

The Guitar Garden

Newsletter of the New Jersey Classical Guitar Society

April 2025

Robert Ey, Editor

April Meetings (and more)

Our in-person meeting this month will be in the newly renovated concert hall at the Lindeblad School of Music, 101 US Highway 46 E., Pine Brook, NJ 07058, at 4:00 p.m. on **Saturday, April 12.**



Photo from 2024 Meeting

In addition to our usual member performances, this meeting will feature performances by Lindeblad faculty and students. Faculty members Shiho Vogel and Alex Valencia will play *Souvenir de Russie, Op. 63* by Fernando Sor. A student quartet

will play *Cuando Llora Mi Guitarra* by Julio Jaramillo, arranged by A. Valencia, and *Libertango* by Astor Piazzolla.

Many of our members live in the northeastern part of the state, and we sometimes hear that some of our venues are too far from home for them. It has become more difficult recently to find suitable meeting places that aren't further south or west, so we greatly appreciate Lindeblad for making their concert hall available to us. Please make an effort to join us for this occasion to show your support for NJCGS and for Lindeblad, especially if it's more difficult for you to get to our other venues.

Rick Florio will host our **Zoom Meeting on Sunday, April 27** at 4:00 p.m. (eastern time).

Mark your calendar for our meeting at the Morris County Library in Whippany on Sunday, May 10, at 2:30. We will close this season with the Annual Picnic in Hopewell, date TBD.

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

April Events

Masterclass with David Russell. (presented online by the Baltimore Classical Guitar Society)

Grammy-winning guitarist David Russell will teach a master class at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, MD, on Tuesday, April 8, from 7 to 10 p.m. Performers will be students in the Peabody Conservatory Guitar Department.

The class will be streamed FREE to registered listeners on Zoom, first-come (registered), first-served.



Registration: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/6B35nqUoT8e76Aefzfi_fQ

2025 Philadelphia Classical Guitar Festival

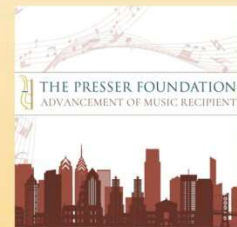


Sunday April 6, 2025 - 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Settlement Music School, 416 Queen St. Philadelphia, PA 19147

FREE PARKING

- **Student Recitals**
- **2025 PCGS Guitar Competition Finals**
- **Vendors Fair**
- **Professional Workshops**
- **RENÉ IZQUIERDO Master Class**
- **DAVID MANZANARES-SALGUERO Closing Festival Concert**



All Day Festival Pass: \$45/\$35/\$25 (General, Members, Students)
Check www.phillyguitar.org for detailed schedule →



Book Releases

Cultural Thriller Combines Music, Cuisine, and History For a Unique Crime Suspense Centered On A Concert Guitarist's World Tours

Strings Attached

Andrew Nitkin

ISBN: 9798822973848; Available now on Amazon and Barnes and Noble

When the European Union Cultural Council contacts Jonathan Lanbourne's manager, it feels like everything in his life is finally perfect. Jonathan worked his entire life to become a concert guitarist—to play with the best of the best in some of the world's most iconic spaces—and he's actually done it. With his wife's agreement and his manager in tow, Jonathan jets onto a five-city European tour. However, the upstart musician has no idea what's waiting for him on the other side of the pond.

As his world tour continues, Jonathan struggles to balance romance, crime, music, and culture to return to his perfectly safe and comfortable life in the States. But, based on the decisions he makes – or, in some cases, was forced to make – will “safe” be an option for him again? And what will happen to the career he's worked so hard to build if his mistakes come to light?

For fans of music, drama, romance, crime, and travel, *Strings Attached* offers a thrilling narrative that features real information and points of interest in cities worldwide both in Europe and South America.

About the Author: Andrew Nitkin is an entrepreneur, musician, and educator with decades of experience in the performing arts. Now with a teaching and writing studio based in Scotch Plains, NJ, Andrew writes books blending entertainment with practical lifestyle insights and is currently recording a classical guitar album. His debut book, *Strings Attached*, launches a series of fiction and non-fiction works. Andrew aims to inspire and enrich lives with creativity and wisdom through his writing and teaching.

A Collection of Sephardic Songs for Voice and Guitar

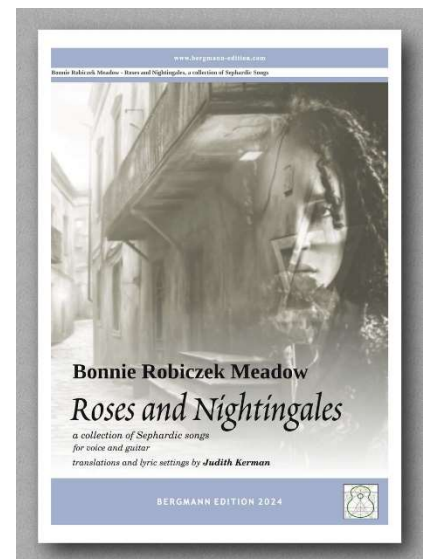
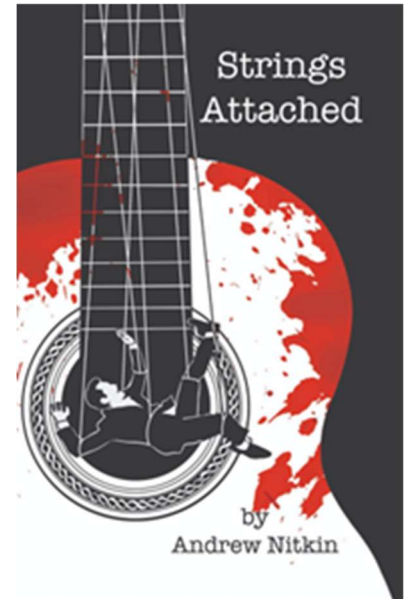
Roses and Nightingales

Bonnie Robiczek Meadow

When Islamic rule ended in 1492, the Jews of Spain and Portugal were given the choice of conversion to Christianity, exile, or execution. Many converted or killed, but hundreds of thousands left. Known as Sephardic Jews, these refugees brought with them Iberian culture and language, especially a variant of Spanish called Ladino or Judeo-Espanyol, which included Hebrew, Arabic and other elements. As the Sephardim dispersed, their creative works were flavored by the new cultures in which they found themselves, particularly North African and Turkish influences. The varied music of the Sephardic Jews emerged out of this complex history.

Recognizing a need for playable classical guitar accompaniments, guitarist/composer Bonnie Robiczek Meadow decided to write original accompaniments for performances with mezzo-soprano Judith Kerman, who wrote English translations.

More Information: https://bergmann-edition.com/products/meadow-roses-and-nightingales?variant=53840804839768&fbclid=IwY2xjawJM0aZleHRuA2FlbOIxMAABHc_jUyIt8kgzM21qC0SCf8MHD6rGrtT9KSnSO2jFREQuB4DdtTrDeUQ3HQ_aem_4K4U98k6gatHgc3JTidq0Q ↓



March 16 Lasagna Meeting in Hopewell

Program

Rick Florio

- Andante Largo Op 5 No 5 – Fernando Sor
- Yanvalloux from Haitian Suite – Frantz Casséus

Duo Migliore (Rick Florio and Valerie Nelson)

- Gavotte Rondeau – Robert de Visée
- Minuet in Canon – Wendell von Radolt
- Recercate Concertante – Francesco da Milano & Johannes Matelart
- Incantation – Richard Charlton

Irene Ey (soprano), Valerie Nelson (alto) and Robert Ey

- Somewhere Along the Road – Rick Kemp, arr. Robert Ey

Robert Ey

- Give Me Your Hand – "Rory Dall O'Cahan," arr. Glenn Weiser

Marsha Rohe

- Waltz – Smile – Tatiana Stachak
- Waltz on a Melancholic Note – “
- Frosted Waltz – “

Jeff Griesemer

- Let Us Break Bread Together – African-American spiritual, arr. Jeff Griesemer ♪



February 9 Zoom Meeting

Program

Gad Berger

- Solitude – Frederick Noad
- Un Día de Noviembre – Leo Brouwer

Shane McKevit

- Julia Florida (Barcarola) – Agustín Barrios Mangoré
- Hymne à l'amour – Édith Piaf & Marguerite Monnot, Arranged by Roland Dyens

Gary Lee

- J.S. Bach: Largo from Violin Sonata No. 3, trans. M. Barrueco
- <https://youtu.be/QK0ygoGx4Ls>



This meeting was hosted by Gad Berger. 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 McKevit. ♪