to rave reviews, being called “complex and breathtaking” by Music Connection, “delightful and virtuosic” by American Record Guide, and a “two-handed symphony” by Minor 7th. He has been featured in guitar’s foremost publications, including Classical Guitar, Acoustic Guitar, Premiere Guitar and Guitar Player. Hirschelman worked closely with the renowned boutique guitar company Circa Guitars to create his Signature Model steel-string acoustic guitar. This artistic foray led to one of the first steel-string guitars developed for classical nylon-string players.

A native of Detroit, Michigan, Evan Hirschelman currently resides in Los Angeles, where he divides his time between composing, performing, and teaching music. He holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Arizona, where he was awarded a full scholarship and graduated with honors.
VINDHYA KHARE

Vindhya holds a D.M.A. degree in Vocal Pedagogy and Performance from the University of Miami Frost School of Music with doctoral research in the field of sex hormones and the female singing voice. She also holds a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Florida International University, as well as an undergraduate degree in piano performance from California State University, Northridge.

As an arts administrator, Vindhya is the Area Coordinator of Vocal Studies at Florida International University in Miami. She has served as Artistic Director of the University Center for the Performing Arts in Ft. Lauderdale and is past President of the Paul L. Rodensky Foundation for the Arts. The Miami Herald describes her soprano voice as “rich, agile… [and] radiant.” She has sung the title roles in Suor Angelica (Puccini), Agrippina (Handel), Jackie O (Daugherty), and Mrs. Grose in Britten’s Turn of the Screw. Recent solo engagements include the Miami Bach Society Collegium, Choral Society of the Palm Beaches, Plymouth Congregational Church in Miami, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Temple Beth Shalom in Miami Beach, as well as recitals on the FIU Faculty Artist Series. As an accomplished pianist and voice coach, Vindhya was Principal Pianist/Voice Coach and Associate Chorus Master at Palm Beach Opera under the baton of the late Maestro Anton Guadagno. She is a coach and pianist for the Sherrill Milnes Voice Studio in Savannah, GA and has performed at the Savannah Voice Festival. She is the Music Director and pianist for the opera concert series at Opera Benvenuto in Boynton Beach and is on the music staff of Temple Sinai of the Palm Beaches.

FREDRICK KAUFMAN

Fredrick Kaufman is the composer of over one hundred and thirty compositions that have been performed worldwide by orchestras such as the Warsaw Philharmonic, the Israel Philharmonic, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, the Moscow Symphony Orchestra, the Czech Radio Orchestra, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, the Lithuanian Philharmonic and Chamber Orchestra, the Czech National Symphony Orchestra, the Czech Symphony Orchestra, the Jerusalem Symphony, the Instrumental Ensemble of Grenoble, the London Sinfonietta, Orchestra Novi Musici (Naples Italy), the Dominican Republic National Orchestra, the National Orchestra of Brazil, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the New World Symphony and the Pittsburgh Symphony orchestras. His ballets have been danced by companies such as the Royal Swedish Ballet, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Batsheva Dance Company, the Bat-Dor Dance Company and the Pennsylvania Dance Theater.

Kaufman is a former Fulbright Scholar, and author of The African Roots of Jazz, a groundbreaking study that drew heavily on his early musical life as a jazz trumpet player with the Woody Herman Band. He is the recipient of the Darius Milhaud Award in Composition from the Aspen Music Festival, and honors and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller, Guggenheim and Ford Foundations, the California, Montana and Pennsylvania Arts Councils as well as the Norwegian Government.

Fredrick Kaufman’s Holocaust composition Kaddish which Bernard Holland of The New York Times described as “having the most expressive writing for strings to be heard today,” has been performed in the major concert halls of Europe, Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, Israel, South America, Asia and throughout the United States. Kaufman recently completed the Guernica Piano Concerto for concert pianist Kemal Gekic and the Czech National Symphony Orchestra. The premiere performance took place at the Sibelius Concert Hall (Feb, ‘13) in Prague and was a spectacular success. The concerto was recorded in Prague and released on the Navona label by Naxos in July, 2013.
CELIL REFIK KAYA

Since his concert debut at the age of 6, Celil Refik Kaya has received accolades for his myriad accomplishments at an early age. In addition to winning First Prizes in the prestigious 2012 JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition with the Buffalo Philharmonic and the 2016 Boston GuitarFest Competition, he is also a top prizewinner of many other international guitar competitions in Sofia Bulgaria, Naxos Greece, Vienna, Istanbul, and throughout the United States, highlighted awards winner at top competitions such as 2012 Guitar Foundation of America (GFA), Indiana International Guitar Competition, Schadt String Competition, Philadelphia Guitar Competition, Texas International Guitar Competition, Pearl and Julius Rising Young Stars, Columbus State and Louisville Guitar Competitions.

Kaya appears as a soloist and international artist touring around the United States and Europe. As a concert soloist, he has collaborated with professional orchestras such as the Buffalo Philharmonic, Istanbul State Symphony, Bilkent Symphony, Round Top Festival Orchestra, Brevard Festival Orchestra, Lake Placid Sinfonietta, etc. which Celil has gained his great artistic recognition internationally. He conducted many masterclasses in the Music Festivals and Universities throughout the United States and Europe. He had presented the premieres of concertos by Roberto Sierra (Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra), Derwyn Holder (New Jersey Baroque Orchestra), Leonard Handler, and Suleyman Alnitemiz (Istanbul State Symphony). Celil’s first album “Music of Jorge Morel” is going be released by leading record company NAXOS in 2016.

Born in Istanbul, Turkey in 1991, Celil Refik Kaya began his interest in classical guitar at the age of six with his father, Dr. Mehmet Refik Kaya. Early main instructors included generation-influenced educators such as Yusuf Doğan Büyüköçt, Raffi Arslanyan, Soner Egesel. When he was 19, Celil earned his Bachelor Degree of Music from the Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University State Conservatory with the Highest Honor Degree in Istanbul, and was granted the “Excellence” Scholarship from the Turkish Educational Foundation. During his Bachelor’s degree he studied composition with the famous Turkish composer Mehmet Nemrutlu.

Kaya expended his worldwide notice throughout the time he pursued his Master Degree of music in New York City at Mannes College The New School For Music. As a full-scholarship student, he has also received the Excellence in Performance Awards by the Mannes College the New School for Music. Kaya proudly studied in the studio of Michael Newman (the disciple of Andrés Segovia, Oscar Ghiglia and Albert Valdes Blain) as well as private studies with Grammy awards-winning guitarist Sharon Isbin. During his master’s degree he studied composition with renowned guitarist-composer Frederic Hand. Kaya is currently receiving the Harrington fellowship and teaching assistant at the University of Texas at Austin’s Butler School of Music as a candidate of Doctoral Degree of Musical Arts program 3rd year, in the studio of prestigious guitarist of our time, Adam Holzman.

Kaya performed in some of the most prestigious concert halls and the festivals around the United States including solo recital, concerto performances and master classes on the D’Addario Performance Series at Carnegie Hall, The Frick Collection Museum in NYC Summer Artists series, New York Guitar Seminar Festival at Mannes College, Round Top Festival in Texas, Brevard Music Festival in South Carolina, Raritan River Music Festival, also numerous Radio broadcast and concert performances throughout United States and Turkey.

Besides a concert soloist, Kaya is also known as an avid composer, with about 100 compositions to his credit, including works for solo guitar, violin, piano, string trio, duets, sonatas etc. His chamber and instrumental works were performed throughout United States, Turkey, South Korea and Australia Sydney’s Opera House. He also enjoys chamber music, playing traditional Turkish music and training martial arts during his spare time.
THOMAS LIPPINCOTT

I was born in New Jersey in 1966 and grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I began playing trombone in sixth grade band and, after hearing Beatles records as a teenager, was inspired to take up guitar as well. I soon became interested in jazz and classical guitar and started taking lessons in both with Randy Wimer while in high school. I continued playing trombone throughout my first year of music school at the University of North Texas before finally switching to guitar. While at UNT, I studied under Jack Peterson, Phillip Hill, and Rick Peckham and received a bachelor’s degree in jazz studies in 1988. In the fall of ’88, I accepted a graduate teaching assistantship at the University of Miami and moved to South Florida to become the school’s jazz guitar TA. While attending U of M, I studied under Randall Dollahon, and, as a member of the concert jazz band, I performed with jazz greats Randy Brecker and Bob Mintzer. In 1990, I received a master’s degree in jazz performance. Since then, I have continued my studies by taking private lessons with guitar guru Mick Goodrick, and jazz drum great Ari Hoenig.

Throughout my professional career, I have taught lessons privately and have taught jazz guitar at Broward Community College, Florida Atlantic University, and Miami’s New World High School of the Arts. In 2002, I became an adjunct instructor at Miami/Dade College’s Kendall Campus where I currently teach jazz improvisation, guitar ensemble, and private jazz guitar lessons. Since 2007, I have taught guitar ensemble and private lessons as an adjunct professor at Florida International University as well.

Performances I’ve been performing in South Florida since 1990 as a freelance guitarist, playing gigs and recording I’ve also traveled to other areas of the U.S. to perform, as well as to the Caribbean, Mexico, Europe, and Asia. In addition to performing as a solo jazz and classical guitarist, I’ve led my own groups, including the Tom Lippincott Trio, and I was co-leader of the group Bluez Imbabwe with vocalist Adriana Samargia. In addition to my own trio, I also maintain memberships in several other jazz and improvised music groups, including The Chassidic Jazz Project, The Miami Jazz Quartet, and the Rucker/Lippincott Duo (with drummer Steve Rucker. I’ve had the opportunity to perform and/or record with such jazz luminaries as Ed Schuller, Don Friedman, Carlos Averhoff, Gary Campbell, John Stowell, Ben Monder, Jonathan Kreisberg, John Fedchock, and Dave Liebman, among others.

Recordings, Compositions, and Accolades The 1990 release Extra Strength by the group Active Ingredient features my playing, as well as five of my compositions. I was the winner of the jazz category of Guitar Player Magazine’s 1992 Ultimate Guitar Competition, and I was featured as artist of the month in the magazine’s Spotlight column. In 2002 I received an honorable mention in the JazzConnect jazz competition for my solo guitar version of “Green Dolphin Street.” I have one CD out with my trio, released in 2000, and entitled “Painting the Slow Train Brown.” The CD, which consists of my original post modern jazz compositions and performances features longtime collaborators Randy Ward on bass, John Yarling on drums, and special guest Nicole Yarling on violin.
MESUT ÖZGEN

Founder and artistic director of the Miami International GuitART Festival, Mesut Özgen is a “highly accomplished and exciting player who gets the most out of the music he plays” (Classical Guitar magazine of England), as well as a composer whose works show the deep influence of traditional Turkish music. Critically acclaimed as “stunningly versatile and expressive” by Acoustic Guitar magazine, Mesut has been busy with concertizing, recording, composing, conducting, and teaching.

Özgen joined the faculty of Florida International University in the fall of 2013 as director of guitar studies and the FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra. He has performed and taught master classes throughout the United States, Spain, and Turkey and was the director of guitar studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz from 1998-2013. In addition to being a prizewinner in both the International Portland Guitar Competition and the National Guitar Competition of Turkey, he has performed as featured soloist in many festivals, including the International Paco Pena Guitar Festival in Cordoba, Spain, Yale Guitar Extravaganza, Sierra Nevada Guitar Festival, Santa Cruz Baroque Festival, Healdsburg Guitar Festival, Istanbul CRR concert series, April in Santa Cruz: Contemporary Music Festival, Cabrillo College Distinguished Artists Series, Ankara METU Art Festival, Kars Art Festival, Konya Mevlana (Rumi) Cultural Center, and UCSC Arts & Lectures Series among many others.

Özgen’s degrees include Master of Music and Artist Diploma from Yale School of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts from Arizona State University, as well as an MD from Hacettepe University Medical School. He was the first guitarist to be awarded the “Dean’s Prize,” the highest honorary prize at the Yale School of Music, where he studied under the tutelage of guitarist and composer Benjamin Verdery. Özgen has been awarded numerous grants for his musical projects since 2003. The most recent awards include the Knight Arts Challenge by the Knight Foundation and the Art Works by the National Endowment for the Arts for the 2018 Miami International GuitART Festival.

RAFFAELE LIVIO PONTI

Italian – American Conductor, Raffaele Livio Ponti is an artist of dynamic personality, charismatic performances, and superb musicianship. His trademark is the breadth of his vision, the clarity of his interpretation, and the rich beauty of his sound. The Chicago Courier News Writes, “Maestro Ponti brings an exhilarating energy level to center stage. It’s an electrifying swagger empowering and enabling him to pull music from light to darkness and back again. He is a rising star!”

Award winning Conductor Raffaele Ponti is the recipient of the 2014 Charlie Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement, winner of the Mario Gusella International Conducting Competition in Pescara, Italy, the Cleveland Institute of Music’s Bernard Adelstein Award, the Sons of Italy Italian Musician of the Year, Harborstyle Magazine’s Best Performing Arts Group with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Florida Weekly’s Best Award with the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, and honored with a Proclamation, given by the Mayor and City Council Members of Punta Gorda, Florida.

Raffaele is currently Artistic Director and Conductor of the Paducah Symphony Orchestra, Music Director and Conductor of Florida’s Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and Visiting Instructor in Orchestral Studies & Director of the FIU Symphony Orchestra at Florida International University in Miami, Florida.
CARLOS RAFAEL RIVERA

Carlos Rafael Rivera is a commissioned and award winning composer whose career has spanned several genres of the music industry. His soundtrack for Universal Pictures’ A WALK AMONG THE TOMBSTONES, starring Liam Neeson and directed by Scott Frank, is now available through Varèse-Sarabande Records.

A protégé of Randy Newman, he earned a DMA in Composition at USC’s Thornton School, where he studied with Donald Crockett and Stephen Hartke. Equally comfortable in popular music, he has performed onstage as opening act for The Who at the Hollywood Bowl, while his guitar work includes performances on feature soundtracks (Crash, Dragonfly); studio sessions for Island/Def Jam, and Universal Records; as well as ABC’s Scrubs, MTV, and VH-1.

His music has been acclaimed by the Miami Herald, the San Francisco Examiner, and the LA Times, helping establish him as a composer with the unique ability of incorporating a large diversity of musical influences into his captivating compositions, which reflect his multi-cultural upbringing in Central America and the United States.

His work has been performed by some of the most prominent ensembles and soloists, including Arturo Sandoval, Colin Currie, Chanticleer, Cavatina Duo, the American Composers Orchestra (ACO), the New England Philharmonic, and the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet (LAGQ); commissioned by the Simon Bolivar Youth Symphony, the Miami Symphony Orchestra, and the American Wind Symphony; recorded by Warner, Sony, Naxos, and Cedille labels; published by Mel-Bay, and Doberman Editions; and awarded by the ACO, the Herb Alpert Foundation, the Guitar Foundation of America, BMI, and twice by ASCAP.
He has served as Composer-in-Residence with the Miami Symphony Orchestra, as well as musical consultant for “Invitation to World Literature,” an educational series funded by the Annenberg Foundation and produced by WGBH.

He is a voting member of the Recording Academy (Grammy’s), the Society of Composers and Lyricists (SCL), and is a sought out guest composer and lecturer throughout the US, as well as a faculty member at the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music.

Carlos has recently signed with Amos Newman at William Morris Endeavor Entertainment (WME) – whose clients include Hans Zimmer, Trent Reznor, and Ennio Morricone. He served as judge for the 2017 MIGF Composition Competition together with composers Orlando Jacinto Garcia and Jacob Sudol.

JACOB SUDOL

Jacob David Sudol writes intimate compositions that explore enigmatic phenomena and the inner nature of how we perceive sound. He currently is an Assistant Professor of Music Technology and Composition and the Coordinator of Music Technology area at Florida International University in Miami, Florida. He was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant for Taiwan for the Academic 2015-16 Year. He holds a Ph.D. in composition from the University of California, San Diego where his mentor was the Grawemeyer Prize-winning composer Chinary Ung. Jacob Sudol has been commissioned and/or performed by many prestigious ensembles and performers such as the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, Chai Found New Music Workshop, Jennifer Choi, Mari Kimura, Contemporary Keyboard Society, Little Giant Chinese Orchestra, the McGill Contemporary Music Ensemble in collaboration with the McGill Digital Composition Studio, FIU Laptop and Electronic Arts (FLEA) Ensemble, pianist Xenia Pestova, cellist Jason Calloway, percussionist Nathan Davis, flutist Carla Rees, the rarescale duo, flutist Solomiya Moroz, pianist and composer Chen-Hui Jen, pianist and composer Keith Kirchoff, clarinetist Krista Martynes, guzheng-performer Yi-Chieh Lai, percussionist Fernando Rocha, percussionist Luis Tabuenca, and pianist William Fried. These works have received numerous domestic and international performances. In 2012, Sudol founded a cello/electro-acoustic duo with FIU colleague and cellist Jason Calloway and, since 2010, he has been in a piano/electro-acoustic duo with his wife Chen-Hui Jen. At FIU, he has directed FLEA (the FIU Laptop and Electro-Acoustic ensemble) since 2011. He served as judge for the 2016 MIGF Composition Competition together with composers Orlando Jacinto Garcia and Carlos Rafael Rivera.

LUTHIERS EXPO

The MIGF Luthiers Expo will be held in the Instrumental Hall located in the Nicole and Herbert Wertheim Performing Arts Center beginning with Friday, February 24 at 1 p.m., continuing Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and ending on Sunday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. A variety of wonderful hand-built guitars will be displayed, and the festival participants will have a chance to meet the luthiers, try their guitars, and even buy one!

The featured luthiers are internationally renowned guitar maker **Kenny Hill**, the recipient of Industry Leadership Award by the Guitar Foundation of America in 2015, and **Robert Desmond**, from Orlando, Florida. **Desmond** will also be presenting the famous Hauser II and Friederich I guitars.
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The Miami International GuitART Festival gratefully acknowledges the support of following individuals, businesses, associations, municipalities, and foundations and thanks all volunteers who make our festival possible. With their generous support and your ticket purchases, the MIGF will continue providing opportunities to wonderfully talented artists and bringing them together with the audiences and students in South Florida. For more information on sponsoring the festival, please visit migf.fiu.edu/give/.

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The non-profit 501c3 cultural organization, The Miami Classical Guitar Society was founded in 1987 with a mission to promote the art, appreciation, and awareness of Classical Guitar in South Florida through exposure and education. Dedicated to enriching our culture, the MCGS initiated and developed a guitar movement in the city of Miami, establishing South Florida as a hub of international importance for the instrument.

The MCGS has organized over 200 concerts featuring world-renowned guitarists, local talent, and student performers, directed two of Guitar Foundation of America International Competitions in Miami, founded Miami’s First International Guitar Competition Festival, created the First Guitar Ensemble Festival of Miami, and The Miami Guitar Orchestra. A strong advocate for music and guitar education, the MCGS actively works with school music programs, highlighting student guitar ensembles as part of our series.

Our initial goal to share and foster the art of this beautiful instrument continues to expand, generating enthusiasm within our community and for younger generations of aspiring guitarists. Join us! www.miamiguitar.org
Welcome to the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center!

Please take note of these suggestions to help enhance your experience at the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center:

Arrive Early: Please arrive between 15-30 minutes prior to the start time of the event. This will allow adequate time to park, pick up your tickets, and find comfortably seating prior to the start of the show.

If You Are Late: Please remain in the lobby until the ushers help escort you to your seats.

Attire: The concert hall remains at a cooler temperature, so we advise our guests to bring a sweater. We do not have a strict dress code, but ask that concert attendees to please be respectful to those around them.

Refreshments: The concert hall has a “No Food/Drink policy.” Please dispose of your refreshments before entering the concert hall.

Electronic Devices: Everyone in attendance will be grateful if your electronic devices are turned off.

Photography/Recording: No flash photography or recording unless prior permission is given by the artists and events manager.

Children: Small children and their guests may wish to consider being seated close to the exit in case of restlessness. Performances in the concert hall can be viewed from the lobby until children are ready to re-enter the hall.

Courtesies: Please be respectful of those around you. Please limit noise by removing candy wrappers prior to the performance.

We look forward to having you as our guests at the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center!

The Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

Modesto A. Maidique Campus
10910 S.W. 17th Street
Miami FL 33199
Email: wpacmusic@fiu.edu
Phone: 305-348-0496
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krhill@hillguitar.com  www.hillguitar.com
(800) 262-8858
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Opening Concert WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm
CELSO CANO and MESUT ÖZGEN
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm
FLAMENCO NIGHT:
FELIPE CARVAJAL and FRIENDS
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm
CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO TRIBUTE
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm
MICROTonal GUITAR DUO
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Luthiers Expo begins WPAC Instrumental Hall 1:00-6:00pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm
CELIL REFİK KAYA
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25
Luthiers Expo WPAC Instrumental Hall 9:00-5:00pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 WPAC CONCERT HALL 1:00pm
FIU MIAMI GUITAR ORCHESTRA
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 WPAC CONCERT HALL 4:00pm
DUO ALTO PLANO: ARTHUR & VALENTINE DENTE
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm
EVAN HIRSCHELMAN
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Luthiers Expo WPAC Instrumental Hall 10:00-5:00pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 WPAC CONCERT HALL 4:00pm
NYLON & COPPER:
FEDERICO BONACOSSA & JACOB SUDOL
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm
WONDERLUST: MURIEL ANDERSON
$15 general; $10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $5 student

FESTIVAL PASS
$60 general; $45 senior, FIU faculty & staff; $25 student

ARTISTS
Muriel Anderson (USA)
Federico Bonacossa (Italy/USA)
Celso Cano (Peru/USA)
Felipe Carvajal (Costa Rica)
Diana Castelnuovo-Tedesco (USA)
Sinan Çayir (Turkey)
Tolgahan Çoğulu (Turkey)
Hachê Costa (Spain)
Arthur Dente (France)
Valentine Dente (France)
David Dolata (USA)
Sinan Cem Ergül (Turkey)
Orlando Jacinto Garcia (USA)
Kenneth Hill (USA)
Evan Hirschelman (USA)
Vindhya Khare (USA)
Fredrick Kaufman (USA)
Celil Refik Kaya (Turkey)
Thomas Lippincott (USA)
Mesut Özgen (USA/Turkey)
Raffaele Livio Ponti (Italy)
Carlos Rafael Rivera (USA)
Jacob Sudol (USA)

ENSEMBLES
Cano-Ozgen Duo
Duo Alto Plano
FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra
FIU Singers
FIU Symphony Orchestra
Flamenco Ensemble
Microtonal Guitar Duo
Nylon & Copper

LECTURES
Tolgahan Çoğulu
David Dolata
Kenneth Hill

MASTER CLASSES/WORKSHOPS
Muriel Anderson
Tolgahan Çoğulu
Sinan Cem Ergül
Arthur Dente
Evan Hirschelman
Celil Refik Kaya