

# Guitarist

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## Annual Classical Guitarathon

Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University

Saturday, May 28th, 8 pm



see article on page 2

*Also in this issue: Local Artists Series concert by Jacob Jonker, News and Notes, Guitar Summit in Fergus Falls, and more!*

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Every year we conclude the Minnesota Guitar Society's concert series at Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University with a Classical Guitarathon—the annual renewal of a tradition that extends over 25 years to the very founding of our organization. This season's installment is going to especially memorable, in that the first half of the concert showcases some of the exciting younger classical guitars who have emerged in the region. The second half of the concert will be equally noteworthy, as we bring to the stage several long-time MGS members, playing one world premiere, one favorite of the modern standard repertoire, and two compositions by legendary Minnesota teacher and guitarist James McGuire. Make your reservations now! Call our info line at 612 677-1151. The concert date is Saturday, May 28th. The time is 8 pm. Read on to meet the performers and learn more about the program they'll play.

**Luke Banchy** has studied guitar with Alan Johnston for twelve years at the MacPhail Center for Music, where he has also studied piano. Luke has played in the MacPhail Guitar Quartet for three years and earlier played in a guitar trio, with which he performed live on KARE 11 Television. The quartet's past performances include a live radio broadcast on KBEM radio in Minneapolis. Luke has attended the American Suzuki Institute in Stevens Point, Wisconsin five times, and attended the 2010 Guitar Foundation of America convention. He has served as accompanist for the Rosemount High School Women's Ensemble, and numerous church services. In addition to guitar, Luke sings in three Rosemount High School choirs and next year Luke will sing as a tenor and baritone in the top men's and mixed choirs. In addition to music, Luke enjoys riding bikes, snow boarding, Frisbee, volleyball, tennis, golf, and lacrosse. He has also been active in Boy Scouts where he earned the rank of Eagle Scout.



**Kevin Carlson** has enjoyed a life-long career of guitar driven performance, teaching, and liturgical music. He holds a Bachelor of Music (Summa) from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (1987), as well as a Professional Guitar Degree from Musicians Institute (GIT)

in Los Angeles (1988). In addition to performing as a freelance soloist and ensemble guitarist, Kevin directs the Childbloom / PMI Guitar School, and is on staff as Music Director at Christ Church Newman Center—both in St. Cloud. Kevin currently serves on the Minnesota Music Teachers Association (MMTA) Board of Directors as Vice President of Voice / Instrumental Programs.



**Peggy Doerrie** has served as Principal Flutist with the St. Cloud Symphony since 1990 and Northern Symphony since 2003, and has been a concerto soloist with both orchestras. She received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Flute Performance from the University of Minnesota (studio of Elaine Eagle) and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Cornell College in Iowa. She has done additional professional flute master class study with Linda Chatterton, Wissam Boustany, Julia Bogorad-Kogan, Julius Baker, Jeanne Baxtresser, Samuel Baron, and Mary Roberts Wilson. Peggy has done extensive solo recital playing including Thursday Musical Artist and Community Concert Series, American Swedish Institute, Schubert Club, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Landmark Center, and various benefit recitals. Peggy's playing has been heard in many ensembles including the Kenwood Chamber Orchestra, Lametti Chamber Winds, Kenwood Trio, Windsong Duo (flute & harp), Guitar and the Wind (flute & guitar duo), Flute Choir Tour in France, and Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theater. Peggy is active as a flute instructor and liturgical musician in the Twin Cities area. In addition to her music activities, she is the Office Coordinator at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church in Minneapolis.



**James Flegel** is on the School of Music faculty at the University of Minnesota and at the University of Minnesota-Morris. He also recently joined the faculty of the MacPhail Center for Music as a Suzuki Guitar Instructor. He has performed, taught, and adjudicated competitions in Texas, Georgia, Ohio, New Mexico,

*continued on p. 3*



HAMLINE  
UNIVERSITY

**Sundin Hall is on Hamline U. Campus at 1536 Hewitt Ave. in St. Paul.**

**Directions:** from I-94, head north on Snelling Ave. in St. Paul, past University Ave. to Hewitt Ave. Turn right, Sundin Hall is on your left, a half-block east of Snelling. Free parking is available one block past the hall, in lots off Hewitt (on your right) or off Pascal (1 block north).

# Sundin Hall Concert Series

Classical Guitarathon, *continued from p. 2*

Wisconsin, and throughout Minnesota. This year he will perform concerts in Indiana and Kansas, as well as Chicago, St. Paul, and Duluth. In addition to many solo recitals and performances as an accompanist, he has performed as soloist with orchestras in Joaquin Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* and Vivaldi's Concerto in D. He has also worked with his wife, pianist Emilia Flegel, to arrange and perform concerti by Rodrigo, Giuliani, Vivaldi, and Ponce, as well as chamber works by Bach, Falla, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, and Ponce. He recently completed his first CD, featuring solo guitar music by Spanish and South American composers. Dr. Flegel earned bachelor's degrees in both music and psychology from St. Olaf College, where he studied guitar and renaissance lute with James McGuire. He earned a master's degree in composition from the University of Minnesota, where he studied under Paul Fetter (Composition and Counterpoint), Dominick Argento (Composition and Orchestration), and Michael Cherlin (Musical Analysis). He also earned Master and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in guitar performance at the U of M, studying under Jeffrey Van. He has also studied extensively with Robert Guthrie, and has studied and performed flamenco with Michael Hauser.



**Christopher Garwood** has been playing classical guitar since age 5, under the instruction of Alan Johnston at MacPhail Center for Music. He enjoys participation in local and national competitions, and has placed second in Thursday Musical competitions between 2009 and 2011. As a soloist and ensemble member, he

has been selected for masterclasses with Gilbert Biberian, Sharon Isbin, Kristian Anderson, Andrew Zohn, William Kanengiser, Benjamin Verdery, SoloDuo, the Paris Guitar Duo, and the Eden-Stell Duo. As a member of the MacPhail Guitar Quartet since the age of 11, he has performed in a past MGS Guitarathon (2004), debuted a quartet compositions by David Crittenden at the National Suzuki Association Conference in Minneapolis (2006), and was selected to perform on the NPR radio show *From the Top* (November 2008). Christopher plays a variety of guitar styles in his school's jazz band, choir, and student combos, and is a percussionist in his high school's nationally recognized wind ensemble. He has been awarded a Trustee Scholarship at the University of Southern California, where he plans to continue classical guitar studies this fall.



**Xavier Jara** is 17 years old. He began studying guitar at the age of 12 with Christopher Becknell, and now studies with Alan Johnston at the MacPhail Center for Music. In 2009, Xavier won 1st place in both the Thursday Musical and the Schubert Club scholarship competitions. He has played in numerous recitals associated with these

competitions. In 2010 he was awarded a performance scholarship from the MacPhail Center for Music. Also in 2010, he

*Classical Guitarathon, continued on p. 4*

## 2011 Classical Guitarathon Program

**Henry Johnston** plays Fantasia by John Dowland

**Christopher Garwood** plays Vals Op. 8, no. 3 by Agustin Barrios Mangore

**Austin Wahl** plays *Black Decameron* mvt. III  
"Ballada de la Doncella Enamorada" by Leo Brouwer

**Xavier Jara** plays *Sonata Romantica* mvt. 4 by Manuel Ponce

The **Garwood-Jara Duo** plays II. Sombrio and III. Avenida Centenario from *Tres Piezas de Otono* by Maximo Diego Pujol

The MacPhail Guitar Quartet (**Austin Wahl, Luke Banchy, Henry Johnston, Xavier Jara**) plays *Valses Poeticos* by Enrique Granados

Intermission

**Gene Swanson** plays Suite No. 3 in Popular Style (1989) by James McGuire

1. Prelude
2. Alla Burlesca
3. Lament
4. Interlude
5. Finale (Gigue)

**Kevin Carlson and Gene Swanson** play Suite for Two Guitars (1986) by James McGuire

1. Prelude
2. Blue
3. Flexible
4. Romance
5. Tropicico

**Kevin Carlson and Peggy Doerrie** play Five Duets for Flute and Guitar by Robert Maderich  
Tango, Waltz, Samba, Lullaby, and Polka  
World premiere of this work by a Minnesota composer!

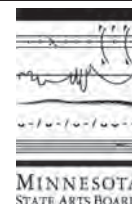
**James Flegel** plays *Suite del Recuerdo* by José Luis Merlin

- I. Evocacion
- II. Zamba
- III. Chacarera
- IV. Carnavalito
- V. Evocacion (Reprise)
- VI. Joropo

**To reserve tickets for any Sundin Hall concert, please call our phone line at 612-677-1151.**

The Minnesota Guitar Society concert season is co-sponsored by Sundin Hall. The Minnesota Guitar Society is a fiscal year 2010 recipient of an Arts Tour Minnesota grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is funded, in part, by the Minnesota arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008. Matching funds have been provided by General Mills, AT&T, and Ameriprise Financial.

We thank those corporations, the MN State Arts Board, and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council for their support.



# Sundin Concert Series

Classic Guitarathon, *continued from p. 3*

performed a concert for Dr. Paul Wirth's "Salon se Leve" concert series. In 2011 he received 1st place in the youth division of the Indiana International Guitar Competition. He has also performed on the classical station of Minnesota Public Radio several times. Xavier has performed in masterclasses with Judicael Perroy, Jeremy Jouve, Florian Larousse, the Eden-Stell duo, Benjamin Verdery, Carlos Perez, Lily Afshar, Cem Duruo, SoloDuo, and Michael Partington. Xavier Jara performs on a guitar made by Stephen Kakos.



**Henry Johnston**, age 14, began studying guitar at the age of 6 with his father, Alan Johnston. In 2009 he won second place in the Guitar Foundation of America's International Guitar Competition, in the age 14 and under division, and in 2010, he won the Thursday Musical competition in Minneapolis. In April of this year, Henry performed at the Fitzgerald

Theatre in St. Paul, as one of five winners of *Minnesota Varsity*, Minnesota Public Radio's new competition for young classical singers and instrumentalists. Also this April, Henry was the youngest competitor ever to win first prize in the Schubert Club Competition for guitarists aged 24 and under. Henry has also studied under guitarists Kristian Anderson and Joseph Pecoraro, and has performed in masterclasses with William Kanengiser, Antigoni Goni, Thomas Viloteau, and Florian Larousse, among others. He is an active chamber musician and performs regularly with the MacPhail Guitar Quartet, which has been featured on television and radio. Henry performs on a guitar made for him by Stephen Kakos.



**Gene Swanson** has diverse performing experience ranging from Scandinavian folk music to classical, rock, and jazz. Past work includes performances with Finish folk Singer Petra Zilliacus, guitarist Scott Fraser, vocalist/flutist Suzanne Holtz, and the all-originals sextet, J.P. and the Lava Lizards as co-founder/guitarist/composer. Appearances include the

American Swedish Institute of Minneapolis, Midwest Country Music Theatre, the Minnesota Governor's mansion, and Minnesota Public Radio. Gene holds a Bachelor of Music degree in guitar performance from the University of Minnesota, where he studied with Jeffrey Van and James McGuire, and is the 1989 fretted instruments first place winner of the Schubert Club Competition. He currently lives in St. Paul and teaches guitar privately, and is on the faculty of Minnesota Valley Conservatory of Music.



**Austin Wahl** has studied the classical guitar since 1998 with Alan Johnston at the MacPhail Center for Music. In addition to classical guitar, he also plays rock, jazz, and bluegrass. Austin has won top prizes in several competitions, including the 2008, 2009, and 2010 Minnesota State Fair Flatpicking Competitions, as well as first prizes in the

2010 Schubert Club Student Scholarship Competition and 2011 Thursday Musical Young Artist Scholarship Competition. In April of this year, he performed at the Fitzgerald Theatre as one of five winners in the Minnesota Public Radio sponsored competition, *Minnesota Varsity*. In addition to guitar, Austin also plays the French horn, mandolin, banjo, and bass.

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## The Duluth Connection

**W**e're delighted that the next (and last) concert in our 2011-12 Local Artists Series features MGS member Jacob Jonker, an outstanding young classical guitarist and educator. The concert, at 2 pm on Sunday, May 1st at Banfill-Locke

Center for the Arts, is free and open to the public. Arrive a bit early for a good seat—space is limited. A St. Paul native, Jacob earned a Master's Degree in Guitar Performance from the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities and has been teaching for the University of Minnesota—Duluth since 2008. In 2007, he was the First Prize winner in the Schubert Club Scholarship Competition. He also won second prize in the 2008 Thursday Musical Competition. Jacob is a registered Suzuki Guitar instructor and also has a growing private studio in Duluth, where he lives with his wife Laura. He was instrumental (you'll pardon the pun) in helping us arrange for two of this season's Sundin Hall concert series artists—Laura Young last October and Florian Larousse in February—to each perform an additional concert at UMD's Weber Hall. We hope the partnership with UMD's Music Department and guitar program will continue. We're glad for Jacob's assistance with that, and glad he was able to take time from a very busy schedule not only to commit to playing for us in May, but also to respond to a request for an e-interview with the following thoughtful and interesting answers. Let's meet the artist!

### E-Interview

**Q:** How did you get started on the guitar?

**A:** I had some "music shop" lessons on electric guitar in junior high and early high school but after my teacher moved away I just kind of floated on my own for while. I got really into "fingertapping" acoustic guitar soloists like Billy McLaughlin and emulated that style for a while, sort of figuring things out by ear. I played a lot of "coffee-shop" type gigs and even recorded an album of solo guitar music. Eventually I hit a wall and it was clear I needed more

structured education if I was to get around it.

**Q:** Who have you studied with?

**A:** My first formal instructor was Joe Hagedorn at the University of Wisconsin—River Falls. I had decided to become a music major, frankly without much clear idea what I was getting into. I really had to work hard to get on track and catch up on technique and music theory. Even then I have to admit it probably wasn't until the 3rd or 4th year that I got really serious about it.

After that I went to the U of M and studied with Jeffrey Van. Grad school is really where the guitar world started opening up for me. Again, not coming from a background in classical guitar I quickly realized how little I knew and tried to fill in my knowledge as quickly as possible. Nowadays I feel more competent, but of course you never really stop learning, do you?

**Q:** Tell us about the guitar community in the Duluth area.

**A:** There is a very strong art and music scene in Duluth /Superior for a city of its size. We have a symphony orchestra and three universities with well-developed music programs. In addition to myself, there is one other classical guitar instructor, Tyler Kaiser, at UW-Superior and St. Scholastica.

There are a lot of guitar students at UMD, though the focus is more on jazz studies than classical. Billy Barnard has been teaching there for over 30 years and is a bit of a local legend. He's the real deal, you might say. I've really enjoyed learning about the "jazz world" from him as that's another side to the instrument I'm pretty ignorant of. I'm hoping to make more time to learn from him in the future.

For my part, I've been building my Suzuki guitar studio and just trying to get more people interested in the classical repertoire. I'm still the new kid in town relatively but I'd say my studio has settled to a point where I'm comfortable, and I'm starting to see really exciting results in my students.

**Q:** How did you get interested in the Suzuki method?

**A:** After finishing my master's degree I was looking for another direction to take. I was already talking to people at UMD about teaching when I learned that there was an established Suzuki program affiliated with the campus, and that they didn't have a guitar instructor. It seemed like an obvious void for me to fill. Truthfully I wasn't totally sure what I was getting into but by the time I was a few days into the first institute I was really enthusiastic about it. It's been an extremely rewarding experience ever since. I'm really glad I made that decision.

**Q:** Do you combine that approach with other methods in your teaching?

**A:** I do, but the way I work with children is still vastly different. With adult students you can be much more direct whereas kids often need diversions to keep them on task. Also, while I still use the Suzuki pieces with many of my adult students, I also tend to supplement a lot more with outside repertoire than I do with the young ones. I like the Sagreras method

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### Jacob Jonker, solo concert

Sunday, May 1st, 8 pm

Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts,  
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<[www.banfill-locke.org](http://www.banfill-locke.org)>.

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## MGS Member Thurston H. Davini Passes Away

Long-time member of the MGS Thurston H. Davini died Thursday the 31st of March, 2011 at Bethany Riverside Nursing Home in La Crosse, Wisconsin. She was 89 years old.

Born on March 9, 1922 in Oconto, Wisconsin, she attended school in Milwaukee and Chicago before moving with her family to Massachusetts. There she met and married William J. Davini, of Worcester, Massachusetts. They were married for twelve years before his death in 1960. She was preceded in death by her parents, Raymond and Grace Heath. Thurston received her Bachelor and Master of Arts Degrees in History from the University of Wisconsin in 1968 and 1970, respectively. After completing a Master of Arts Degree in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin in 1972, she accepted the position of head librarian at the UW School of Social Work Library and served until her retirement in 1985.

A lover of music, she was an accomplished performer and teacher of classical piano and guitar. MGS Artistic Director Joe Hagedorn recalls her commitment to lifelong learning as a musician during the semester she took lessons from him at UW-River Falls a decade ago. She had a particular love for early music and played recorder, guitar, and viola da gamba for many years in the Madison area with the early music group Encore. She continued to be involved in music performance and teaching after moving to Rochester, Minnesota in 1996. She was an enthusiastic volunteer with the Rochester Public Library and active in many organizations—she was a member of the Wisconsin Historical Society, the Viola da Gamba Society of America, the Minnesota Guitar Society, and the American Association of University Women. Thurston also loved to travel and made several trips to Germany, Italy, and France. She was accomplished in foreign languages and was also a voracious reader.

She is survived by her brother, Charles Heath of Houston, Texas, her children and their spouses, Grace and Fred Hatton, of Hawley, Pennsylvania; Paul Davini and Weihua of Orange

Park, Florida; William and Ruth Davini of Minneapolis; Peter and Debbie Davini of Poynette, Wisconsin; and Mark Davini and Barbara Kelsey of La Crescent, Minnesota. She is also survived by eleven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, three nieces, and two grandnieces.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Wisconsin Historical Society, 816 State St., Madison, WI 53706 or to Compassion and Choices at their website <[www.compassionandchoices.org](http://www.compassionandchoices.org)>.

Friends and members of the MGS may wish to attend a memorial service that will be held at 1:00 p.m. on May 14th at Plymouth Congregational Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave., in Minneapolis.

## Joe Hagedorn in Concert

As part of an Isles Ensemble concert on Sunday, June 5th, at 2 pm at Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, MGS Artistic Director and Minneapolis Guitar Quartet member Joe Hagedorn will perform with violinist Leslie Shank on Astor Piazzolla's "Tango Etudes" in new arrangements by Sergio and Clarice Assad. The concert also includes works by Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky. Free admission with donations accepted. For more information, visit: <[www.islesensemble.org](http://www.islesensemble.org)>.

## New Daniel Estrem CD

The pieces on long-time MGS member Daniel Estrem's latest recording are transcriptions of a sampling of Claude Debussy's piano works. The majority of the music consists of three suites: Suite Bergamasque (1890), Children's Corner (1908), and Petite Suite (1889). Debussy (1862–1918), one of the most important of all French composers, was a major figure in European music at the beginning of the 1900s. His music defines the transition from late-Romantic music to 20th century modernist music. The CD is another release for Estrem on the Magnature label. Visit their website for complete info: <[www.magnature.com/artists/albums/estrem-debussy](http://www.magnature.com/artists/albums/estrem-debussy)>.

## New Reynold Philipsek CD

MGS member Reynold Philipsek has released some 30 recordings over the last 25 years, and shows no signs of slowing down. We've received word that his latest CD, *Tales from the North Woods*, will soon be available via cdbaby, Amazon, and iTunes. And the next two months give his many fans many chances to hear him around the area and beyond:

May 4, Metropolitan Room with Lee Engele  
(34 West 22 Street, New York)

May 7, Reynold with his band East Side at  
Grand Kabaret in New Ulm

June 2, Reynold at Hell's Kitchen in Minneapolis

June 4 and July 9 with Sidewalk Cafe at  
Global Market in Minneapolis

June 14 and 28 at Centennial Lakes in Edina,  
with bassist Jeff Brueske.

For lots more info, visit his website: <[www.reynold.com](http://www.reynold.com)>

## Lutenist Phil Rukavina CD Release Concert

On Thursday, May 5th, at 7:30 pm, MGS member Phil Rukavina will give a concert to celebrate the release of his latest CD at The Baroque Room, 275 E. 4th St., Suite 280, in Lowertown St. Paul. The CD is titled *Music from the Casteliono Lute Book (1536)*, which was a groundbreaking musical publication. The first published books of tablature for the lute by Ottavio Petrucci

News and Notes, *continued on p. 7*

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# News and Notes

News and Notes, *continued from p. 6*

(ca. 1507) feature only works by a single lutenist/composer. Casteliono took on the more complicated task of presenting several composers. In addition, he introduced the “tochata” form for the first time in Western music. During the Renaissance in Italy, solo music for the lute was considered one of the most refined expressions of the musical arts. Virtuoso players and composers for the instrument were state, or even national treasures. This program includes music by Italian lutenist/composer Francesco da Milano (1486–1534). Known as “Il divino” in his own lifetime, Francesco captured a sense of musical balance and proportion in his fantasias and ricercars that mirrors the art of contemporary painters such as Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael. Also on this program is music by John Dowland (1563–1626), one of the finest composers and lutenists of the Elizabethan Age. Dowland led a adventurous and unusually self-revealing life for a Renaissance figure. Widely traveled and a strong personality, he was forthright in expressing opinions and observations in the prefaces of his popular publications for the lute as well as in his private correspondence. Tickets to the concert are \$15/\$10 seniors and students. Visit <[www.thebaroqueroom.com](http://www.thebaroqueroom.com)> or call 651-705-6772 for more info.

## News from The Lute Cafe

At 7:30 pm on the first Friday of every month, join us at Madhatter Coffee Cafe and Tea House (943 West 7th Street, St. Paul). There is no admission charge, but a \$10 donation is suggested.

On May 6, “The Roots of the Baroque” featuring Tom Walker. Tom will play solo lute music from the early 17th century by Michelagnolo Galilei, Giovanni Girolamo Kapsperger, and

Alessandro Piccinini. This is some of the most beautiful (and, at times, technically challenging) music from the Renaissance lute repertoire, and is a great introduction to much of the solo lute music that was to follow in the 17th and 18th centuries.

On June 3, “Mostly Scottish.” Lutenist Rick Griffith will perform a mixed program mostly of music from 17th and 18th century Scotland, along with a selection of pieces from 17th century continental Europe. The program will include music from the Rowallan, Straloch, and Balcarres manuscripts as well as preludes from Elias Mertel, and dances from Antoine Francisque and Nicolas Vallet.

## St. Anthony Park Arts Festival

This year the Festival happens on Saturday, June 4, all day, in St. Anthony Park along Como Avenue from Carter to Luther Place. Phillip Rukavina is once again managing the Luther Acoustic Music Stage at the Festival. This year the stage will include solo lute music by Phil, lute duets by Phil and Rick Griffith, guitar and mandolin duets by Phil and Rick, and original songs by Rick. Performances take place throughout the day. For more info, visit <[www.stanthonyparkartsfestival.org](http://www.stanthonyparkartsfestival.org)>.

## Meeting More of the Makers

A new edition of the hardcover version of *Meeting the Makers* by John Fellman has just been published. A “coffee-table” style book of great black-and-white pictures and some supporting text, the first edition of *Meeting the Makers* profiled five of Minnesota’s leading guitar builders—Jim Olson, Charlie Hoffman, Brian Applegate, Mike Keller, and Lloyd LaPlant. Mike Salovich played two Applegate guitars at his Local Artists Series concert this season, and they were spectacular to look at and wondrous to hear. We don’t know if the revised and expanded second edition of Fellman’s book corrects the omission of Stephen Kakos, but it does add a rising star of the national luthier community, MGS member Tim Reede, whose shop is in Minneapolis. Tim’s a builder of fine steel-string and archtop guitars. A beautiful archtop of his is available at The Podium (and is viewable on their website). Visit Tim’s website for more info about him and his work; do a search on “John Fellman” to find relevant websites (and a Facebook page) for the book.

## James Flegel, DMA Classical Guitarist

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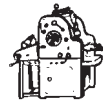
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# Local Artists Series Concert

The Duluth Connection, *continued from p. 5*

and the Garcia etudes in particular. Another set I like is Carlo Domeniconi's "Klangbilder" series. I'll throw the Brouwer or Villa-Lobos studies at them too, if I think they can handle it.

It's definitely given me a chance to talk regularly with more experienced teachers and see how they approach a lesson. I look forward to attending institutes each summer and refreshing my enthusiasm for teaching. On a personal note, I have to say it's done wonders for my own playing since it really forced me to address little technical things that had been holding me back previously.

**Q:** Are you active as a performer these days?

**A:** Most of my "classical" performing is through the music department. I've collaborated with the Concert Chorale and other instrumentalists on the faculty. I also gave a solo recital last year and have played shorter sets on other programs.

Outside of UMD my performing has primarily been semi-formal, money-making gigs (wine tastings, weddings, etc.) Though I've been moving away from that sort of thing as my teaching studio has gotten stronger. I also have a rock band, which is beginning to play around town. That's a fun change of pace for me. Electric guitar was my first love after all.

**Q:** How did you choose the particular pieces for the concert on May 1st?

**A:** The Sor Op. 22 is the only piece I learned specifically for this program. It was on my mind because I had my UMD guitar students play a quartet arrangement of it last semester. The other pieces I have performed before. I wanted to have balance of Latin and European music but beyond that it just came down to what I enjoyed playing.

## Program

Elegy by Johann Kaspar Mertz (1806–56)

Sonata For Guitar, Op. 22 "Grande Sonata"  
by Fernando Sor (1778–1839)

I. Allegro

II. Adagio

III. Minuetto - Allegro

IV. Rondo - Allegretto

Two Pieces by Agustín Barrios Mangoré (1885–1944)

Vals, Op. 8, No. 4

"Una Limosna por el Amor de Dios"  
(An Alm for the Love of God)"

*Suite del Recuerdo* by José Luis Merlin (b. 1952)

I. Evocacion

II. Zamba

III. Chacarera

IV. Carnavalito

V. Evocacion (Reprise)

VI. Joropo

**Q:** Tell us about the guitar you will play at the concert.

**A:** I have a 7-string Paul Jacobson Guitar. My use of the 7th string is fairly minimal in this program, however. I do use it during the Sor—tuned to low C—particularly during the Adagio. The Mertz Elegy also calls for an extended lower range, sometimes as low as an A, though I only use a low D in a few spots, primarily during the introduction. I would like to use the 7th string more in the future. It's been particularly fun and useful as I've started experimenting with jazz-style chord-melody playing. That's a personal project very much in its infancy, however.

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jazz guitarist

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## Midwest International Guitar Summit in Fergus Falls

by Kristen Fondriest

Attention all guitar players, teachers, enthusiasts, fans, and audiences! It's back and better than ever! The Midwest International Guitar Summit (formerly known as the West Central Area Guitar Summit) will make Fergus Falls a guitar showcase this coming September. A Center for the Arts and Minnesota State Community and Technical College (M State)—Fergus Falls are thrilled to announce the Midwest International Guitar Summit—an entire weekend of eclectic guitar music and education to be held in Fergus Falls from Thursday September 15th through Sunday the 18th. We at A Center for the Arts are excited to once again be partnering with and receiving support from the Minnesota Guitar Society, the Minnesota Bluegrass and Old Time Music Association, and M State Fergus Falls, as well as from Otter Tail Corporation and other business sponsors. We are all working together to bring you an incredible event. This year the celebration has a new name that reflects not only the caliber of guitarists who perform and present at the Summit, but also the range of people who attend the Summit. And the name isn't the only thing that's new this year!

The original "G7" from last year will return, but we have added six new guitarists to the mix as well. Featured guitarists, who will present workshops and perform throughout the weekend, include Ann Reed, Anthony Miltich, Billy McLaughlin, Claudia Schmidt, Dakota Dave Hull, David Stoddard, Dean Magraw, Joan Griffith, Nick Fryer, Michael Hauser, Phil Heywood, Tim Sparks, and Sam Miltich.

A Center for the Arts, and the guitarists involved in last year's Summit, have worked very hard to make improvements based on all the feedback we received from participants at last year's Summit. All the constructive criticism, suggestions, and praise we got helped us create an even better Summit for this year! More space and time have been built into the schedule to encourage and foster greater networking opportunities, as well as to provide the opportunity for switching gears or visiting the exhibit area. We will offer Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced workshops to accommodate all skill levels—we want to reach the broadest possible audience of people interested in guitar. And we have added some interesting new features such as "Meet The Artist" live performance/interview sessions, performance-based workshops featuring multiple guitarists, more workshops on song-writing, and even a bit of electric guitar!

Each evening (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) there will be a concert at 7:30 pm at A Center for the Arts in downtown Fergus Falls. On Thursday, September 15th, the kick-off concert will be a "Songwriters Showcase" featuring David Stoddard, Anthony Miltich, Ann Reed, and Claudia Schmidt. The Friday September 16th concert is called "Gypsy Jam" and will feature Joan Griffith, Sam Miltich, Nick Fryer, and Michael Hauser. The closing night

concert on Saturday, September 17th—hosted by the one and only Tim Sparks and entitled "A World On A String"—will feature the amazing line-up of Billy McLaughlin, Dean Magraw, Dakota Dave Hull, and Phil Heywood.

Both Friday and Saturday will be packed with great workshops, demonstrations, and mini-performances. Friday's events will take place in downtown Fergus Falls and focus more on lectures, demonstrations, and performance-based workshops. All the workshops on Saturday will take place on the campus of M State Fergus Falls and will be more hands-on and participatory.

Maybe you're a professional guitarist making a living playing guitar. Maybe you've been playing the guitar for several years. Maybe you've only been playing the guitar for a couple of months. Maybe you want to play the guitar some day. Maybe you're pretty sure you don't ever want to play the guitar at all, but you are fascinated by the many styles and levels of accomplishment achieved with this instrument. The Midwest International Guitar Summit is for you, and is appropriate for all levels of interests and abilities. There will be something for everyone!

At the Midwest International Guitar Summit participants will have an opportunity to interact with incredibly talented guitarists and musicians. This is a unique chance to learn together, play together, jam together, as well as witness improvisational and collaborative playing. It is also a great networking opportunity for musicians, presenters, and audiences. The best part is that A Center for the Arts is offering all of this for an extremely affordable rate, especially for students. The various ticket prices are:

- Weekend-Long Pass: \$75 (8 workshops and 3 concerts)
- Daily Pass: \$40 (4 workshops and 1 concert)
- Individual Workshops: \$10 adults; \$5 students/children
- Individual Concerts: \$15 adults; \$5 students/children

As a very special bonus, for those who can stay until Sunday the 18th, the internationally known classical music ensemble the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet will play an afternoon concert at A Center for the Arts to kick off our Chamber Music Series!

For more information, please visit A Center for the Arts, 124 W. Lincoln Ave, Fergus Falls, MN 56537, or call us at 218-736-5453, or visit our website at <[www.fergusarts.org](http://www.fergusarts.org)>. We have a link on our website to pictures and videos from last year's Summit and further information about this year's plans. Look for more information soon! We hope to see you there!

*[Ed. note: We are happy to announce that in addition to co-sponsoring the Midwest International Guitar Summit in Fergus Falls, we will be partnering with A Center for the Arts to present three of the artists from our 2011-12 Sundin Hall series at A Center's beautiful theatre for second concerts. Look for our July-August newsletter for more information about these concerts, a summary of our Sundin Hall series, and more news about what promises to be our busiest year ever!]*



# Meet the MGS

## What We Are

So what is the Minnesota Guitar Society (MGS)? The MGS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization registered with the IRS and the State of Minnesota. The MGS is largely volunteer-run, with one part-time paid staff person, the Managing Director, who is responsible for planning and implementing our programs, promoting concerts and other events, coordinating volunteers, and producing our newsletter. Our decision-making body is a Board of Directors whose members are elected to three-year terms. Officers (president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary) are elected to one-year terms. Current officers and board members are listed on page 2 of each issue of our newsletter.

Since its founding in 1985 by Tony Hauser and a group of like-minded fellow guitarists, the MGS has entertained, developed, and educated audiences, supported artists, and promoted musical diversity through concerts that present regionally, nationally, and internationally known artists, as well as through workshops, education programs, a newsletter, and a website. (See our mission statement, elsewhere in this issue.)

The MGS is supported by the one of the largest dues-paying memberships of the 60+ guitar societies in the U.S. Our members, currently some 250 kind souls, come from practically every socio-economic group in the region, reflecting the universal, cross-cultural appeal of the guitar and guitar-related music. Our mailing list reaches over 1,400 individuals and households in Minnesota, western Wisconsin, and the eastern edge of the Dakotas.

## What We Do

**Sundin Hall Concert Series.** This annual series of concerts features a variety of artists representing classical, flamenco, jazz, new acoustic, and world music styles, presenting the guitar and its close cousins the lute, oud, and sarod. No other presenting organization in the Twin Cities regularly features internationally recognized guitarists, especially classical guitarists, in recital and in educational programs. In keeping with our mission statement, each year's concerts feature a range of musical styles and cultures. For over a decade, we have presented these concerts in Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University in St. Paul. This season, for the first time, we presented concerts outside the Twin Cities metro area. In partnership with the University of Minnesota-Duluth

## Minnesota Guitar Society Mission Statement

To promote the guitar, in all its stylistic and cultural diversity, through our newsletter and through our sponsorship of public forums, concerts, and workshops.

To commission new music and to aid in its promotion, publication, and recording.

To serve as an educational and social link between amateur and professional guitarists and the community.

To promote and help create opportunities for Minnesota guitarists and players of related instruments.

Music Department, two of our Sundin Hall series artists—Laura Young in October and Florian Larousse in February—gave concerts at UMD's Weber Hall. More such partnering is planned for next season.

**Local Artists Concert Series.** Each year, we present concerts that showcase guitarists based in Minnesota, in a variety of styles at various stages of their careers. We present these free concerts in locations throughout the Twin Cities metro area.

**OpenStage.** This monthly event is a structured but informal way for guitarists of any level to experience the joy of playing for each other. Begun in 2002 at the initiative of MGS member the late Dennis Burns, the gatherings have taken place at locations throughout the Twin Cities, and are now hosted by members of our board.

**The Annual Youth Guitarathon** gives serious young students a positive and educational performing experience. It features an audition process with a panel of experienced judges leading to a concert featuring performances by the strongest applicants in five categories. We partner with the University of Minnesota School of Music Guitar Program to present this event.

**Newsletter.** Our free, bimonthly newsletter is distributed to schools, music stores, libraries, and other public locations. Individual copies are mailed to our members. Each issue contains information about upcoming concerts. Other topics of interest (e.g., guitar technique, reviews, profiles of area guitarists and teachers) are also included.

**Community and school outreach.** Each season, visiting concert artists give masterclasses and workshops in schools or at neighborhood centers. These events are free and open to the public, and emphasize sharing unique aspects of the artist's background and repertoire.

**Website.** Our website, <[www.mnguitar.org](http://www.mnguitar.org)>, is now in its sixth year. The site provides information about all our programs and concerts, a general calendar of guitar-related activities in the metro area, and links of interest to our members and site visitors. Back issues of our newsletter, in PDF format, are available there free of charge.

## How We Do It

**Members and donors.** The most important ongoing support we have is our membership. Audience members. Society members. Student memberships, family memberships, and memberships at every level of giving. Members help us in two ways:

- First, the direct financial support guarantees we can continue to present world-class guitarists in concerts, classes, and workshops.
- Second, the high level of attendance at concerts and our large Society membership demonstrate to funders like the MN State Arts Board (MSAB), Metropolitan Regional Arts Council (MRAC), and D'Addario Music Foundation how well we serve our community.

**Volunteers.** Most of what we do is made possible because people give their time to get things done. For the first dozen or so years of the Society, all the work was done by volunteers. Steve Rings created the first part-time paid position in the late 1990s, and

*Meet the MGS, continued on next page*

# Meet the MGS

Meet the MGS, *continued from p.10*

wrote the grants that funded it. Since then, that staffer has helped fill the cracks between the main tasks. But there's always more to do. See the sidebar for a list!

**Grants.** We've depended on grants for over a decade to provide a fourth or more of our annual income. Thanks to the vision of arts and environmental activists in 2008 who wrote the Legacy

## Volunteer with the MGS

We have the busiest season in our history planned for 2011–12. Three different concert series, an array of workshops and masterclasses, OpenStage... Our members are what make all this possible. If you're a friend of the MGS, but haven't joined or haven't renewed your membership, please do so! If you're a member, thank you. If you're a friend or member, and would like to do more...we need help. In particular:

*Distribute our newsletter.* Time commitment: 2 to 4 hours every other month. Deliveries to stores and schools, or bundling issues to mail, or labeling the individual copies mailed to MGS members.

*Promote our concerts.* Help label the postcards we mail out once a month.

*Write articles for our newsletter.* Topics to be chosen by you from suggestions by the editor. Time commitment: Variable.

*Help in the lobby at Sundin Hall concerts.* Be an usher. Bring refreshments. Time commitment: less than an hour a month.

If interested, or if you have other suggestions, please call MGS Managing Director Paul Hintz at (651) 699-6827 and leave a message, or email <editor@mnguitar.org>. Thanks!

Amendment, and thanks to the voters of Minnesota who overwhelmingly approved it, Minnesota has created a new model and a new reality of sustained, robust funding for the arts. This is a very exciting time for our Society. New grant programs from the MSAB and MRAC make it possible, and necessary, for us to expand our main concert series to include performances by visiting artists at locations in Duluth, Fergus Falls, and other cities throughout Greater Minnesota, and to expand our Local Artists series to partner with more arts centers and community organizations in every part of the greater Twin Cities metro area.

Last fall we were awarded Arts Activities grants from the MSAB and MRAC to support this season's Sundin Hall concerts and related masterclasses and workshops. To help us plan how to implement and sustain future program expansion, we were also awarded an MRAC "Organizational Development" grant last November that allowed us to hire a nationally known consultant, Anne Howden, to develop a strategic plan for the next three years. By a happy coincidence, Howden is a long-time, enthusiastic member of our Society. She knows what we do. She knows how to help us figure out how to do more of it. Part of that planning involved a survey of our audience and membership in March and April. We will share the results of that survey in our next issue.

## Latest News

Next year's even busier schedule is being made possible by the largest single grant in our history, a \$24,000 "Arts Tour MN" award for FY2012 from the MSAB that we received in February. Other grants from COMPAS are pending. We'll use this page of the newsletter to keep all our friends and members informed about our plans, and to ask for your support. It comes back to you, what you want our Society to look like, and how you can help make it happen. I've been lucky to be MGS managing director for most of the last 10 years, but I've never been as excited as I am now about what we do and what lies ahead. I hope you'll stop by the info table at the next concert. I'll be there. Or email me with your thoughts, questions, or suggestions—<editor@mnguitar.org>. Get involved, stay informed—and don't forget to practice!

—Paul Hintz

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

**LESSONS:** Guitar, banjo, Suzuki guitar and violin, piano, elec. bass, voice, mandolin! Everything from rock to blue grass. Instruction and instruments. Northern Pine Studios in Lino Lakes. Call Chris at 651-780-1625.

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**GUITAR FOR SALE:** 1978 R. L. Mattingly Concert Classical Guitar: Handmade In California, solid cedar top, solid Brazilian rosewood back & sides. \$2,800. Call 651-292-4929.

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**MUSIC SERVICES:** Music notation and digital audio editing services. Software: Finale, Pro Tools \$45/hr. Samples available. Contact Jeff Lambert at 952-546-1429 or <jeffguitar@gmail.com>.

**GUITARS FOR SALE:** White Epiphone doubleneck, \$600 w/ case, mint condition. Yellow Ibanez Micro Guitar, \$170 w/gig bag, mint condition. Grey Memphis Stratocaster, \$100 w/gig bag, good condition. Call 952-448-3306.

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Classified Ads, *continued on p. 12*

Classified Ads, *continued from p. 11*

rooms and a lounge. For schedules, availability, and pricing, visit the studio website at <[www.stpaulguitarstudio.com](http://www.stpaulguitarstudio.com)> or contact MGS member Ben Woolman at <[www.benwoolman.net](http://www.benwoolman.net)> or 651-468-1566.

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GUITAR FOR SALE: 1966 CONDE Flamenco. Cypress. Machines. French Polish. Excellent condition. Stephen Kakos 952-472-4732 or <[KakosG@aol.com](mailto:KakosG@aol.com)>.

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his sound technician! Recently serviced by the Good Guys in St Paul, it sounds like new. New was over \$1K. Yours for \$390. Call Paul at 651-699-6827 or email [paul@paulhintz.com](mailto:paul@paulhintz.com).

GUITARS FOR SALE: 2008 Francisco Navarro Garcia, Bouchet model; cedar top, cocobolo b&s: \$3,200. 1995 Epiphone Riviera jazz electric semi-hollow body: \$400. Contact Jeff Lambert at 952-546-1429 or <[jeffguitar@gmail.com](mailto:jeffguitar@gmail.com)>.

FOR SALE: 1994 Daryl B. Perry classical guitar with hard case. \$5,500. Excellent condition. Visit <[www.perryguitars.com](http://www.perryguitars.com)> for information. Call Glenn Fisher at 651-458-3878 or email <[gfisher62014@att.net](mailto:gfisher62014@att.net)>.

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FOR SALE: Sefer Torah scroll. Printed on genuine parchment (sheep skin). Roughly 100 years old, not sure if it's "kosher" or not because I've never had it inspected by a sofer, but every letter of every word is perfectly legible. Included is a mantel and a gartle. Asking \$3500.00, David at 651-644-8262.

FOR SALE: Stereo effects processor. Endless possible combination of effects and programmability within effects. Mint condition. \$130. Contact George at 651-481-1639 or email <[georgepseifert@gmail.com](mailto:georgepseifert@gmail.com)>.

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## The Minnesota Guitar Society

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