

LIU Post

27th LONG ISLAND  
*Guitar Festival*

APRIL 9th - APRIL 14th, 2019



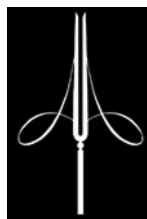
Director:  
HARRIS BECKER

[liu.edu/gfest](http://liu.edu/gfest)



THE LONG ISLAND  
*Guitar Festival*

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School of Performing Arts

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

For more information about the Long Island Guitar Festival, visit

[liu.edu/gfest](http://liu.edu/gfest)

LIU Post

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27<sup>th</sup> LONG ISLAND  
*Guitar Festival*  
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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**TUESDAY, April 9**

	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>	<b><u>LOCATION</u></b>
8 pm	<b>CONCERT:</b> Harris Becker & Friends	GH

**WEDNESDAY, April 10**

7:30 pm	<b>MASTER CLASS:</b> Robert Trent, discussion on "19 <sup>th</sup> Century Performance Practices"	GH
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**THURSDAY, April 11**

8 pm	<b>CONCERT:</b> Robert Trent	GH
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**FRIDAY, April 12**

2 pm	<b>WORKSHOP:</b> <i>Theory and Technique for the Contemporary Rock Guitarist</i> with James Erickson. <i>Bring your guitar and amp</i>	FA
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5 pm	<b>COMPETITION:</b> Long Island Guitar Festival High School Classical Guitar Semi-Finals ( <i>closed to the public</i> )	FA
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8 pm	<b>CONCERT:</b> Laura Snowden (US Debut)	GH
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**SATURDAY, April 13**

10 am	<b>MASTER CLASS:</b> Laura Snowden	KT
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12:30 pm	<b>EMERGING ARTIST SERIES CONCERT:</b> Eliza Balmuth & Everett Shen (First Prize winners Festival 2018 High School Classical Guitar Competition)	HC
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1:30 pm	<b>COMPETITION:</b> High School Classical Guitar Competition Finals. Three finalists ( <i>Open to the public</i> )	HC
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3 pm	<b>CONCERT:</b> Mark Marino, including a workshop on <i>Jazz Improvisation</i>	HC
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4:30 pm	<b>REHEARSAL:</b> LIGF Orchestra	HF
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8 pm	<b>CONCERT:</b> David Leisner & Eduardo Fernández. Solos and Duos	HC
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**LEGEND**

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**CH:** Interfaith Center/Chapel; **FA:** Fine Arts Center; **GH:** Great Hall; **HC:** Hillwood Cinema; **HF:** Hillwood Commons Fishbowl; **KT:** Krasnoff Theater; **MRB:** Music Rehearsal Building; **TA:** Tilles Center Atrium; **TC:** Tilles Center for the Performing Arts; **WHC:** West Hillwood Cafeteria

27<sup>th</sup> LONG ISLAND  
*Guitar Festival*  
EVENTS CONTINUED

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SUNDAY, April 14

	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
9:30 am	<b>MASTER CLASS:</b> David Leisner & Eduardo Fernández	FA
10:30 am	<b>REHEARSAL:</b> LIGF Guitar Orchestra	CH
12:30 pm	<b>ENSEMBLES SHOWCASE CONCERT:</b> Various Groups	CH
2 pm	<b>CONCERT:</b> LIGF Guitar Orchestra	CH
3:30 pm	<b>CONCERT:</b> Jérôme Ducharme	HC



*“Imagine all the people  
living life in peace...”*

LONG ISLAND GUITAR FESTIVAL

HARRIS BECKER  
Founder & Director

JAMES ERICKSON  
Assistant Director

JOHN MESCHI  
Advisor & Website Manager

STEVEN BREESE  
Dean, College of Arts, Communications & Design

GLEN WEISBERG  
Designer & Graphic Artist

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LEGEND

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CH: Interfaith Center/Chapel; FA: Fine Arts Center; GH: Great Hall; HC: Hillwood Cinema; HF: Hillwood Commons Fishbowl;  
KT: Krasnoff Theater; MRB: Music Rehearsal Building; TA: Tilles Center Atrium; TC: Tilles Center for the Performing Arts;  
WHC: West Hillwood Cafeteria



LIU Post

27<sup>th</sup> LONG ISLAND

# Guitar Festival

PROGRAMS

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9**

## **HARRIS BECKER & FRIENDS**

8 pm • Great Hall *HARRIS BECKER, LAURA LESSARD, MICHAEL ROBERTS, JAMES ERICKSON, guitars and lute & EMILY KLONOWSKI mezzo-soprano*

### **HARRIS BECKER**

Cadiz  
Serenata Española  
Spanish Dance No.10  
Madroños

Isaac Albeniz (1860-1909)  
Joaquin Malats (1872-1909)  
Enrique Granados (1867-1916)  
F.M. Torroba (1891-1982)

### **LAURA LESSARD, JAMES ERICKSON & MICHAEL ROBERTS**

The Mystic  
Three Panes

Michael Roberts (b.1974)

### **HARRIS BECKER**

Prelude, Fugue & Allegro (BMV 998)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

I N T E R M I S S I O N

### **JAMES ERICKSON**

Adelita  
Lagrima  
Capricho árabe

Francisco Tárrega (1852-1909)

### **MICHAEL ROBERTS**

Red (BMV 1003)

Michael Roberts (b.1974))

### **EMILY KLONOWSKI & HARRIS BECKER, lute**

#### **Lute Songs**

Go, Crystal Tears  
Now, O Now, I Needs Must Part  
The Frog Galliard (lute solo)  
Can She Excuse My Wrongs  
The Lowest Trees Have Tops  
Digori Pipers Galliard (lute solo)  
A Shepherd In a Shade  
Now Cease My Wandering Eyes  
A Fancy (lute solo)  
Come Heavy Sleep  
Come Again, Sweet Love

John Dowland (1563-1626)

# Programs

CONTINUED

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10**

## **ROBERT TRENT Master Class**

7:30 pm • Great Hall

Discussion: *19th Century Performance Practices*

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11**

## **ROBERT TRENT**

8 pm • Great Hall

Impromptu (2018) (dedicated to Robert Trent)

La Source du Lyson Op 47 (Romantic guitar by G. Southwell  
– after J.G. Scherzer, 1865)

Dror Yikro (Chassidic Song)

Ronald Pearl (b.1954)

Napoleon Coste (1806 -1883)

Ian Krouse (b.1956)

INTERMISSION

Roderick Usher's Phantasmion

Grand Sonata 'quasi una fantasia' Op 25 (1836)

I. The Haunted Palace

II. Dirge - Lament

III. Impromptu 'Quasi Valzer' (on a theme of Carl Maria von Weber)

My Name is Red

Ian Krouse

Ronald Pearl

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12**

## **JAMES ERICKSON**

2 pm • Fine Arts Center

WORKSHOP: Theory and Technique for the Contemporary Rock Guitarist.  
*Bring your guitar and amp!*

## **LONG ISLAND GUITAR FESTIVAL HIGH SCHOOL**

### **CLASSICAL GUITAR COMPETITION SEMI-FINALS (closed to the public)**

5 pm • Fine Arts Center

# Programs

CONTINUED

**FRIDAY, APRIL 12**

**LAURA SNOWDEN (US Debut)**

8 pm • Great Hall

Introduction and Variations on a theme by Mozart op. 9

Five Preludes

Anpao

Fernando Sor (1778-1839)

Heitor Villa Lobos (1887-1959)

Laura Snowden (b.1989)

INTERMISSION

Vals op 8 no. 4

L'étoile et la Rose

Sonatina op 52, no 1

I. Allegro

II. Lento

III. Rondo: Allegro ma non troppo

Introduction et Caprice op. 23

Agustín Barrios (1885-1944)

Laura Snowden

Lennox Berkeley (1903-1989)

Giulio Regondi (1822-1872)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

**LAURA SNOWDEN Master Class**

10 am • Krasnoff Theater

**EMERGING ARTISTS SERIES CONCERT: *First Prize Winners Festival 2018*  
*High School Classical Guitar Competition***

12:30 pm • Hillwood Cinema

**Eliza Balmuth**

Romanze, Op. 13, No. 1b

From Appunti, Op. 210

Quaderno primo, Gli intervalli: II. Melodia senza accompagnamento (Preghiera)

Quaderno primo, Gli intervalli: IV. Sulle terze (Canto di mietitori)

Quaderno primo, Gli intervalli: VIII. Sulle settime (Serenatella)

Quaderno secondo, I ritmi, Pt. 2: XIV. Valse Française

J. K. Mertz (1806-1856)

Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco (1895-1968)

From 36 Capricci, Op. 20

No. 15, Allegro Moderato

No. 29, Prestissimo

No. 28, Largo

No. 7, Prestissimo

Luigi Legnani (1790-1877)

# Programs

CONTINUED

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

## **EMERGING ARTISTS SERIES CONCERT** continued

12:30 pm • Hillwood Cinema

### **Eliza Balmuth**

#### **3 Catalan Folksongs**

Canca de lladre  
El testament d'Amelia  
El noi de la Mare

Miguel Llobet (1878-1838)

### **Everett Shen**

#### **Suite del Recuerdo**

I. Evocacion  
II. Zamba  
III. Chacarera  
IV. Carnavalito  
V. Evocation  
VI. Joropo

José Luis Merlin (b.1952)

#### **Vals Venezolano**

I. No. 2 (Andreina)  
II. No. 3 (Natalia)

Antonio Lauro (1917-1986)

### **Eliza Balmuth & Everett Shen**

Milonga

Jorge Cardoso (b.1949)

## **LONG ISLAND GUITAR FESTIVAL HIGH SCHOOL**

### **CLASSICAL GUITAR COMPETITION** FINALS: Three Finalists (*Open to the public*)

1:30 pm • Hillwood Cinema

## **MARK MARINO** Improvisation Workshop & Performance

3 pm • Hillwood Cinema

Including a Workshop on Jazz Improvisation  
*Selections to be announced*

## **LIGF ORCHESTRA** Rehearsal

4:30 pm • Hillwood Commons Fishbowl



# Programs

CONTINUED

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13**

## **DAVID LEISNER and EDUARDO FERNÁNDEZ: Solos & Duos Concert**

8 pm • Hillwood Cinema

### **Souvenir de Russie, op. 63**

Introduction – Theme and Variations – Allegretto

**Ciaccona** (from Partita No. 2 for solo violin, BWV 1004)

**Nagoya Guitars** (1994)

**Fernando Sor** (1778-1839)

**J.S. Bach** (1685-1750)

**Steve Reich** (b.1936)

I N T E R M I S S I O N

**Mirage** (1987)

**Astor Visits Heitor** (2000)

**(From) 12 Etudes** (1928)

No. 9 in f# minor

No. 10 in b minor

No. 11 in e minor

No. 12 in a minor

**David Leisner** (b.1953)

**Eduardo Fernández** (b.1952)

**Heitor Villa-Lobos** (1887-1959)

**Duo Concertant, op. 31, no. 3**

Allegro agitato

Romance: Andante sostenuto

Rondo: Poco vivace

**Antoine de Lhoyer** (1768-1852)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

## **DAVID LEISNER and EDUARDO FERNÁNDEZ: Master Class**

9:30 am • Fine Arts Center

### **LIGF ORCHESTRA Rehearsal**

10:30 am • Interfaith Center/Chapel

## **ENSEMBLES SHOWCASE CONCERT: Various Groups**

12:30 pm • Interfaith Center/Chapel

**BISHOP McGUINNESS HIGH SCHOOL GUITAR ENSEMBLE, Alan Hirsh - Director**

*Seoyeon Hong, Layth Khan, Zac Merrill, Ivo Pestana, Andrew Hoang, Logan Grunwald,  
Phillip McDonough and William Truskolaski*

### **Led Zeppelin Suite**

I. Over the Hills and Far Away

II. The Rain Song

III. The Ocean

**Led Zeppelin** (Jimmy Page, Robert Plant,  
John Paul Jones & John Bonham)

# Programs

CONTINUED

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

## **ENSEMBLES SHOWCASE CONCERT: Various Groups continued**

Interfaith Center/Chapel

**BRENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL GUITAR ENSEMBLE, Ronald Pace - Director**

*Kristelly Castro, Joel Dieujuste, Alyz Garcia, Moses Gilbert, Salvador Gutierrez Jr., Angel Hernandez, Oneida Hernandez, Victoria Lorenzi, Aixa Ortiz, Marilyn Parada (vocalist on 'And I Love Her') and Alexis Rojas.*

And I Love Her  
Norwegian Wood  
Take 5  
Chucho

John Lennon and Paul McCartney  
John Lennon and Paul McCartney  
Paul Desmond (1924-1977)  
Paquito D'Rivera (b.1948)

*All pieces arranged by Ronald Pace.*

**SUSAN E. WAGNER HIGH SCHOOL - ADVANCED GUITAR ENSEMBLE, Joe Maniscalco - Director**

*Brandon Aro, Rainier Austin, Emily Babilonia, Hamra Bajraktari, Aishat Balogun, Shemar Branch, Alan Cantillo, Andrew Chang, Shannon Decillis, Anthony Delcore, Marina Englehart, Gianna Galuppi, Xiaodi Huang Airat Iskhakov, Joseph Justino, Lars Kittel, Jiayi Li, Samantha Licata, Annie Mai, Thomas Murphy, Enrique Ng Chen, Nicole O'Rourke, Nicole Podlog, Ashley Poma, Salvatore Sanchez, William Silva, Mary Smeloff, Emily Sullivan, Gina Tabone, Christopher Shouldis - Bass, and Isabell Mazzola - Bass*

Milonga  
Afro Cuban Lullaby (arr. Alan Hirsh)  
Boogie Stop Shuffle (arr. Jack Wilkins)  
Gymnopedie  
In the Moment (arr. Alan Hirsh)  
Africa (arr. HirshZachery Andres)

David Gaudreau (b.1959)  
Leo Brouwer (b.1939)  
Charles Mingus (1922-1979)  
Erik Satie (1866-1925)  
Alan Hirsh  
Toto (released 1982)

## **LIGF ORCHESTRA Concert, Alan Hirsh Conductor**

2 pm • Interfaith Center/Chapel

Three Recercatas, Michelle Baek, percussion  
Cello Concerto RV 406 Christine Ma, cello

Diego Ortiz (b.1510-1570)  
Antonio Vivaldi (b.1678-1741)

## **JÉRÔME DUCHARME**

3:30 pm • Hillwood Cinema

Serenade  
Sonate Brillante op.15 (arr. Barrueco)  
I. Allegro spirit

Sofia Gubaïdulina (b.1931)  
Mauro Giuliani (1781-1829)

# Programs

CONTINUED

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

## **JÉRÔME DUCHARME** continued

Hillwood Cinema

**Sonate Brillante op.15** (arr. Barrueco)

II. Adagio con grand espressione

III. Allegro vivace - Grazioso

INTERMISSION

**Campo**

**Estudios sencillos XIX, XI, XIII, XV, XX**

**Rito de los orishas**

1. Exordium - conjuro

2. Danza de las diosas negras

**Abel Carlevaro** (1916 - 2001)

**Leo Brouwer** (b.1939)

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For more information contact:

**Susan Deaver**, Festival Director  
**Dale Stuckenbruck**, Assistant Director  
LIU Post Chamber Music Festival  
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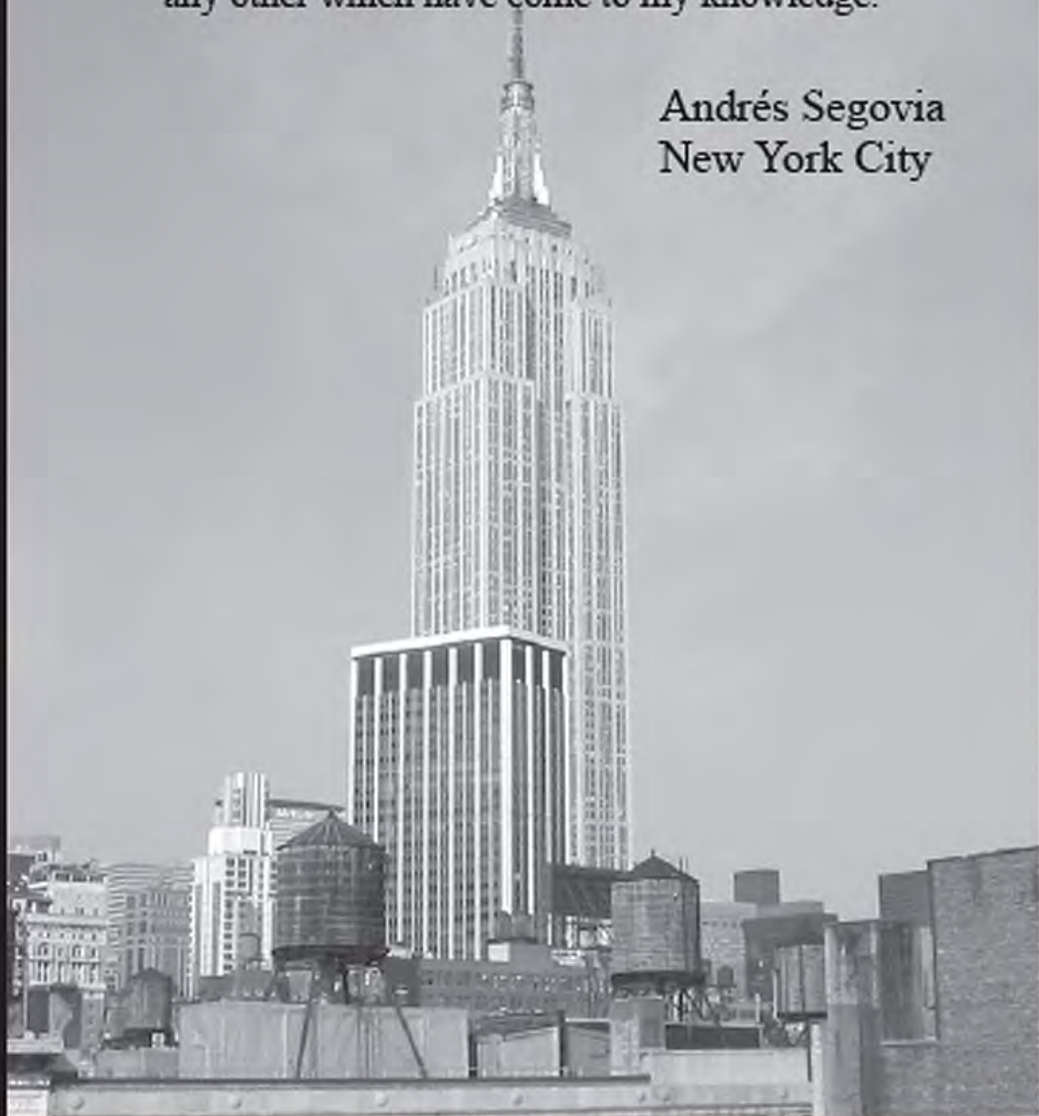
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# LONG ISLAND CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY

## CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 27TH ANNUAL LONG ISLAND GUITAR FESTIVAL

The Long Island Classical Guitar Society, in association with the annual Long Island Guitar Festival, provides a forum for students, professional teachers, performers, and enthusiasts of the classical guitar. Members of LICGS are entitled to free and discounted concerts, master classes, coaching, and other important events. Our website provides information about concerts and recitals throughout the metropolitan area. Professional members and teachers receive information through our website inquiries for guitar studies and playing opportunities. Members are invited to attend monthly mixers to meet fellow guitar enthusiasts, play solo pieces & ensemble, exchange ideas, and mostly just to have a good time.

[www.licgs.us](http://www.licgs.us)

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- Claudia Collard, L'Echo de Frontenac





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The Friends of Quebec's *Midsummer Music Dream Festival/*  
*Songe d'Été en musique*  
**congratulate Harris Becker and the Long Island Guitar Festival**  
*for 27 magnificent years of making the world a better place.*

***Merci beaucoup,  
Harris and colleagues!***

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*Bravo pour cet apport considérable à la Culture musicale et pour les efforts*  
*fournis pendant toutes ces années.*



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27th LONG ISLAND

Guitar Festival

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

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HARRIS BECKER

Harris Becker has had a rich and varied career as a guitarist and lutenist. Among the composers who have dedicated works to him are Carlo Domeniconi, Hayley Savage, Raoul Pleskow, Howard Rovics, microtonal composer Johnny Reinhard, Alan Hirsh, Michael Frasseti, Joseph Russo and Richard Iacona.

Becker has performed extensively both as a soloist and chamber musician throughout the United States, Europe, South America, Mexico, Asia and Canada. In the fall of 2014 Mr. Becker gave concerts and master classes in Thailand and throughout Vietnam. Mr. Becker will be featured playing the lute music of John Dowland in a forthcoming documentary *"Shakespeare in New York"* directed by Peter Josyph.

In 1993 Mr. Becker founded the Long Island Guitar Festival, of which the New York Times wrote: "The *"Long Island"* in the festival title clearly refers to its location and origins, rather than to its scope" (2014). Harris Becker is Director of Guitar Studies at LIU Post and has been a faculty member at Nassau Community College, and The Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College. Mr. Becker founded the Long Island Institute of Guitar Studies. The Florida State Division of Cultural Affairs selected Becker to participate in Florida's Artist Residency Program, giving lecture/performances on the lute and baroque guitar. He is also a member of the Artesian Guitar Quartet.

Harris Becker is co-founder and artistic director of the summer music festival in rural Quebec *"Songe d'été en Musique"*. In 2015 the festival celebrated its tenth anniversary, which featured the Youth Orchestra of the Americas. His recordings include *"Catgut Flambo"* with guitarist Pasquale Bianculli, a solo CD *"Passing Through"*, and a CD with the Artesian Guitar Quartet. In the spring of 2017 new first recordings of music by John Lessard, Noel Zahler and Michael Frasseti were released. Forthcoming recordings include the music of Tedesco with flutist Karla Moe. [www.harrisbecker.com](http://www.harrisbecker.com)



JÉRÔME DUCHARME



One of the most respected guitarists of his generation, Jérôme Ducharme travels through North America to perform recitals, masterclasses and for adjudication panels. His career took off when he won the first prize at the 2005 Guitar Foundation of America International Competition. His cd, released on the NAXOS label, received appraisal from various critics, as well as the mention of CD of the month from the Scena musicale.

Jérôme graduated from the Conservatoire de Musique et d'Art dramatique du Québec with great distinction in 2000 and holds a doctorate degree in performance from

# Performers

C O N T I N U E D

## JÉRÔME DUCHARME

*continued*

Université de Montréal. Jérôme's a guitar instructor at McGill University's Schulich School of Music and at Marianopolis College. He's also a member of the Tangere Trio and plays on a guitar made by René Wilhelmy.

## JAMES ERICKSON

James Erickson has an active career performing and teaching classical and rock guitar throughout the New York metropolitan area and Long Island. He is an adjunct instructor of music at Nassau Community College, LIU Post, and Suffolk County Community College. James is the director of the Suffolk County Community College Guitar Ensemble and holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in music history and performance from Long Island University, where he was awarded "Outstanding Performance in Guitar Studies".

As a classical guitar soloist, James has performed on tour in the United States, Europe, and Canada. He has also participated in the Long Island Guitar Festival, both in solo and chamber performances. James also performed in master classes for Jerry Willard, Carlo Domeniconi, Benjamin Verdery, Sharon Isbin, Carlos Barbosa - Lima, David Starobin, William Kanengiser and Eduardo Fernandez. He's a member of the Artesian Guitar Quartet.



As an electric guitarist, his studies have included lessons from jazz guitarist Howard Morgen and rock virtuoso Paul Gilbert. James has an extensive recording and performing experience, currently involved in many diverse musical projects. He's the guitarist for Tradewinds. James is with Walking The Line, a musical tribute to Johnny Cash, performing the electric guitar parts of Luther Perkins. Recently, he was with Classic Albums Live, performing the album "Who's Next" by The Who. For the past eight years, James has taught and played at the "Songe d'été en Musique" an annual music festival in Quebec, Canada. He also composed and recorded the soundtrack/score for several local independent films. He is the assistant director of the Long Island Guitar Festival, offering private and online guitar instruction. "...virtuoso musicianship" (Southampton Press). [www.ericksonguitar.net](http://www.ericksonguitar.net)

## EDUARDO FERNÁNDEZ

Eduardo Fernández is recognized as one of today's leading guitarists. He began studying classical guitar at 7, with Raúl Sánchez Arias. He went on to study with Abel Carlevaro, Guido Santórsola (harmony and counterpoint) and Héctor Tosar (composition). He won first prize in the Andrés Segovia International competition in Mallorca, Spain (1975) and other competitions, among them Porto Alegre, Brazil (1972) and Radio France (1975).

Eduardo's New York debut, in 1977, opened the doors to an international career. His very successful London debut (Wigmore Hall, 1983)



# Performers

C O N T I N U E D

## EDUARDO FERNÁNDEZ

*continued*

led to an exclusive recording contract with Decca/London. Since then he has played, besides the USA and most European countries, in Latin America and Mexico, and also in Asia (Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, China, Thailand, Singapore), Australia and South Africa.

Eduardo's recordings cover a substantial share of the guitar repertoire, solos as well as concerti. Active also as a teacher, he has taught master classes in the whole world, including prestigious institutions such as the Curtis Institute and the Manhattan School of Music in the USA. Eduardo is also a fellow researcher at the Uruguayan University's Music School (EUM/UDELAR) and has published many papers and articles, as well as books about guitar technique and the music of J.S.Bach.

## ALAN HIRSH

ALAN HIRSH is a composer/arranger/guitarist from Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Hirsh is the Music Director and Fine Arts Department Chair at Bishop McGuinness High School, adjunct guitar instructor at Wake Forest University, and is the founder and director of the Piedmont Guitar Orchestra.

Outside of teaching, he actively directs clinics and festival guitar orchestras around the country, serves as Vice President of Education for the Aaron Shearer Foundation, and serves on the board of the Piedmont Classic Guitar Society. Hirsh has composed and arranged extensively for orchestra, band, chorus, guitar and guitar ensemble with works performed around the world including recent world premieres at the Long Island Guitar Festival and All Virginia Guitar Ensemble.

Hirsh also maintains a respected career as a guitar educator. In 1984, he collaborated with Aaron Shearer, composing music for the three-volume, Learning the Classic Guitar (Mel Bay). Most recently Hirsh co-authored, edited, and composed music for the three-volume series, The Shearer Method Book (Alfred Music) Foundations, Developments and Learning the Fingerboard. Hirsh's other published guitar works include Twenty Etudes in fixed Positions, New Music for Classic Guitar, Trio Concertino, Holiday, Folk, Sacred, and Renaissance Collections for guitar ensemble as well as an extensive online catalogue of guitar ensemble music. [www.guitarensemblemusic.com](http://www.guitarensemblemusic.com)



## EMILY KLONOWSKI

At 27 years old, Emily Klonowski has made her talent known throughout Long Island and the New York City area. Her rich and striking mezzo voice has stood out in many professional settings, giving her the opportunity to perform in many prestigious local, national and international venues. Her passion for the ability to express emotion through music started with instrumental beginnings, giving a complete foundation for her voice to blossom through her college career.

Paired with a unique depth in sound and a keen musical awareness, Emily has performed with many

# Performers

C O N T I N U E D

## EMILY KLONOWSKI

*continued*

award-winning groups on very challenging repertoire. This year, she was a soloist with the Merrick Chorale in Mendelssohn's work *Elijah*, Mozart's *Missa Brevis* and John Rutter's *Gloria*. Emily performed Aaron Copland's daring a capella work *In the Beginning* internationally with the LIU Post Chorus.



In 2015, at Lambton, Quebec and the festival *Songe d'ete en Musique* she performed many chamber works for various instrumentations. In the summer of 2013, Emily traveled to Tuscany, Italy where she performed and studied with the Oberlin Conservatory.

Winner of the LIU Post Concerto Competition in 2013, Emily performed *Les Nuit D'ete* by Hector Berlioz. Prior, she attended the Westchester Summer Vocal Institute in 2012, and was a finalist for the *Classical Singer Magazine* Competition in 2011. Emily has performed as a soloist and with groups in many distinguished halls such as the Metropolitan Opera House, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and more.

## DAVID LEISNER

David Leisner has a multi-faceted career as an electrifying performing artist, distinguished composer and master teacher. "*Among the finest guitarists of all time*", according to American Record Guide, Leisner is a featured recording artist for the Azica label, with 9 highly acclaimed recordings. Other recordings are on the Naxos, Telarc and Koch labels, with a concert DVD published by Mel Bay.

David's recent seasons have taken him around the US, including his solo debut with the Atlanta Symphony, a major tour of Australia and New Zealand, and debuts and reappearances in China, Japan, the Philippines, Germany, Hungary, Switzerland, Austria, Denmark, Sweden, Ireland, the U.K., Italy, Czech Republic, Greece, Puerto Rico and Mexico. A frequent performer of chamber music, he has performed at the Santa Fe, Rockport, Vail Valley, Bargemusic, Bay Chamber and Angel Fire Chamber Music Festivals.



In New York David is the Artistic Director of Guitar Plus, an innovative series devoted to chamber music with the guitar. His own compositions, noted for their emotional and dramatic power, are performed, recorded and published worldwide.

A distinguished teacher as well, Leisner is currently Chairman of the guitar department at the Manhattan School of Music. David's book, *Playing with Ease*, is published by Oxford University Press.

# Performers

C O N T I N U E D

## LAURA LESSARD



Laura Lessard started her musical training at an early age with her father, pianist/composer John Lessard. When she was thirteen her family moved to Italy where she began studying the guitar with Stefano Michelucci. She continued her musical training at The Longy School of Music in Boston with Alfred Street, and The Manhattan School of Music with Sharon Isbin and Jerry Willard.

She has performed on the guitar and lute throughout the Northeast and Canada, both as a soloist and chamber musician. She is one of the founding members of The Artesian Guitar Quartet, which has recently released their first CD. In addition to her work as a performer she has been on the faculty of the Guitar Workshop, the Bronx House Music School, The Bay School of Music and The Usdan Center for the Performing Arts.

## MARK MARINO

Mark Marino began studying guitar at the age of ten in Mineola, NY. He has studied with Joe Monk, Jim Hall and Gene Bertoni. Mark has been playing jazz guitar professionally in and around the New York area since 1977. Recently he has appeared at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall with The Valerie Capers Jazz Ensemble. He has been guest soloist with the Nassau Pops Orchestra at Tilles Center. Mark has also performed at the Jazz Standard, City College in Manhattan and Nassau Community College, to name a few.

Other artists Mark has performed with include Lionel Hampton, Ruth Brown, Billy Mitchell, Joe Morello, Joe Dixon and Jim Chapin. Mark is currently on the faculty of Long Island University/LIU Post as well as teaching privately.

Recordings include Valerie Capers latest CD, *"Wagner Takes the A Train"* on Elysium Records, *"Deeply Rooted"* on Cats Paw Records, and *"Standard Stretch"* on Harbour Records.



## RONALD PACE



Ronald Pace has been an educator and performer in the metropolitan area for more than forty years. He earned his BA at Adelphi University, and his MA at SUNY Stony Brook. He studied guitar with Stanley Solow for many years, and has been a student of Jerry Willard. He also studied composition with Robert Milano.

Ronald retired from full-time teaching after working 37 years in the Brentwood public schools. There he taught guitar, choir, jazz choir, music theory, and general music. In 2002 he was part of the Brentwood High School teaching team that won a Grammy



# Performers

C O N T I N U E D

## RONALD PACE

continued

for being one of the top High School music Departments in the country. After retiring he was asked back to develop an after-school guitar Program. Ronald has written and arranged many pieces for guitar and choir. Over the years, he has maintained an active performing career. His guitar performances include solo, duo and ensemble groups.

Ronald has performed many classical programs with his wife, Susan Pace, who sings soprano. In the past few years, some of Ronald's playing has been featured on several television shows.

## MICHAEL ROBERTS



A native New Yorker, Michael Roberts is an active performer, composer and instructor. His playing experience ranges from classical, Jazz, Rock, world music as well as studio work and club dates.

Michael studied classical guitar at LIU Post where he received his BM in Music Education and under the direction of Professor Harris Becker, and Jazz Guitar studies under Professor Mark Marino. While attending LIU Post Michael performed in numerous recitals, master classes and has performed at the Long Island Guitar festival throughout the years. He was also the resident Jazz guitarist of the LIU Post Jazz band.

Michael is an active composer for solo guitar as well as for larger ensembles in various genres. In 2014 his original classical composition for Violin and Guitar premiered at "A Midsummer Music Dream / Songe d'été en Musique" in Quebec, Canada.

## LAURA SNOWDEN

*"A poignant, mesmerising show.... held the Wigmore Hall rapt" (The Guardian). 'A true musician whose interpretative capabilities are profound and exciting.'* (Classical Guitar Magazine)

Award-winning classical guitarist and composer Laura Snowden was selected by Julian Bream to perform the Julian Bream Trust concerts at London's Wigmore Hall in 2015 and 2017, premiering the Trust's new commissions by Olli Mustonen and Julian Anderson. Laura was the first guitarist to graduate from the world-renowned Yehudi Menuhin School, where guitar tuition was made possible by a donation from The Rolling Stones. Last year she recorded a new guitar concerto by Lisa Streich with the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, later premiering it at the Ernst von Siemens Award Ceremony in Munich.



Laura was featured on the front cover of Classical Guitar Magazine Fall 2016 with an in-depth article

# Performers

C O N T I N U E D

## LAURA SNOWDEN

*continued*

describing her as *"linking guitar's past, present and future"*. Laura draws on her Celtic folk background with her folk ensemble Tir Eolas, with whom she has performed at venues as wide-ranging as the Royal Albert Hall and Shakespeare's Globe at the invitation of guitarist John Williams.

As a composer, Laura won First Prize at the Volos International Guitar Composition Competition and has been commissioned by VIDA Guitar Quartet, the Park Lane Group and the International Guitar Foundation; her song *Live Free* was performed at over 300 simultaneous concerts in 60 countries for the charity Voices for Hospices.

Laura currently teaches at the Yehudi Menuhin School and has given classes alongside performances at Uppsala International Guitar Festival, the Altamira Hong Kong International Guitar Symposium, the Interusic and Drama, Birmingham Conservatoire, the Volterra Project in Italy and the Guitar and Lute Festival in Sweden.

## ROBERT TRENT

Robert Trent appears regularly on the concert stage in North and South America, Europe, and in Asia, performing modern guitar, Renaissance lute, archlute, and historic instruments of the nineteenth-century. Reviewers have said: *"His interpretations are dignified, formal, and carefully thought out, with a sense of structural integrity that informs every passing tone."* NEW YORK TIMES



*"A SEASONED ARTIST STRUMS THE DEPTHS (headline) "... he seemed most intent on using his sweet, crystalline sound to plumb the emotional depths of each work."* -PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

A first prize winner in National and International competitions, including; the Webb National Guitar Competition, Masterworks Young Artist Competition (for all instruments) and the chamber music prize at the International Competition "Arturo Toscanini" in Italy, in Period Instrumental performance.

A recording artist for Dorian Records© (with Duo Firenze) in *"Italian Nocturnes: Music for Fortepiano and Early 19thc. Guitar"* he is also featured on the CD *"Traveler's Tales"* TownHall Records (CPS-8776), with flutist Leslie Marrs (Oasis label) entitled, *"Robert Fruehwald: Flute and Guitar Music"*, on Archlute on

the recent *"Concerts Royaux"* on Epiphany Records.

As a scholar he has contributed improvised cadenzas in the style of Fernando Sor to the *"Complete Sonatas of Diabelli, Giuliani and Sor, Vol. 1"*, published by Mel Bay, chaired the national standards committee for the guitar division of the American String Teachers of America (ASTA), and served on the editorial team of the Guitar Foundation of America's 'Soundboard Scholar'; blogs on music, guitar, practicing and historical performance practice at [kitharamuse.blogspot.com/](http://kitharamuse.blogspot.com/)

# Performers

C O N T I N U E D

## ROBERT TRENT

*continued*

Robert is the first recipient of the degree DMA in guitar performance from the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University where he studied with Julian Gray, Manuel Barrueco, lutenist Ronn McFarlane, and coached with singer John Shirley-Quirk. He also holds a Master of Arts of degree in music from Trenton State College from whom he has received the Distinguished Music Alumni Award, and a Bachelor of Music degree in performance from the Philadelphia College of Performing Arts.

Dr. Trent is in his 25th year as Full Professor of Music at Radford University, where he is in his 18th year as director of Radford University's Annual International Guitar Festival. Many of his students are performers, educators and administrators at all levels in the U.S., and in Asia.

### *FORTHCOMING*

- Solo recording of music for the 10-stringed guitar, including his own composition on Soundset Records.
- A solo recording of music of recent music for solo guitar, including music written for and dedicated to Dr. Trent, distributed by Naxos Records.
- Publication of a concerto grosso by Alessandro Scarlatti arranged for guitar orchestra for **GuitarChamber Music.org**

## 2018 COMPETITION WINNERS

### ELIZA BALMUTH



Eliza Balmuth (b. 1999) is a classical guitarist from Fort Worth, TX. Previously a student of Matteo Mela, Chad Ibison, and Mitch Weverka, she currently studies at Oberlin College and Conservatory under Steve Aron.

Since 2009 Eliza has regularly performed and attended festivals in the United States and abroad, including, among others the Cleveland International Classical Guitar Festival (2015), Camino Guitar (2016 and 2018), Festival de Guitare International de Paris (2016), Domaine Forget (2017), and The Volterra Project (2018).

She has taken master classes from Adam Holzman, Jason Vieaux, Grisha Goryachev, Duo Melis, Lorenzo Micheli, Paul Galbraith, Isaac Bustos, Andrew Zohn, Lynn McGrath, Ronn McFarlane, Julian Gray, Alvaro Pierri, Rene Izquierdo, Johannes Möller, Giampaolo Bandini, and Aniello Desiderio, among many others.

Recipient of the Roz Rosenthal Award for Outstanding Student in Music, she has won top prizes in national and international youth competitions including the Columbus State Guitar Symposium, Texas Guitar Festival, East Carolina University Summer Guitar Festival, and Long Island Guitar Festival. Eliza collaborated with

# Performers

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## 2018 COMPETITION WINNERS

### ELIZA BALMUTH

*continued*

Sean McCrary from 2013 through 2016, forming the classical guitar duo “Duo Gemelli.” In addition to receiving prizes in the Brownsville Guitar Ensemble Festival and Competition in both 2015 and 2016, highlights of their performances include a performance of Vivaldi’s *Concerto for Two Mandolins in G Major* with the Collin College Guitar Festival guitar orchestra (2014), recitals at the Houston Classical Guitar Workshop (2015 and 2016) and at the 4th Annual Collin College Guitar Festival, and the premiere of *Grip*, written for them by Joseph Williams II, at the Texas Guitar Conference at Mary Hardin Baylor (2015).

Most recently, in 2016 Eliza and Sean were invited to give 3 concerts as part of the annual summer concert series presented by CaminoArtes in Romanesque churches for the pilgrims along El Camino de Santiago in Castilla-León, Spain.

### EVERETT SHEN

Everett Shen (b. 2000) began playing classical guitar at the age of 12 in Beijing, China under Wangzhen. In high school he was a student of Mark Johnstone, and he currently studies at Princeton University under Laura Oltman.

Everett has performed as both a soloist and ensembler throughout his classical guitar career. He has won top prizes at the Long Island Guitar Festival and Philadelphia Guitar Festival, and has performed in various venues such as the New Jersey Governor’s mansion as a member of the Guitars of Westminster, the Westminster Conservatory of Music’s premiere guitar quartet.



As a current member of the Princeton University Chamber Music Society, Everett is collaborating with harpist Mara Hurwin to bring Alan Hovhanness’ *“Spirit of Trees”* to the stage.

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LIU Post

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*Guitar Festival*

[liu.edu/gfest](http://liu.edu/gfest)