



Press release
Long Island Guitar Festival 2023
News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Setauket, NY – January 27, 2023
www.ligfest.net

Setauket: *Eclectic and International*, the **31st annual Long Island Guitar Festival** will be held **April 26 - 30, 2023** at the **Setauket Presbyterian Church** in Setauket, NY.

“The ‘Long Island’ in the festival title clearly refers to its location and origins, rather than to its scope,” *The New York Times*

The 2023 Guitar Festival is presented in partnership with the **Setauket Presbyterian Church** and the **Oberon Foundation**. The Long Island Guitar Festival represents an ongoing commitment to reach out to the arts community here and abroad and continue its established tradition of excellence in guitar performance and pedagogy.

Founded in 1993 by **Harris Becker**, this international event provides a unique opportunity to hear world-class artists in person and watch them teach master classes, conduct workshops, and perform in concert. The festival also features **High School Guitar Ensemble Showcases** and the eighth annual **National High School Guitar Competition** (*the first-place winner of the National High School Classical Guitar Competition will receive a guitar donated by Long Island classical guitar luthier Brian Itzkin*).

“The 2023 festival will feature guitarists: **Berta Rojas, Laura Snowden, João Luiz, Boyd Meets Girl (Rupert Boyd, guitar & Laura Metcalf, cello), Harris Becker, James Erickson, Laura Lessard, Octavio Deluchi, Gabriele Leite, Eduardo Gutterres** and emerging artist **Penelope Shvarts**.”

Other musicians include - Maureen Hynes, Veronica Salas, Jeffrey Marcus, Bradley Bosenbeck, Frank Cassara, Tammy Hensrud, the Hofstra University Chamber Choir, David Fryling, Noby Ishida, Clara Reeves, and Dale Stuckenbruck.

The festival will feature US Premieres of large ensemble pieces “Trois Rêves/Three Dreams” and “Into the Light” by Laura Snowden, “Crépuscule Rustique” and “Vine on a Brickwall” (for two guitars) by Michael Spiroff, November (for two guitars) by Alan Hirsh. The festival will also feature a concert of music by João Luiz for guitar quartet.

Ensembles scheduled to perform include the NJMEA HS Honors Guitar Orchestra, New Jersey Guitar Orchestra, Susan E. Wagner HS Guitar Ensemble, the Metropolitan Guitar Academy, and the James Madison High School Guitar Ensemble

The **National High School Classical Guitar Competition** is open to residents of all 50 states who are attending a public or private high school through the date of the competition finals. Applicants may not be represented by professional management. The competition will be limited to the first 30 applicants who submit all required materials to the Long Island Guitar Festival by **April 1, 2023**. Competition rules and guidelines, as well as a complete list of performers and concert schedules, are available at www.ligfest.net

Festival sponsors include **The D'Addario Foundation, the Augustine Foundation, Savarez, Murphy's Music,** and dedicated individuals.

Tickets: All events are available on the website through Eventbrite.

All-Events Pass - \$125.00

Individual concerts, master classes and workshops range from \$15.00 - \$35.00 per person.

\$35.00 (Students, Seniors and Guitar Society Members \$25.00)

\$25.00 (Students, Seniors and Guitar Society Members \$15.00)

\$15.00 (Students, Seniors and Guitar Society Members \$10.00)

High School Guitar Ensemble Concert – Free

Discussion/Q&A: Guitar Building in Granada Spain with Luthier Brian Itzkin - Free

Finals - National High School Classical Guitar Competition - Free.

Students, Seniors, and Guitar Society members will be discounted at door.

For More Information:

ligfestival@aol.com

Berta Rojas

"It was an unforgettable concert" Classical Guitar Magazine

Laura Snowden

"Snowden is an outstanding performer whose interpretations of well-loved classics captivated the audience. Her original compositions added a special element to the concert that no one else could have brought. It was a pleasure to hear her play." Classical Voice

Boyd Meets Girl

"Beguiling... fascinating... enchanting... their mutual understanding is manifest in every bar, not least the way they listen to each other." Gramophone

Harris Becker

Mr. Becker's presentation of these pieces was a study in fluidity and grace..."

-Greater Port Jefferson-Northern Brookhaven Arts Council