

The Guitar Garden

Newsletter of the New Jersey Classical Guitar Society

March 2025

Robert Ey, Editor

March Meetings

Gad Berger will host our **Zoom** meeting on Sunday, **March 9** at 4:00 p.m. (eastern time).

We will have our Annual Lasagna Meeting at the home of Robert and Irene Ey in **Hopewell Borough on Sunday, March 16**, at 4:00 p.m. The Lasagna Meeting is a potluck: we'll provide the lasagna, but please bring something to share, such as a side dish, salad, drinks, dessert, or the like. We will try to start promptly at 4:00 so that everyone will have a chance to perform before breaking for dinner around 6:00.

The Annual Lasagna Meeting is a popular NJCGS tradition going back many years and intended to provide some warmth (and food) in a usually cold and uncomfortable time of the year. January 2025, however, was unusually cold and uncomfortable, so weather and road conditions forced us to reschedule. It's still basically regular meeting, so please don't be shy about coming if you haven't come to a meeting before or recently.

As usual, please watch for a Reminder with directions or instructions on joining the meeting a few days before each meeting.

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January Concerts

The New York City Classical Guitar Society presents Petra Polácková

International Artist Series Concert

Friday, March 7, 2025, 7:30 p.m.

Tenri Cultural Institute

43A West 13th Street, New York City

Admission: General \$44.52; Senior/student/NYCCGS member \$33.85

The Czech virtuoso, performing repertoire from across the centuries on both 19th-century and modern instruments, with consummate musicianship. "Polácková's playing was so technically secure and musically insightful, it was unimaginable that anything she played could possibly be difficult." ClevelandClassical.com

The Romantic Guitar with Petra Polácková: Members Meeting & Open Mic

Thursday, March 6, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Sunlight Studios

321 W 44th St Suite #202

New York, NY 10036



Join Petra Polácková for an inspiring workshop on the Romantic guitar—exploring expression, virtuosity, and the lyrical style that forged one of music's eras of deep emotional connections. Learn this master's secrets!

More Information: <https://www.nyccgs.com/>

The Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society presents Bokyung Byun

Saturday, March 8, 3:00 p.m.

Doylestown Lodge
55 E State St, Doylestown, PA 18901

Sunday, March 9, 3:00 p.m.

Settlement Music School
416 Queen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146

Admission: General \$30; Senior (65+) \$20; Student
13 years to 25 years old (School ID required) \$10

Recipient of the 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Bokyung Byun enjoys a reputation as one of the most sought-after guitarists of her generation. Bokyung holds the distinction of being the first female winner of the prestigious JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition, where Falletta herself described Bokyung's performance as "stunning, showcasing her gorgeous tone, immaculate technique, and sophisticated musicianship." Other recent honors include the grand prize at the 2021 Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition and the Montreal International Classical Guitar Competition. Committed to expanding the role of a 21st-century musician, Byun's concert program often features contemporary music alongside traditional repertoire.



More Information: <https://www.phillyguitar.org/>

The Brooklyn Classical Guitar Society presents Cinzia Milani, Solo Classical Guitar Concert: *From Italy to...*

Sunday, March 29

Soapbox Gallery
636 Dean St, Brooklyn

Concert doors at 6:30 p.m., Music at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$35

Join us for an evening of mesmerizing classical guitar music performed by classical guitarist Cinzia Milani. Cinzia has prepared a beautiful program called, "From Italy to..." featuring music by Ida Presti, John Duarte, Mauro Giuliani, Astor Piazzolla, and more! This in-person event will take place at the Soapbox Gallery. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to experience the beauty of classical guitar up close and personal. Mark your calendars and we'll see you in Brooklyn!

More Information: <https://www.bkcgs.org/upcoming-events>



Princeton University Concerts presents Thomas Dunford, Lute

“Performances Up Close” Concert

Sunday March 23, 3:00 and 6:00 p.m., Richardson Auditorium, Alexander Hall

Tickets: General \$40; Student \$10; Princeton University Students free

Thomas Dunford treats us to works for solo lute that are a testimony to his reputation as a “rockstar of historical performance.” Experience this unique instrument in an intimate format with audience seated onstage!

Parisian lute virtuoso Thomas Dunford makes centuries-old music resonate with a modern pulse. Dunford and his lute have shared the stage with musical greats like Bobby McFerrin and Anne-Sophie von Otter. His early music program features masterpieces by John Dowland, J. S. Bach, Marin Marais, and well-known melodies by Erik Satie. “The Eric Clapton of the lute” – BBC Magazine.



More Information: <https://concerts.princeton.edu/events/24-25-dunford/>

Pre-Concert Speed Dating

Sunday, March 23, 1:00 p.m. Maclean House, Princeton University Campus (Nassau St & Elm Drive)

Ticket Package: General \$50; Student \$25

Let us help you find someone cute before you experience the lute, together! Meet other music-loving singles in your age group by participating in 8-minute speed dates before hearing lutist Thomas Dunford in concert.

More Information: <https://concerts.princeton.edu/events/2425speeddating2/>

Live Music Meditation with Thomas Dunford, Lute and Matthew Weiner, Mediation Instructor

Monday March 24, 12:30 p.m.

Location: To Be Determined.

Admission: Free, no tickets required.

Breathe in sound and silence through guided meditation as you listen to music more viscerally than ever before, meditating to the playing of lutist Thomas Dunford, guided by Matthew Weiner, Associate Dean in the Princeton University Office of Religious Life. This is a FREE, unticketed opportunity to indulge in attentive, focused, and mindful listening. No prior experience with meditation necessary.

More Information: <https://concerts.princeton.edu/events/24-25-thomas-dunford-meditation/> ↓

February 9 Zoom Meeting

Program

Duo Migliore (Rick Florio and Valerie Nelson)

- Waltz Op 44b No 4 – Fernando Sor
- Grave – Wolff Jacob Lauffensteiner
- Nocturne, Op 37 No 5 – Antoine Lhoyer



This meeting was hosted by Rick Florio. The cost of using Zoom in 2025 is covered by generous contributions from Ming Chao, Dana Hamilton, Rick Florio, Jeffrey Wilt, Gary Lee and Candace Wang, Jeff Griesemer, Valerie Nelson, Robert Ey, Gad Berger, Dave Starbuck, Steve Walters, and Shane McKevitt. ↓

February 16 Meeting at the Puddingstone Community Club

Program

Duo Migliore (Rick Florio and Valerie Nelson)

- Waltz Op 44b No 4 – Fernando Sor
- Grave – Wolff Jacob Lauffensteiner
- Nocturne, Op 37 No 5 – Antoine Lhoyer



Robert Ey

- Nowhere – Angela Mair



Marsha Rohe

- A Traditional Spanish Fandanguillo
- Un Dia De Noviembre by Leo Brouwer
- Lotus Pool by Lance Bosman



Jeffrey Wilt

- Prelude, BWV 998 – Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. E. Lopes
- Home – Andrew York
- Squares Suspended – Andrew York



Doug Munch

- Maria Louisa – Julio Sagreras
- Estudio – Francisco Tárrega



Victor Keremedjiev

- Breath – Victor Keremedjiev

Gemma Keremedjiev (voice) and Victor Keremedjiev

- Autumn Leaves
- What if I Never Speede – John Dowland



Rick Florio

- Allemande and Courante from Cello Suite #1 BWV 1007: – JS Bach, arr. Stanley Yates

Photos (mostly) by Jeffrey Wilt ♪