

FIU | The Wertheim

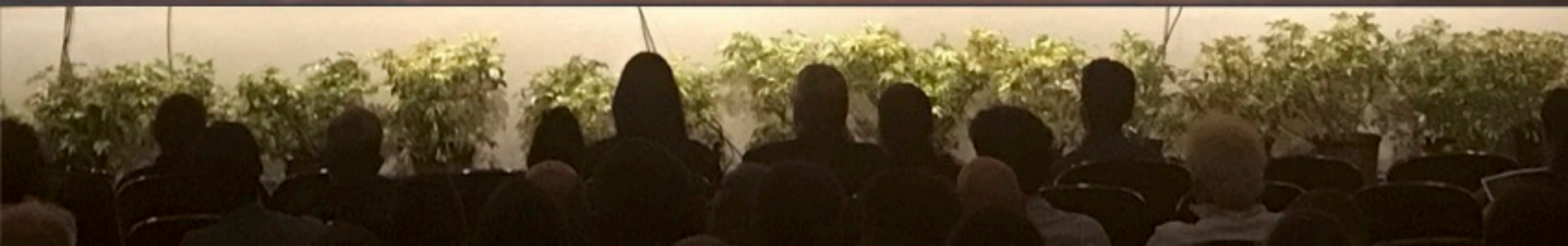
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim
School of Music & Performing Arts

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

February 15-23, 2025

migf.fiu.edu

CONCERTS
LECTURES
WORKSHOPS
MASTER CLASSES
LUTHIERS EXPO



X. Miami International GuitART Festival 2025

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Radio Host, WLRN Folk and Acoustic

Russell Spiegel
Radio Host, WDNA FIU Music Hour

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Roberto Rodriguez
FIU Guitar Alumnus, B.M.'17

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Herbert and Nicole Wertheim
School of Music & Performing Arts

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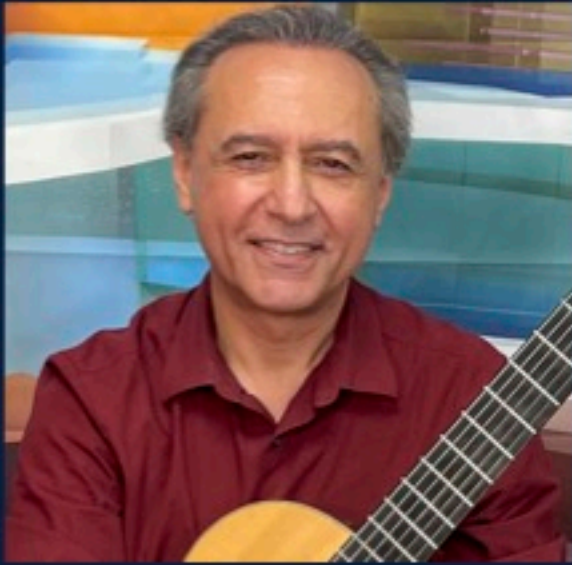


A note to our audiences:
Please keep your program
during the festival, as we
have printed a finite number
of festival program books.

Thank you.



X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025



WELCOME!

Welcome to the tenth edition of MIGF at the FIU Wertheim School of Music. It is my honor and privilege to serve as the Artistic Director of MIGF. Since the inaugural edition of the MIGF in 2016, the festival continues to present successful programs to more and more audiences, local, national, and international. In the 2025 MIGF, we will be celebrating Miami's Latinx heritage through nine concerts, six masterclasses and workshops, four lectures, and a luthiers expo.

The MIGF has been a successful annual event thanks to all the guest artists, our generous sponsors at all levels, our 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 as well as to the music and guitar world. Thank you so much for sharing our excitement and joy of being part of this great festival.

Featured artists participating in the festival this year include world-renowned musicians from Latin America and beyond, such as virtuoso American guitarist and composer Benjamin Verdery, Venezuelan cuatrist/guitarist Héctor Molina and cuatrist/singer Luciana Kube, Turkish guitarist Aysegül Koca, Italian 19th-century Romantic guitar specialist Marco Battaglia, Colombian/American guitarist Carlos Serrano, Lithuanian guitarist Danguole Lingyte, American guitarist Koh Kazama, Federico Bonacossa, and Spanish trio Gradus Jazz.

In addition to presenting concerts, the festival artists will present lectures, workshops, and masterclasses, which are open and free to the public, providing informative and entertaining opportunities for students to study with master musicians and learn more about guitar music, technique, and repertoire.

I hope you enjoy all the exciting events during the festival, as we celebrate music, our beloved instrument, and Art in general.

Sincerely,

Mesut Özgen
Artistic Director and Founder

FIU | The Wertheim

Herbert and Nicole Wertheim
School of Music & Performing Arts

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025



¡BIENVENIDOS!

Bienvenidos a la décima edición del MIGF en la FIU School of Music. Es mi honor y privilegio servir como el Director Artístico del MIGF. Desde su inauguración en el 2016, el festival continúa presentando exitosos programas a crecientes audiencias de procedencia local, nacional, e internacional. En éste MIGF 2025, celebraremos el legado latinoamericano de Miami con nueve conciertos, seis clases magistrales y talleres, cuatro conferencias, y la exposición de luterías.

Gracias a la alta calidad de los artistas invitados, a nuestros generosos patrocinadores, al trabajo incansable de estudiantes voluntarios, y a nuestra audiencia, el MIGF, en ya su octava edición, ha siempre gozado de éxito. Sin su contribución, no fuera posible la hercúlea tarea de organizar un festival internacional de gran escala, y a su vez aportar 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 al formar parte de este gran festival.

Los artistas destacados que participan en el festival este año incluyen músicos de renombre mundial de América Latina y más allá, como el virtuoso guitarrista y compositor estadounidense Benjamin Verdery, el cuatrista/guitarrista venezolano Héctor Molina y la cuatrista/cantante Luciana Kube, el guitarrista turco Aysegül Koca, el especialista en guitarra romántica italiana del siglo XIX Marco Battaglia, el guitarrista colombiano/estadounidense Carlos Serrano, el guitarrista lituano Danguole Lingyte, el guitarrista estadounidense Koh Kazama, Federico Bonacossa y el trío español Gradus Jazz.

Sumado a sus conciertos, los artistas invitados presentarán clases magistrales y conferencias, las cuales serán gratis y abiertas al público, y les brindarán informativas y entretenidas oportunidades de aprender en persona con músicos maestros, y ampliar su conocimiento de la música, técnica, y repertorio guitarrístico.

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

Sinceramente,

Mesut Özgen
Director Artístico y Fundador

FIU | The Wertheim

Herbert and Nicole Wertheim
School of Music & Performing Arts

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View the schedule online:



MIGF YouTube Channel:



Herbert and Nicole Wertheim
School of Music & Performing Arts

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Saturday, February 15

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Concert: Serenata Latinoamericana with Hector Molina & Luciana Kube - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

Sunday, February 16

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Workshop: Muriel Anderson - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Master Class: Aysegül Koca - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Concert: Muriel Anderson - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

Monday, February 17

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lecture: *Solo Arranging for Guitar* by Federico Bonacossa - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Concert: Aysegül Koca - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

Tuesday, February 18

3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. Lecture: *Voice and Strings: Latin American identity on the vocal repertoire accompanied by guitar.* by Luciana Kube - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Concert: FIU Miami GuitART Orchestra - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

Wednesday, February 19

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lecture: *Choice of Tempo, its terms and modifications in the late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries* by Marco Battaglia - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Workshop: Marco Battaglia - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Concert: Marco Battaglia (Italy) - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

Thursday, February 20

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Master Class: Benjamin Verdery – Green Library Auditorium 100B
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Concert: Koh Kazama - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

Friday, February 21

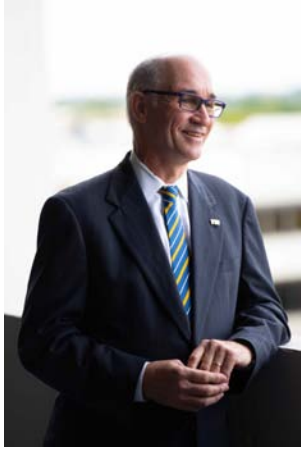
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Concert by Festival Artists for Students at the Pinecrest Cove Preparatory Academy
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Lecture: *Designing Technical Training Programs* by Mesut Özgen - WPAC Recital Hall (150)
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Master Class: Koh Kazama Koca - WPAC Recital Hall (150)
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Concert: Benjamin Verdery - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

Sunday, February 23

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Luthiers Expo - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Concert: Carlos Serrano and Danguole Lingyte - WPAC Recital Hall (150)
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Workshop: Danguole Lingyte - WPAC Instrumental Hall (157)
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Concert: Gradus Jazz Trio (Spain) - WPAC Concert Hall (170)

MESSAGES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025



FIU is delighted to welcome you to Miami International GuitART Festival, a wonderful showcase of musical talent and culture right here in South Florida. As a champion of the arts, our university cherishes this opportunity to provide a stage for artists from around the world to share their music with the greater Miami community.

- Kenneth A. Jessell
President, Florida International University



I couldn't be more proud of Dr. Mesut Özgen and the FIU Wertheim 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 Schriener
Dean, FIU College of Architecture + The Arts



Welcome to the Eighth Miami International GuitART Festival! A festival that brings wonderful world-renowned guitarists to The Wertheim! I do hope you enjoy the full array of guest artists that Dr. Mesut Özgen has produced this year and encourage you to come back to The Wertheim throughout the year! Thank you for your support.

- Karen S. Veloz
Director, FIU School of Music

CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Saturday, February 15, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

A TRIBUTE TO LUIS QUINTERO SANTAMARIA

SERENATA LATINOAMERICANA

HÉCTOR MOLINA, cuatro, guitar & voice;

LUCIANA KUBE, cuatro & voice

Corral de ordeño – Tonada (Venezuela)	SIMÓN DÍAZ
Pasaje del Olvido – Pasaje (Venezuela)	SIMÓN DÍAZ
Sin tu mirada – Vals (Venezuela)	OTILIO GALÍNDEZ
Golosinas criollas – Merengue (Venezuela)	LUIS LAGUNA
Nostalgia andina – Vals (Venezuela)	CÉSAR PRATO
María Cecilia - Danza zuliana (Venezuela)	ADOLFO DE POOL
Flor de Lis – Samba (Brazil)	DJAVAN
INTERMISSION	
Los Moliguti (Venezuela)	HÉCTOR MOLINA
Hector Molina, guitar	
Zamba para olvidar (Venezuela)	DANIEL TORO/JULIO FONTANA
Y tú qué has hecho (Cuba)	EUSEBIO DELFÍN
Amarraditos (Perú)	BELISARIO PÉREZ/MARGARITA DURAND
El venao - Golpe tocuyano (Venezuela)	TRADITIONAL
Entreverao llanero (Venezuela)	HÉCTOR MOLINA
Hector Molina, cuatro	
La negra Atilia (Venezuela)	PABLO CAMACARO/HENRY MARTÍNEZ
Coplas (Venezuela)	TRADITIONAL

Co-sponsored by



Steven J. Green
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& Public Affairs

CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

MURIEL ANDERSON

Guitar, Harp-guitar

Fantasia De Fuego	MURIEL ANDERSON
Vincent (arr. Atkins/Anderson)	DON MCLEAN
Wheels (arr. Chet Atkins)	NORMAN PETTY
Bluegrass Medley (arr. M. Anderson)	Traditional Bluegrass
Nola (arr. M. Anderson)	FELIX ARNDT
Perseid	MURIEL ANDERSON
A Bakers Dozen	MURIEL ANDERSON
Sous le Ciel de Paris	GIRAUD / DRÉJAC
INTERMISSION	
A Fine Pickle	MURIEL ANDERSON
Kojo No Tsuki & Osaka	RENTARO TAKI / MURIEL ANDERSON
View from Space	MURIEL ANDERSON
All Thumbs	MARK CASSTEVENS
Rainy Harbor	MURIEL ANDERSON
Favorable Winds	MURIEL ANDERSON
Eleanor Rigby	GEORGE HARRISON

Co-sponsored by



CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Monday, February 17, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

AYSEGÜL KOCA

Koyunbaba, Op. 19

CARLO DOMENICONI
(b. 1947)

Rêverie, Op.19 Nocturne

GIULIO REGONDI
(1822-1875)

Capricho Catalán, Op.165, No. 5
Mallorca (Barcarola) Op. 202
Torre Bermeja Op. 92 No.12

ISAAC ALBENIZ
(1860-1909)

INTERMISSION

Suite Mística

I. Getsémani
II. Dipsô
III. Pentecostés
IV. Dansa Valenciana

VICENTE ACENCIO
(1908-1979)

Fantasia Sevillana Op.29

JOAQUIN TURINA
(1882-1949)

Invierno Porteño
Primavera Porteña

ASTOR PIAZZOLLA
(1921-1992)

Co-sponsored by



MIAMI



CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

FIU Miami GuitART Orchestra

directed by MESUT ÖZGEN

Carnavalito (arr. John Zaradin)	Traditional Andean
Contrapunctus No. 1 (from The Art of Fugue, arr. Mesut Özgen),	JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)
Musha Study and Middle Ten (based on traditional Zimbabwean)	JOHN WILLIAMS (b. 1941)
Cuban Landscape with Rain Jacob Valdes, Schuyler Burke-McLoughlin, David Paez, Joseph Guerra, Victor Carvajal Parra	LEO BROUWER (b. 1939)
El Decameron Negro I. El arpa del Guerrero II. La huida de los amantes por el valle de los ecos III. Balada de la doncella enamorada Cristian Perez	LEO BROUWER
Valse Venezolano No. 3 “Natalia” Victor Carvajal Parra	ANTONIO LAURO (1917-1986)
Sin tu mirada – Vals (Venezuela) Coplas (Venezuela) Luciana Kube, voice & cuatro	OTILIO GALÍNDEZ TRADITIONAL
Indifférence (Musette Waltz) Siboney Godoy, violin; Erick Lynch, guitar	TONY MURÉNA/JOSEPH COLOMBO
Phunk Phase	JORDAN BROWNLEE (b. 1974)
Una limosna por el amor de Dios Mesut Özgen	AGUSTIN BARRIOS (1885-1944)
Tango Betuláceo	IAN GAMMIE

FIU Miami GuitART ORCHESTRA

Directed by Mesut Özgen

Classical Guitars: Joseph Guerra, David Paez, Jacob Valdes, Carlos Bacallao,
Schuyler Burke-McLoughlin, Jose Marquez, Victor Carvajal Parra;

Flute: Francisco Moreno; **Voice:** Luciana Kube; **Violin:** Siboney Godoy;

Acoustic Guitar: Erick Lynch; **Electric Guitar:** Carlos Bacallao;

Bombo, Guitar: Mesut Özgen

CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

MARCO BATTAGLIA

From Opera and Fantasy

Variations on “Au claire de la lune”

from “Les Voitures versées” op. 7 by François-Adrien Boieldieu

MATTEO CARCASSI

(1796-1853)

Brilliant Fantasy on themes of the opera “I Puritani” by Vincenzo Bellini op. 63 *

Moderato assai

“Se d’Elvira il fantasma dolente” - Act II, Scene IV - Allegretto

“Vien, diletto, è in ciel la luna” - Act II, Scene III - Allegro moderato

“Qui la voce sua soave” – Act II, Scene III – Larghetto con espressione

Allegro

“Suoni la tromba e intrepido” – Act II, Scene IV – Allegro

“Sin vergin vezzosa. in veste di sposa?” – Act I, Scene VIII

* World premiere in modern times

INTERMISSION

Great Sonata op. 12

I. Allegro moderato

II. Andante with 6 variations

ANTOINE DE LHOYER

(1768-1852)

“Opere-Revue” op. 8 n. 31

Fantasy on themes from “I Vespri siciliani” by Giuseppe Verdi

Maestoso

“Ombra diletta, che in ciel riposi” – Act III, Scene I – Allegretto

Tarantella – Act II, Finale - Allegro

“Coraggio, su coraggio” – Act I, Scene III - Allegro giusto

“Del piacer s’avanza l’ora” – Act II, Scene VIII - Andante

“Parola fatale!” – Act III, Scene I - Allegro

“Giorno di pianto, di fier dolore!” – Act IV, Scene III - Andante

Brillante con moto

CASPAR JOSEPH MERTZ

(1806-1856)

* The prolific guitarist-composer **Matteo Carcassi**'s transcriptions from “I Puritani” by Vincenzo Bellini was acquired by Mr. Battaglia from a private individual in France in 2023. The fantasy is a significant addition to the repertoire of potpourris on famous opera themes, alongside Giuliani's Rossiniane and Emilia Giuliani's Belliniane. A notable detail of the piece is the inclusion of the iconic cabaletta "Suoni la tromba, e intrepido", a duet between the characters Giorgio and Riccardo at the end of the second act of the opera, written by the librettist Carlo Pepoli. The opera, the last written by Bellini, had a resounding success thanks to the singers Giulia Grisi (Elvira), Giovanni Battista Rubini (Arturo), Antonio Tamburini (Riccardo) and Luigi Lablache (Giorgio), mentioned in a note by Giuseppe Mazzini in the part dedicated to the great operist in his *Philosophy of music* (Paris, L'Italiano, 1836).

Mr. Battaglia plays a 19th century guitar “Gennaro Fabricatore / anno 1811 Napoli / Strada S. Giacomo n.° 37” that was once belonged to famous Italian Patriot Giuseppe Mazzini.

CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

KOH KAZAMA

Cello Suite No. 3, BWV 1009 - Prelude

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
(1685-1750)

Sakura Variations

YUQUIJIRO YOCOH
(1925 - 2009)

Etude No. 8

Etude No. 7

HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS
(1887-1959)

Verano Porteño

arr. Baltazar Benitez

ASTOR PIAZZOLLA
(1921-1992)

INTERMISSION

Study No. 1

Misterios y Fantasía

Rayos de Sol y El Atardecer

RICHARD PADRÓN
(b. 1982)

Etudes

I. Let Go
III. Worry Knot
VII. Start Now
V. Passing
X. Returning
XI. Home is Here

BENJAMIN VERDERY
(b. 1955)

A Felicidade

arr. Roland Dyens

ANTÔNIO CARLOS JOBIM
(1927-1994)

CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Friday, February 21, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

BENJAMIN VERDERY

Some Towns & Cities and other guitar music by Ben Verdery

Tread Lightly, for You Tread on My Dreams (2008)

BENJAMIN VERDERY
(b. 1955)

Capitola, CA (1990)

Keanea, HI (1990)

Milwaukee, WI (1988)

Memories of Ellis Island - Yearning to Breathe Free
(2017, revised 2024)

Purple Haze

Arranged by Ben Verdery

JIMI HENDRIX
(1927-1994)

the rain falls equally on all things, a fantasy (2017, revised 2019)

BENJAMIN VERDERY

1. rain clouds approach
2. in rain
3. separate drops fall together
4. heavy water
5. as the wind sings to the rain
6. after a rain (the smell, the mist)
7. the wind's forgotten melody
8. partial recall of a storm
9. gentle rain underwater
10. liquid sunshine
11. rain returns
12. a downpour's secret
13. the calming of the water
14. a child's first rainbow
15. discovering the rain falls equally on all things

Mobile, AL (1989)

Miami, F (1989)

with Koh Kazama, guitar

*Ben Verdery uses D'Addario strings and plays a guitar built by Garrett Lee.
Ben Verdery appears by arrangement with GAMI/Simonds | www.gamisimonds.com
Follow Ben on Facebook, Instagram | www.benjaminverdery.com*

CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

CARLOS SERRANO

Violin Sonata No.1 (BWV 1001)

- I. Adagio
- II. Fuga
- III. Siciliana
- IV. Presto

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
(1685-1750)

Sonata

- I. Allegro moderato
- II. Andante
- III. Presto

SERGIO ASSAD
(b. 1952)

DANGUOLE LINGYTE

Tristesse

SHAO YIN LOW
(b. 1966)

Un Sueño en La Floresta

AGUSTIN BARRIOS MANGORÉ
(1885-1944)

Koyunbaba, Op. 19 Movement IV

CARLO DOMENICONI
(b. 1947)

CONCERT PROGRAMS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts Concert Hall

GRADUS JAZZ TRIO

ENRIQUE LLEIDA, piano & bass guitar
PABLO LLEIDA, bass guitar & piano
SANTIAGO LLEIDA, drums

Amadruga	Popular Spanish, arranged by GRADUS JAZZ
Albada	Popular Spanish, arranged by GRADUS JAZZ
#4 #3	ENRIQUE LLEIDA (b. 1972)
From Flute Concerto Op. 10, No. 3 Movement II: IL CARDELINO (1728)	ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)
Samba de la africana (zarzuela en un acto) (1893)	M. FERNÁNDEZ CABALLERO (1835-1906) arranged by ENRIQUE LLEIDA
Cardelina	Popular Spanish, arranged by PABLO LLEIDA
Campanas de mayo Día Azul	PABLO LLEIDA (b. 1980)
La Dolores	Popular Spanish, arranged by PABLO LLEIDA

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

LECTURES

Monday, February 17, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Instrumental Hall (Room 157) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

FEDERICO BONACOSSA: *Solo Arranging for Guitar*

Using a simple folk song as a starting point, composer-guitarist Federico Bonacossa will guide participants in his lecture-workshop through a series of arrangements of increasing complexity. Along the way, he will discuss fretboard logic, idiomatic chord voicings, rhythm, use of articulations and dynamics, voice leading strategies, creating a framework for improvisation, and the use of embellishments and substitutions.

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 3:30 p.m.

Instrumental Hall (Room 157) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

LUCIANA KUBE: *Voice and Strings: Latin American Identity*

Dr. Luciana Kube will present her lecture Voice and Strings: Latin American identity on the vocal repertoire accompanied by guitar. Her talk encompasses the nuances of the Latin American folk vocal repertoires accompanied from strings that we can find in the Americas. Culture, identity and collective history is covered in a very rich and ancient music who still has a lot to say about Hispanic culture.

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Instrumental Hall (Room 157) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

MARCO BATTAGLIA: *Choice of tempo, its terms and modifications in late Eighteenth- and Nineteenth Century*

19th century music specialist and guitarist Marco Battaglia will present a lecture on Choice of tempo, its terms and modifications in the late Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries. Psychological and physical factors, both of human origin and of the space in which music is performed, define or suggest different choices of tempo. Metronome marks were not supplied for many works by their composers. Terms of tempo indications developed and were modified for expressive reasons. Different types of tempo fluctuations, tempo rubato and recitative will be analyzed from period sources as treatises and musical texts

Friday, February 21, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

Recital Hall (Room 150) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center

MESUT ÖZGEN: *Designing Technical Training Programs*

Guitarist, composer, and pedagogue Dr. Mesut Özgen will present a lecture on Designing Technical Training Programs. In this lecture, Dr. Özgen will discuss the bio-mechanical principals of guitar technique and how to design short- and long-term training programs for guitarists based on exercise physiology.

All lectures are free and open to public.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

WORKSHOPS & MASTER CLASSES

Taught by the festival artists, the MIGF master classes 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. 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.

Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Instrumental Hall (Room 157) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Workshop with MURIEL ANDERSON

Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Instrumental Hall (Room 157) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Masterclass with AYSEGÜL KOCA

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Instrumental Hall (Room 157) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Masterclass/Workshop with MARCO BATTAGLIA

Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
FIU Green Library (Room 100B)
Masterclass with BENJAMIN VERDERY

Friday, February 21, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Recital Hall (Room 150) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Masterclass with KOH KAZAMA

Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Instrumental Hall (Room 157) - Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Workshop with DANGUOLE LINGYTE

LUTHIERS EXPO

The MIGF Luthiers Expo will be held in the Instrumental Hall (Room 157) located in the Nicole and Herbert Wertheim Performing Arts Center on Sunday, February 23 from 9 a.m. – 6 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!

PARTICIPATING LUTHIERS: Bill Glez Guitars, Novaes Guitars, Guitars Martinez, Henry Pagan Guitars, Roldan Perez Guitars, Mario Rodriguez Guitara, Narciso Fumero Guitars, Guitars from Spain

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

MURIEL ANDERSON

Guitarist, harp-guitarist and composer Muriel Anderson is the first woman to have won the National Fingerstyle Guitar Championship. Her "Nightlight Daylight" CD was listed as one of the top 10 CDs of the decade by Guitar Player Magazine and her "Heartstrings" accompanied the astronauts on the space shuttle. The recent CD with board game, "Sailing Dreams" is inspired by sailing to Maine with her partner Bryan Allen.

Muriel has recorded with country legend Chet Atkins and performed with Les Paul, Tommy Emmanuel, and many others at her annual Muriel Anderson's ALL STAR GUITAR NIGHT®. The event raises funds for the Music for Life Alliance, a charity she founded to help provide instruments and lessons for kids. Muriel is a gifted educator via her books and instructional DVDs, workshops and online lessons.

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.



CONCERT
Sunday, February 16
6:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP
Sunday, February 16
12:00 p.m.

www.murielanderson.com

MARCO BATTAGLIA

Specialist in nineteenth-century music who interprets with original period guitars, since 1994 he has carried out an intense activity as a soloist, also with orchestra, in over thirty countries on the five continents and has to his credit more than a thousand concerts received with flattering reviews successes with the public and critics, performing many times at prestigious venues and for international festivals, to mention, in New York, Miami (Florida International University), Radford University, London, Paris (UNESCO), Milan (Museo Teatrale alla Scala, Castello Sforzesco), Rome (Teatro dell'Opera), Moscow (Conservatory), Beijing, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Sydney, recording for the most important radio and television stations, including live performances. He has been part of the jury of numerous international competitions. After his classical studies as well as at the Civica Scuola di Musica in Milan, and obtaining a degree in Guitar at the Conservatory in 1995, he held, as the first performer ever, recitals with the three guitars belonging to the patriot Giuseppe Mazzini (who was a devotee of the instrument, as evidenced by his numerous letters) preserved at the Museo del Risorgimento in Genoa, at the Domus Mazziniana in Pisa (of which he has been appointed musician-conservator for life since 2018) and in his private collection, restored by his initiative, at the Stelline Foundation of Milan, the Carlo Felice Theater of Genoa and the Gallery of Ancient Art of the University of Pisa. Guitars from the major luthiers of the 19th century are part of his collection, including Gennaro and Giovanni Battista Fabricatore, Luigi Filano, René Lacote, Joseph Aubry Maire, Francois Roudhloff and Francesco Guadagnini. He founded and is the artistic director of two annual events, the '800MusicaFestival since 2008, and the Milano Classical Guitar Festival since 2017. Marco is the creator and coordinator of the 800 Musica Ensemble. Since 2011 he has held a master's degree on the nineteenth-century guitar promoted by a Rotary Club for four years in Milan and since 2014 for the '800 Music Academy he created. Has carried out cd productions (MAP and TACTUS, distributed also by NAXOS of America) and published musicological essays. He has recently acquired the property of manuscripts, autographs and printed musical works, some of which unknown until now, for solo guitar, as well as in duo with violin and in vocal accompaniment, by famous 19th century guitarists such as Fernando Sor, Ferdinando Carulli, Matteo Carcassi and Napoléon Coste, who will be the subject of publications (scores, CDs) and world premieres in modern times.



CONCERT
Wednesday, February 19
7:30 p.m.

LECTURE & WORKSHOP
Wednesday, February 19
1:00 p.m.

www.marcofattaglia.it

www.800musicafestival.it

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025



LECTURE & WORKSHOP

Monday, February 17
1:00 p.m.

www.federicobonacossa.com

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. in 2001. He holds a master's degree from the Peabody Conservatory, a doctorate from the University of Miami in classical guitar performance, and a master's degree from Florida International University in 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 the company composer for Dance NOW Miami and is a member of the Miami Guitar Trio. As a performer he is involved in promoting new music for guitar, especially works that feature electronics.

Recent experiences include a premiere by the Sinfonietta MIQ in Guanajuato, Mexico, and performances at University of Guanajuato, the Italian Cultural Center in Mexico City, and at the ISSTA Festival in Cork Ireland. Other venues where his work has recently been featured include the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz in Germany, Zimmermann Cafe Chamber Music Series, Frost School of Music, Wake Up Miami! Series, Palm Beach Atlantic University Early Music Festival, Aventura Cultural Arts Center, FETA Street Fest at Art Basel, Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Miami Theatre Center, Three Rivers Arts Festival (PA), Compositum Musicae Novae Artist Series, New Music Miami Festival, SEAMUS conference, SUBTROPICS Experimental Series, Slippery Rock University (PA), Miami International Guitar Festival, University of Massachusetts Amherst, The Drawing Room (NY), The Open Collective (VT), the University of Oklahoma, Peabody Conservatory (MD), and Kharkov, Ukraine. He is currently an Assistant Teaching Professor of Music Theory and Musicology at Florida International University.



CONCERT

Thursday, February 20
7:30 p.m.

MASTERCLASS

Friday, February 21
4:00 p.m.

www.kohkazama.com

KOH KAZAMA

A New York City native, Koh Kazama is a concert guitarist and educator exposing audiences to the endless possibilities of the classical guitar. He started his guitar studies at the age of six, after being inspired by a Japanese rock musician. His diverse repertoire ranges from early music played on period instruments to contemporary music using electronic effects. Dr. Kazama has performed in renowned venues, festivals, and concert series, including Carnegie Hall, Long Island Guitar Festival, Annapolis Chamber Music Festival, Symphony Space, Webster Hall, WNYC New Sounds Live series, Morse Hall (Juilliard), Mid-Hudson Classical Guitar Society, and Yale Guitar Extravaganza. He has also premiered works by a wide range of prominent composers, including Michael White (Juilliard), David Lang (Yale), William Anderson (Queens College), Paula Matthusen (Wesleyan), and Kendall Williams.

Dr. Kazama holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Stony Brook University, where he was a scholarship student and teaching assistant of the guitar department. He completed his Bachelor of Arts in psychology, Master of Music, and Artist Diploma at Yale University. He received a full scholarship to attend Yale, and he was the recipient of the Eliot Fisk Prize, which was awarded to an outstanding guitarist whose artistic achievements and dedication have contributed greatly to the department. He attended LaGuardia Arts High School in New York City, where he majored in cello and was part of the LaGuardia Symphony Orchestra. His major teachers have included Jerry Willard, Benjamin Verdery, Simon Powis, Liam Wood, Nadav Lev, and David Gonzalez.

Dr. Kazama is also a dedicated teacher who has experience teaching guitar to students of various levels and ages. He is currently on the faculty at New World School of the Arts, a partner of Miami Dade College, University of Florida, and Dade County Public Schools in Miami. He has previously taught as a guitar instructor at Yale University and Stony Brook University. He is also a former faculty member and alum of Third Street Music School Settlement, the longest-running community music school in the United States.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

GRADUS JAZZ

"...starting from our roots we try to expand our own personalities, ensuring that traditional forms move, change and go to different places..."

Curiosity, the attempt to see things that have connections, both musical, poetic, or abstract, is the essence of the music created by the Lleida brothers, Enrique and Pablo on bass guitar & piano and Santiago on drums. They currently serve as Professors at the Aragón Superior Conservatory of Music and as professors at the Monzón Conservatory. Likewise, they have offered masterclasses at universities such as those of Castilla-León and Zaragoza, as well as secondary education institutes and other Conservatories. With a long history, Gradus Jazz has performed throughout Spain and outside its borders. It represented Spain at the 2015 Milan Universal Expo with 12 concerts and its members also performed at the Zaragoza International Expo in 2008 in different shows. Based on the various groups they are part of, they have also performed in different countries in Europe, America, and Africa. At the same time, Gradus was the ambassador group of the Government of Aragon in its Tourism promotion events, acting in Barcelona, A Coruña, Seville, Málaga, Valencia, Palma de Mallorca, Alicante, Vigo, and Madrid. This group has been a pioneer in the fusion of jazz and folklore and from this fusion they released the CD titled Folklore & Jazz.

The work presented is a set of compositions that tries to evoke various "landscapes." Starting in many cases from our traditional popular music, these compositions are carefully crafted, and in them the perfect combination of different elements and sound materials is sought. Gradus has created innovative music, full of color, possibilities, as well as very attractive and accessible to all types of audiences. At the same time, some nods to classic jazz standards are included in the concerts. They have also recorded with groups such as Durme, Grooveland Trío, Llave de paso, Aragón Symphonic Band, cultural cooperation production project with Morocco 2018, Cantan l'aragonés (first opera album exclusively in Aragonese), incidental music for performances with José A. Adell and C. García, music for the film "September Light". Some of their songs have been performed by famous jazz musicians such as Ronald Baker, Ignasi González, Gerard Nieto or Xavi Hinojosa. Depending on the needs, the group has luxury collaborators: for voice (Terela Gradín and Julia Maro), guitar (Luis Giménez and Albert Cubero, formerly of Joan M. Serrat), saxophone (Fernando Lleyda and Chavi Naval).



AYSEGÜL KOCA

Aysegül Koca was born in Ankara, Turkey. She started to play guitar at the age of 8. At just 12, she was admitted to Bilkent University Music Preparatory School Department of Classical Guitar -the most prestigious conservatory in Turkey- with scholarship, and studied with Kürsad Terci and Kagan Korad until she graduates high school. In a short period of time, she accomplished a huge progress in her technique and performance, and gave many concerts and soon achieved successes at numerous guitar competitions such as José Tomas Guitar Competition in 2007 Almería-Spain (First Prize), Eduard Pamfil Young Guitarists Competition in 2005 in Romania (First Prize and Special Jury Award), National Mavi Marti Guitar Competition in 2006 Istanbul, Turkey (First Prize), National Inonu University Guitar Competition in 2008 in Turkey (Second Prize), Enrico Mercatali Guitar Competition in 2009 in Italy (Second Prize and Special Public Award).

As one of the most promising Turkish guitarists of modern generation, she took part at various events and concert series including: Antonio Lauro Guitar Biennial-Turkey (2004), ASEG Guitar Meeting-Greece (2005), Turkey Guitar Meeting (2006,2010,2012,2016,2018), Julian Arcas Guitar Festival Almeria-Spain (2008), Klasik Keyifler Ensemble Festival-Turkey (2011), ODTU Guitar Festival-Turkey (2013,2015,2017), International Guitar Week Graz-Austria (2014), CRR Guitar Festival Istanbul-Turkey 2015, International Guitar Festival EBAUABJO Oaxaca-Mexico (2015,2016), Bilkent's 30th Anniversary Festival-Turkey (2016), Gumusluk Guitar Festival Bodrum-Turkey (2016), BUAP Guitar Festival Puebla-Mexico (2016), Taxco Guitar Festival-Mexico (2017), Paracho Guitar Festival-Mexico (2017), La Guitarra Hoy-Mexico (2017), Acerra Guitar Meetings-Naples Italy (2017), North Cyprus International Music Festival (2017), Guitar Camera Celaya Festival-Mexico (2017), Queretaro Guitar Meeting-Mexico (2017), Istanbul Guitar Festival-Turkey (2018).

She holds a doctoral degree in guitar performance from Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University and currently teaches at Ankara Music and Fine Arts University.



CONCERT
Monday, February 17
7:30 P.m.

MASTERCLASS
Sunday, February 16
1:00 p.m.

www.kohkazama.com

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025



LUCIANA KUBE

Luciana Kube is a Venezuelan singer who, for two decades, has shared her country's musical tradition with the world. She studied in the Simón Bolívar Conservatory in Caracas, and the Conservatori del Liceu in Barcelona.

A former member of the Camerata Barroca de Caracas, conducted by Isabel Palacios, Luciana has specialized as a singer in the Venezuelan repertoire, which she performed in her homeland, but also in Spain and the United States with renowned musicians like Saúl Vera, Jesús González Brito, Orlando Cardozo, Roberto Koch, Héctor Molina, David Moreira, Laura Lambuley, Omar Acosta, Carlos Silva, and Adolfo Herrera, among many others.

She collaborated in productions as a soloist with Luis Fernando Cárdenas, Jorge Nunes and Orlando Cardozo. She has performed with Jesús González Brito on various stages of Madrid, like the Sala Clamores or the Anthropological Museum. She was part of the Ars Antiqua-Ars Nova chamber group in Madrid directed by Isaac Fernández de la Morena from 2013 to 2015. In those years she participated in the choir of operas and zarzuelas Agua, Azucarillos y aguardiente, La traviata, Carmen and Madame Butterfly. In 2016 she played the role of the Countess of Ceprano in the Rigoletto directed by Fernando Alvarez at the Compac Theater in Madrid. Also, she performed as a soloist in Vivaldi's Gloria directed by Enrique Filiú.

She has lived in the United States since July 2016, where, in addition to completing her PhD in Hispanic Literature at FIU, she has participated in various concerts at the Miami Dade County Auditorium, at FIU's WPAC, Theater Roca and Paseo de las Artes, as well as being invited by music group El Fuego to sing at the Tallahassee "Loco for Love" Festival under the baton of Venezuelan guitarist and singer Salomé Sandoval in March 2022. Luciana combines her academic approach to the music with her performance practice.

CONCERT

Serenata
Latinoamericana
Saturday, February 15
7:30 p.m.

LECTURE

Tuesday, February 18
3:30 p.m.



HÉCTOR MOLINA

An exceptional Venezuelan composer, cuatro and guitar player who earned the Bachelor of Music Degree in Composition from UNEARTE (Experimental University of the Arts) Venezuela, Héctor Molina has shared the stage with very acclaimed musicians.

He is a founder member (2000) of the Venezuelan music ensemble "Los Sinvergüenzas". His work with "Los Sinvergüenzas" has already been included in five recording productions.

In 2010 he won the 2nd Prize at the Composition Competition "José Fernandez Rojas" in Spain, with his work "Suite Latinoamericana" for Plectrum Orchestra.

Hector belongs to "C4 Trío" (2005) along with Jorge Glem, Edward Ramirez and Rodner Padilla. With C4 Trio he has recorded six albums and a DVD and has been nominated five times for the Latin Grammys and has won two; in 2014 as "Best Recording Engineering for an Album" for the album "De Repente" and in 2019 as "Best Folkloric Album" for "Tiempo al tiempo". Also with "C4 Trío" he has been nominated twice for the Grammy Awards in 2018 with the album "Pa Fuera" and in 2020 with "Tiempo al tiempo". With "C4 Trío" he maintains an intense concert schedule in the most important theaters and festivals in North, Central, South America and Europe.

In 2018 Héctor release his first album called "Giros", where some of the most important Venezuelan musicians participate and where he shows more of his role as a composer. In 2022 he releases the album "Travesía", an album of Cuatro soloists.

CONCERT

Serenata
Latinoamericana
Saturday, February 15
7:30 p.m.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

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 the program coordinator of guitar studies and the FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra. He has performed and taught master classes throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, Cuba, and Turkey and was the director of guitar studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz from 1998-2013. Prizewinner of several international guitar competitions, Özgen has performed as featured soloist in many festivals, including the International Paco Peña Guitar Festival in Cordoba, Spain, Suoni dal legno International Guitar Festival in Todi, Italy, Milano Classical Guitar Festival in Italy, Thailand International Guitar Festival in Bangkok, Thailand, Lahontan International Guitar Festival in Navarrenx, France, Galeria en Concierto Series in Havana, Cuba, Nordhorn International Guitar Festival in Germany, Yale Guitar Extravaganza, Sierra Nevada Guitar Festival, Radford University International Guitar Festival, Santa Cruz Baroque Festival, Healdsburg Guitar Festival, Smithsonian Museum, April in Santa Cruz: Contemporary Music Festival, Cabrillo College Distinguished Artists Series, New Music Miami Festival, Ankara METU Music and Art Festival, Kars Art Festival, Konya Mevlana (Rumi) Cultural Center, and Istanbul CRR Guitar Festival in Turkey among others. He was also the founder, director, and conductor of the Santa Cruz Guitar Orchestra between 2010-2013..

Özgen's first solo CD "Troubadour" feature classical guitar works inspired by Turkish, Spanish, Argentinean, and American folk traditions and was reviewed by the Guitar Review magazine as "a shining example of this guitarist's great talent." His award-winning multimedia concert DVD "New Dimensions in Classical Guitar" includes premiere performances of new guitar works with visual accompaniments comprising video, interactive computer images, and particularized lighting design. The Classical Guitar magazine said of this recording "the finest music DVD ever to have come my way, remarkable achievement." His latest CD "Anatolian Fantasy" features entirely his own compositions for solo guitar, two guitars, soprano-guitar, flute-cello-guitar, and kemenche-cello-guitar.

As a performer, Özgen has collaborated with many renowned musicians, such as Anthony Newman (harpsichord/piano/organ), Deepak Ram (bansuri), Benjamin Verdery (guitar), Cihat Aşkın (violin), and William Coulter (steel string guitar). As a pedagogue, Özgen has published a book entitled Designing Technical Training Programs for Classical Guitarists Based on Exercise Physiology Principles. In this extensive research book, he combined information from various sub-disciplines of kinesiology, including functional anatomy, biomechanics, and exercise physiology, as they relate to guitar playing. As a composer, he has received commissions from musicians, universities, and chamber music organizations. Özgen's compositions are mainly based on or influenced by traditional Turkish music. Among his other influences are Spanish composer Joaquin Rodrigo's use of flamenco music and Turkish scholar/composer Yalçın Tura's harmonization techniques.

Özgen has also long been a strong advocate of new music for guitar and frequently collaborates with other composers. Composers who have written solo, concerto, and various ensemble music for Özgen include Anthony Gilbert, Pablo Victor Ortiz, Anthony Newman, Benjamin Verdery, Jack Vees, Deepak Ram, Christopher Pratorius, Robert Strizich, Charles Nichols, Paul Nauert, Yalçın Tura, David Evan Jones, Peter Elsea, David Cope, Erdem Helvacioğlu, Ken Walicki, Phil Collins, Carlos Rafael Rivera, Fredrick Kaufman, Sergio Assad, and Stephen Goss.

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.



CONCERT
FIU Miami
GuitART Orchestra
Tuesday, February 18
7:30 p.m.

LECTURE
Friday, February 21
3:00 p.m.

www.mesutozgen.com

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025



DANGUOLE LINGYTE

Danguolė Lingytė is a Lithuanian classical guitarist, active lecturer and esteemed jury member, celebrated for her contributions to the international classical guitar community. Her career as a performer, educator, and judge exemplifies her dedication to advancing the art of classical guitar.

Lingyte has performed in Italy, Ukraine, Belgium, Germany, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Canada, United Kingdom and other countries. Her recent projects included participating the recent “Klasika Trakuose” Classical Music Festival (Lithuania), Istanbul Guitar Festival (Turkey), ZhDK Zurich (Switzerland), B-side Festival Portland (United Kingdom). Danguole is also interested in collaborative international projects with performers and inter-disciplinary contemporary music installations with on peak composers.

She is a regular guest lecturer, giving workshops, delivering lectures and masterclasses at various festivals and institutions, such as the Hong Kong Music Institute (HK), Ionian University in (Greece), Huahin Guitar (Thailand), Music and Ballet College Tallin (Estonia). Danguole’s contributions are not only recognized with the gratitude letters from Vilnius Mayor but are were featured in the prestigious “Pasaulio Lietuvis” (The World Lithuanian) journal, published by the World Lithuanian Community (PLB) in October 2019. It is important to mention, Danguole is also supported by the Lithuanian Council for Culture (LKT), RCS Trust Scholarship, and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Foundation.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in music from the Maastricht Conservatorium (studying under guidance of prof. Carlo Marchione), a Master of Music in Performance from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (under supervision of prof. Allan Neave), and a Master’s Degree in Education from the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy. During her studies, she enriched her artistry by participating in courses and masterclasses with the world’s most esteemed guitarists and educators, including Prof. Lorenzo Micheli (Switzerland/Italy), Ricardo Gallen (Spain/Germany), Pavel Steidl (Czech Republic), Vladimir Gorbach (Russia/Australia), Judicaël Perroy at Tignes “MusicAlps” (France), Łukasz Kuropaczewski Guitar Course (Poland), and many other leading guitarists.

CONCERT

Sunday, February 23
1:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP

Sunday, February 23
2:30 p.m.



CARLOS SERRANO

Carlos Serrano is a Colombian born musician. He has completed a masters degree in Classical Guitar at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Carlos is a prize winner of the 19th Annual FIU Concerto Competition and holds a Bachelors Degree in Classical Guitar Performance from Florida International University. His commitment to the guitar and talent have enabled him to perform in master classes given by guitar virtuosos such as Shin-Ichi Fukuda, Aniello Desiderio, Ricardo Gallen, David Russell, Pepe Romero, Manuel Barrueco and Baroque music specialist Anthony Newman among many others. In addition, he was granted an honorable mention at the 2016 South Florida Young Artist competition.

Carlos Serrano has performed in several events presented by organizations such as The Miami Classical Guitar Society, Marcus Theaters, The Milwaukee Classical guitar Society, Perla de Esperanza Foundation, Florida Guitar Foundation, Guitar Sarasota and the Madison Guitar Society. Besides these events, Carlos has performed with the Milwaukee Mandolin Orchestra, FIU Miami Guitar Orchestra, FIU Jazz Guitar Ensemble and the FGF Guitar Ensemble. Carlos Serrano has studied with Rene Izquierdo, Federico Bonacossa, Rafael Padron and guitarist/composer Mesut Ozgen.

Carlos has held teaching positions at the Grammy-award nominated Latino Arts Strings program, the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and the Superior Academy of Music (Miami). Currently, he works as General Music Instructor at Gertrude K. Edelman Sabal Palm Elementary and holds the Guitar Instructor position at Barry University.

CONCERT

Sunday, February 23
1:00 p.m.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

BENJAMIN VERDERY

Called an 'iconoclastic player' by the New York Times, Ben Verdery has performed throughout Europe, North/South America, Europe, Australia, and Asia, including at the Metropolitan Opera, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Concertgebouw, 92Y Kaufmann Auditorium and guitar festivals around the world. Throughout his career, Verdery's recitals have been noted for lyricism, invention, complexity, dynamism, and eclecticism.

As a recording artist, Ben's discography is extensive, with over 18 recordings. He has released albums of original and arranged material. Verdery has composed works for classical and non-classical guitar, for solo and duo, guitar quartets, guitar Orchestras and chamber groups, for himself and others including The Assad Duo, Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, guitarists David Russell, Scott Tennant, David Tanenbaum, John Williams, and John Etheridge.

February 2020 New Focus Records released Scenes from Ellis Island, Guitar Music of Ben Verdery with guest artists Simon Powis (guitar), Guilherme Monegatto (cello), Hawa Kasse Mady Diabate (vocals) and Mark Martin (beatboxer, mixed vocalist). In 2023 New Focus Records released A Giant Beside You with the award-winning Ulysses String Quartet. The CD features 4 world premier quintets including Bryce Dessner's Quintet For High Strings.

He has released over 30 curated videos. The repertoire ranges from solo Bach to Jimi Hendrix. In addition, he has released duo videos with an array of disquieted artists, artists including flutist Rie Schmidt, Tenor, James Taylor, Hip Hop Artist Billy Dean, Violist Ettore Causa Steel String Guitarists William Coulter, Beat Boxer vocalist Mark Martin, Electric guitarist Andy Summers and saxophonist Wayne Escoffery.

Many of the leading composers of our time have created music for Ben, including Ezra Laderman, Daniel Asia, Martin Bresnick, Elizabeth Brown, Bryce Dessner, Javier Farias, Thomas Flippin, Aaron Kernis, John Anthony Lennon, David Leisner, Hannah Lash, Ingram Marshall, Anthony Newman, Roberto Sierra, Van Stiefel, Christopher Theofanidis, and Jack Veas.

Ben owes much to his guitar teachers Philip De Fremery and Frederic Hand, both of whom he studied with at SUNY Purchase, along with his mentors Anthony Newman and Seymour Bernstein. The Master Classes he took in Arles, France with Leo Brouwer were seminal for Ben as well.

Verdery has been a guitar professor at the Yale School of Music since 1985. He has also taught at New York University, Manhattan School of Music, Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, and Centro Flamenco Paco Peña (Spain). His teaching philosophy balances technique, interpretation, and performance, while also emphasizing curiosity, intuition, and the physical relationship to the instrument.

Ben Verdery was the Artistic Director of 92nd Street Y's Art of the Guitar series from 2007-2020, served as Artistic Director of the D'Addario Foundation for the Performing Arts, and was Producer of his Maui Summer Master Class from 1999-2023. Ben is also an Honorary Board Member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas.

Benjamin Verdery is represented by GAMI/Simonds
<http://www.gamisimonds.com/verdery>
www.benjaminverdery.com

Social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/benjamin.verdery>

<https://www.instagram.com/benverdery/>

<https://twitter.com/benverdery>



CONCERT
Friday, February 21
7:30 p.m.

MASTERCLASS
Thursday, February 20
9:30 a.m.

www.benjaminverdery.com

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

FIU MIAMI GuitART ORCHESTRA

CONCERT
Tuesday, February 18
7:30 p.m.

The FIU Miami GuitART Orchestra was founded in 2013 by its current director guitarist/composer Mesut Özgen. The 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, "Scenes from Ellis Island" by Benjamin Verdery, "Strum" by Phil Collins, "Quaditorio" by Jack Vees, "Snapshots by the Bay" by Chris Pratorius, "Mountain Mission" by Adam Cotton, "Following the Wind" by Mark Aitken, "Twangology" by Mark Houghton, "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, "Tantra" by Carlos Rafael Rivera, "Rhapsodie en La for saxophone and guitar ensemble" by Sebastian Vachez, "How to Steal a Monster's Heart" by Josh Friedman, and the guitar orchestra arrangement of Giuliani's "Grand Overture" by Peter Constant. Some of the other repertoire performed by the ensemble include works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Edvard Grieg, Bryan Johanson, John Duarte, Takashi Ogawa, and Richard Charlton.

The orchestra meets three times a week and presents regular public concerts both on and off campus in the fall and spring, including the Miami International GuitART Festival. All students who are enrolled in guitar lessons at the FIU School of Music Guitar Program are required to enroll in the guitar orchestra. 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 may also audition and, if accepted, can enroll as a non-degree seeking student or join the rehearsals and concerts without curricular credits.

All guitarists, both professional and amateur, who would like to perform in the FIUMGO concerts with the orchestra, may contact the orchestra director via email for an audition.



SPONSORS

X. MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL 2025

THANK YOU!

The **Miami International GuitART Festival**, an annual musical event of the FIU School of Music, brings internationally acclaimed artists for the benefit of audiences in Miami and South Florida, providing music of the highest quality in culturally diverse styles together with educational and academic opportunities for students, visitors, and residents. With your help, we aim to continue our festival and increase our outreach efforts by bringing music to all parts of the South Florida community.

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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- Ana Fraga
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(continued)

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- Frank Koonce
- Ricardo Lopez
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- Eduardo Macadar
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- Joseph Marks
- Jaima Mayoral
- J.P. McShane
- Smilka Melgoza
- Tülay Sahinöz Miller
- Norene Monahan
- Kimberly Moore
- Terri Neidhold
- Mercedes Obando
- John Pereda & Jhenique Valez

PATRON

(continued)

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- Birgitta Rausch-Montoto
- Anthony Rivera
- Gene Rosenberg
- Steve Sawyer
- Maria Serrano
- John Stuart
- David Tanenblatt
- Fiorella Terenzi
- Steven Den Toom Guitars
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- Leanne Wells
- Luisa Wong
- Helena Yeaman
- Hassan Zahedi-Jasbi
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Miami International GuitART Festival has been made possible with the support of the following organizations:



The Miami International GuitART Festival is sponsored in part by the Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council of Arts and Culture and the State of Florida (Section 286.25, Florida Statutes).



With the support of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, as part of its Knight Arts Challenge Award.



With the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, as part of its Art Works grant.



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Classical Guitar Faculty
Mesut Özgen
Coordinator of Guitar Studies
Artistic Director of
Miami International GuitART Festival



WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL GUITART FESTIVAL

AND SALUTE

THE FIU WERTHEIM SCHOOL OF MUSIC FOR
ENHANCING OUR LIVES THROUGH MUSIC.

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Classical Guitar Faculty
Mesut Özgen
Coordinator of Guitar Studies
Artistic Director of
Miami International GuitART Festival



WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT

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AND SALUTE THE FIU WERTHEIM SCHOOL OF MUSIC
FOR BRINGING WONDERFUL MUSICIANS
TO SOUTH FLORIDIANS.

BRONCIA CANKAT AND MUSTAFA CANKAT

Welcome to the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim School of Music & Performing Arts!

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!

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Herbert and Nicole Wertheim
School of Music & Performing Arts

Modesto A. Maidique Campus
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Miami FL 33199
Email: wpacmusic@fiu.edu
Phone: 305-348-0496



CONCERT SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm

SERENATA LATINOAMERICANA

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 WPAC CONCERT HALL 6:00 pm

MURIEL ANDERSON

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm

AYSEGÜL KOCA

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm

FIU MIAMI GUITART ORCHESTRA

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm

MARCO BATTAGLIA

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm

KOH KAZAMA

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21 WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:30pm

BENJAMIN VERDERY

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

WPAC Instrumental Hall 9:00am-6:00pm

LUTHIERS EXPO

WPAC CONCERT HALL 1:00pm

CARLOS SERRANO & DANGUOLE LINGYTE

\$15 general; \$10 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$3 student

WPAC CONCERT HALL 7:00pm

GRADUS JAZZ TRIO

\$20 general; \$15 senior, FIU faculty & staff; \$5 student

ARTISTS

Benjamin Verdery (USA)
Muriel Anderson (USA)
Marco Battaglia (Italy)
Federico Bonacossa (Italy/USA)
Koh Kazama (USA)
Aysegül Koca (Türkiye)
Luciana Kube (Venezuela/USA)
Danguole Lingyte (Lithuania)
Enrique Lleida (Spain)
Pablo Lleida (Spain)
Santiago Lleida (Spain)
Hector Molina (Venezuela/USA)
Mesut Özgen (USA/Türkiye)
LUIS QUINTERO SANTAMARIA (Venezuela)

LECTURES

Marco Battaglia
Federico Bonacossa
Luciana Kube
Mesut Özgen

WORKSHOPS

Muriel Anderson
Marco Battaglia
Danguole Lingyte

MASTERCLASSES

Benjamin Verdery
Koh Kazama
Aysegül Koca

LUTHIERS EXPO

Bill Glez Guitars
Guitars from Spain
Guitars Martinez
Novaes Guitars
Henry Pagan Guitars
Roldan Perez Guitars
Mario Rodriguez Guitars
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