

The Guitar Garden

Newsletter of the New Jersey Classical Guitar Society

May 2025

Robert Ey, Editor

May Meetings



Our in-person meeting this month will be on **Saturday, May 10**, at the Morris County Library in Whippany from **2:30 to 4:30 p.m.** Note that we're meeting at an unusual (for us) day and time, since the space is available only when the Library is open. Thanks to Library Director Darren O'Neill and the library staff for hosting, and to Marsha Rohe for organizing.

Our Zoom meeting will be on Sunday, May 11 at 4:00 p.m. (eastern time). Thanks to Gad Berger for hosting.

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

May Concerts and Events

New Jersey Guitar Orchestra at Long Island Guitar Festival

Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.
Setauket Presbyterian Church
5 Caroline Ave. Setauket - East Setauket, NY, 11733

Eclectic and International, the 33rd annual Long Island Guitar Festival will be held April 30 to May 4, 2025 at the Setauket Presbyterian Church in Setauket, NY.

To date, scheduled performers include Raphaella Smits, Hao Yang, Jérémy Jouve, Kithara Duo, Mela Guitar Quartet, Harris Becker & Friends, James Erickson, Laura Lessard, and Nathan Park the winner of the 2024 LIGF High School Classical Guitar Competition. Scheduled ensembles include the NJMEA HS Honors Guitar Orchestra, the New Jersey Guitar Orchestra, the New York City Guitar Orchestra and the James Madison HS Guitar Ensemble.

In addition to concerts, lectures and demonstrations, Festival 2025 will include our National High School Classical Guitar Competition, Master Classes and Workshops for Guitarists and Performers, and Ensemble Showcases. The winner of the 2025 National High School Classical Guitar Competition will receive a guitar donated by Long Island classical guitar luthier Brian Itzkin.

More Information: <https://www.ligfest.net/about-ligf>



William Paterson University Guitarfest 2025

Saturday, May 3rd, 2025
Shea Center
300 Pompton Rd. Wayne, NJ

11 AM WPU Guitarists: Students and Faculty Shea Room 101

2 PM **Tomas Rodriguez** seminar:
Popular and folkloric elements in classical guitar music Shea Room 103

4 PM Masterclass with virtuoso guitarist
Ana Maria Rosado Shea Room 103

8 PM **Ana Maria Rosado** in concert Shea Room 101

Admission: \$20

Events are *free to WPU students!*
(Please bring student ID.)

Performing in the master class with Ana Maria Rosado is \$60
(includes admission to all Guitarfest events)

Students wishing to perform must
contact Seth Himmelhoch at 201-486-7744



Tomas Rodriguez

Composer and guitarist Tomas Rodriguez weaves melodies and rhythms, navigating the intricate tapestry of his Spanish, Appalachian, and Peruvian heritage. Internationally known for his concert performances, he has also released three full length albums: “*Guitarra de mi Alma*”, “*Dialogue*”, and “*Ruminations*”. A sought after instructor and educator, at Guitarfest Tomas will share his cross cultural insights into classical guitar repertoire. Bring your guitar!



Ana Maria Rosado

Guitarist Ana María Rosado has travelled the world to concertize. She has released two solo compact discs, “*We’ve got (poly)rhythm*”, and “*Salsa and Other Beats*” (2010) which includes the premiere recordings of pieces by Jorge Morel. She was one of the select few to perform for the legendary Spanish guitarist Andrés Segovia in his last set of masterclasses. We are excited to host this wonderful artist of the guitar at our festival!

Guitar studies at William Paterson University

There are four basic tracks for music students at WPU: **Performance, Education, Sound Engineering and Music Business**. There are three music style areas to choose from when pursuing one of these tracks: **Jazz, Classical and Pop**. The accomplished guitar faculty at WPU includes Dave Stryker for Jazz guitar, Chris Sholar for Pop guitar, and Seth Himmelhoch for Classical guitar.

For information, contact professor Seth Himmelhoch:

himmelhochs@wpunj.edu
(201)-486-774

Concert: Soprano Sungji Kim and Classical Guitarist Stanley Alexandrowicz

Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.
Princeton Public Library
65 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08542

Please join internationally renowned soprano Sungji Kim and classical guitarist Stanley Alexandrowicz for a concert of opera arias, lieder, virtuoso guitar solos and traditional Korean and Japanese songs. Works by Vincenzo Bellini, Franz Schubert, and Roberto Gerhard will be featured. In addition, there will be a focus on traditional Korean and Japanese songs in honor of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

Kim has been actively involved in presenting, discovering, and premiering lesser-known masterpieces for voice and guitar. Collaborating with internationally renowned classical guitar virtuoso, Dr. Stanley Alexandrowicz, their duo has performed to great critical acclaim for over two decades.



More Information: <https://princetonlibrary.libnet.info/event/13480764>

NYC Guitar Orchestra Spring Concert

Friday, May 9, 2025 at 7:30 PM
Society for Ethical Culture
2 West 64th Street, New York City

Join us for an unforgettable evening with the 35-member New York City Guitar Orchestra, led by conductor Nicoletta Todesco. From the rhythmic charm of the Baroque to the vivid colors of contemporary works—and a world premiere of a work by Olga Amelkina-Vera, and special guest Jayson Martinez from the New Jersey Guitar Orchestra – this vibrant program promises something for every music lover.



Enjoy the rich sound of classical guitars in the beautiful and intimate concert hall of the New York Society for Ethical Culture, known for its superb acoustics and welcoming atmosphere. A festive reception will follow the performance—come meet the artists and fellow music enthusiasts!

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

Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society Concerts

Antonio Rey, “Historias de un Flamenco” with Juanito Pascual and José Moreno

Thursday, May 29, 2025 7:30 in Philadelphia
Friday, May 30, 2025 7:30 p.m. in Doylestown

Two-time Latin Grammy-winner Antonio Rey (Spain) is widely regarded as one of the top flamenco guitarists of his generation. Lauded for his stunning virtuosity, impeccable tone, as well as his lush and soulful compositions, he has won many of Spain's most prestigious guitar competitions and received numerous awards, such as Spain's "National Guitar Award" shared by the likes of Paco de Lucia and Vicente Amigo.



Classical Guitar from Latin America

Teatro Esperanza
4261 North 5th Street Philadelphia, PA 19140
Saturday May 10 3:00 p.m.

Featuring guitarists:

- Emiliano Pardo-Tristán (Panama)
- John Penn (USA) and special guest on castanets Dolores Gmitter (USA)
- Alejo de los Reyes (Argentina); with special guest on vocals Paula Serrano (Argentina)
- Ana Vidovic (Croatia)

Performing music from Cuba, Argentina, Paraguay, Venezuela, and Mexico.



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PCGS Members and Ensemble Concert

First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia
Sunday May 18, 2025 – 4 p.m.
201 S. 21st St. Philadelphia, PA 19103

Come and enjoy many of the best classical guitar artists in our region. This year's Members concert features also the PCGS Guitar Ensemble performance and concert opener. This is the premier guitar large ensemble in Philadelphia under the direction of renowned musician Alejo de los Reyes. The concert, organized by the Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society, is open to the public and it is FREE (donations appreciated).



The Athenaeum of Philadelphia & PCGS present Alejo de Los Reyes, Classic Guitar Soirée: Baroque & Renaissance Guitar from Latin America

Tuesday May 20, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
The Athenaeum of Philadelphia
219 S. 6th Street – Philadelphia, PA 19106

This Soirée features traditional music from Latin America and the Spanish Renaissance and Baroque. Alejo de los Reyes is one of his generation's leading Tango classical guitar players. Guests include vocalist Paula Serrano and guitarist Patricio Acevedo. Social hour with light refreshments at 5pm in the Members Lounge. Concert begins at 6pm in the Busch Room.



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

Morris County Library Spring Concert Series

Spring Lunchtime Concerts

Please join us this May for midday music recitals. Performances run from 12:15 to 12:45 PM. Seating is first come, first seated. Feel free to bring your lunch and enjoy some great music while you eat!

Wed., May 14

Wed., May 21

Dr. Sarah Carrier, flute

Leighann Narum, guitar

Nicholas Pappone, violin

Joseph Staten, cello

Darren O'Neill, guitar

Morris County Library,
30 East Hanover Ave.
Whippany NJ 07981

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Wednesday, May 14th: Duo Diletto (Dr. Sarah Carrier, flute, and Leighann Narum, guitar) will perform music of Niccolo Paganini, Enrique Granados, Maximo Diego Pujol, and Erik Marchelie.

Wednesday, May 21st: Nicholas Pappone (violin), Joseph Staten (cello), and Darren O'Neill (guitar) will perform music of Olivier Mayran de Chamisso and Niccolo Paganini.

Duo Diletto: Sarah Carrier is an active soloist, chamber musician, and educator who hails from Southern California. Leighann Narum has taught classical guitar at Rutgers University-Newark since 2000. The flute and guitar Duo Diletto was formed in 2023 and performs throughout the area.

Nicholas Pappone: Lauded as a "first rate" violinist by Maestro Lorin Maazel, Nicholas Pappone makes a diverse career as soloist, chamber musician, sought-after orchestral player, and teacher in New York City.

Joseph Staten: Internationally recognized cellist Joseph Staten enjoys a varied career as a sought-after recitalist, chamber musician, and soloist.

Darren O'Neill: Darren O'Neill is the Director of the Morris County Library.

April 12 Meeting at the Lindeblad School of Music

Program



Maximilian Jung, Adora Pan, Isabella Valencia, and Dyuti Venkatakrishna (Lindeblad Students)

- Cuando Lloro Mi Guitarra – Julio Jaramillo, arr. A. Valencia
- Libertango – Astor Piazzolla

Dyuti Venkatakrishna

- Bouree 1 and 2 from the Cello suite no. 3 BWV 1009 – J.S. Bach

Robert Ey

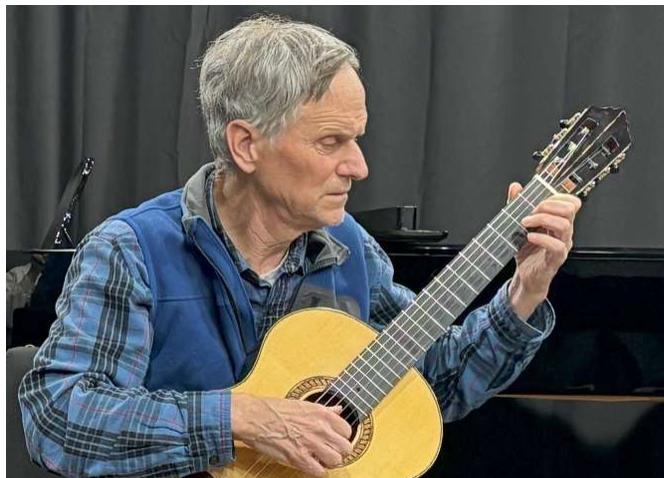
- Nowhere – Angela Mair



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Jeff Griesemer

- Let Us Break Bread Together – African-American Spiritual, arr. Jeff Griesemer
- Slieve Russell – Irish traditional, arr. Jeff Griesemer



Jim Tosone

- Wild Mountain Thyme – Trad., arr. J. Tosone
- Ashokan Farewell – Jay Ungar, arr. J. Tosone
- Rondo – Roger Van Otterloo, arr. J. Tosone



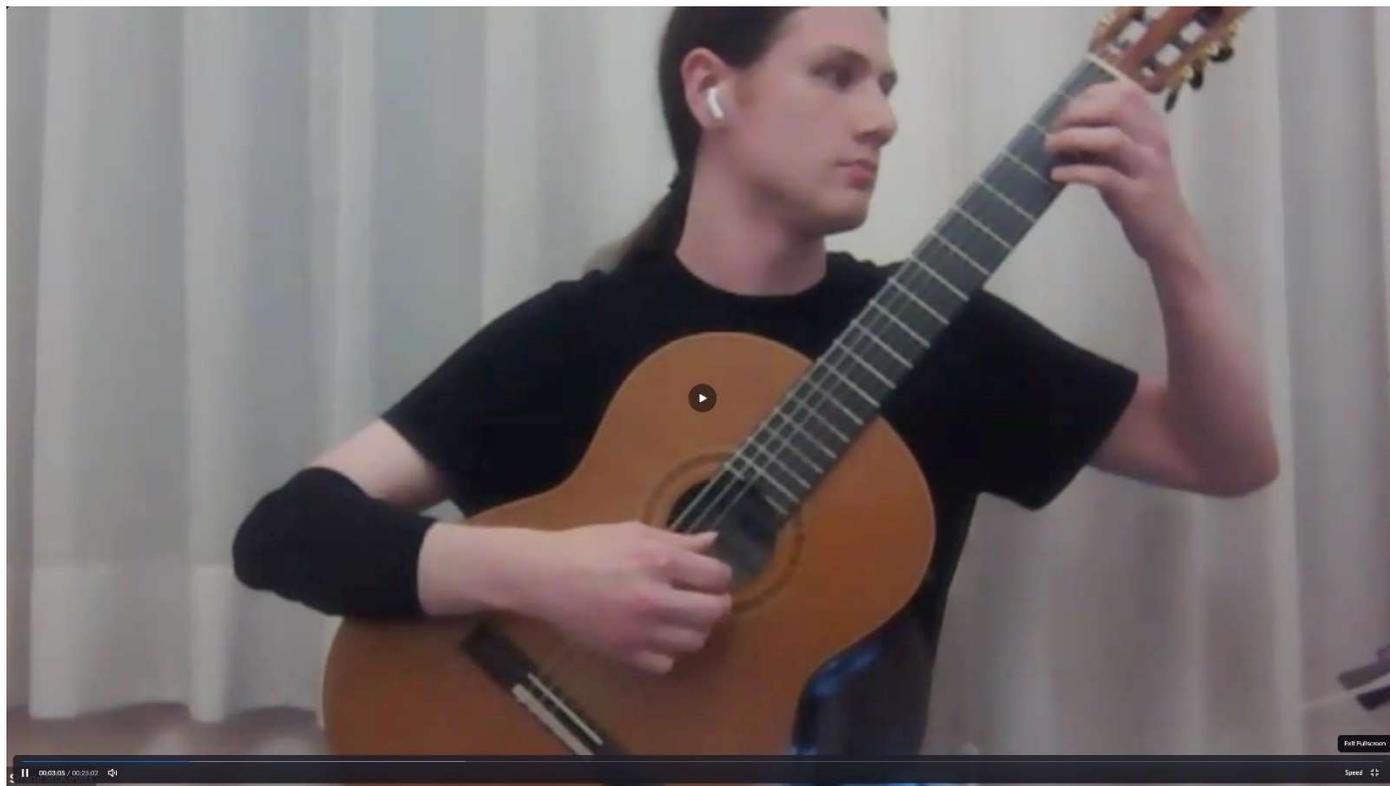
Alex Valencia and Shiho Vogel



- Souvenir de Russie, Op. 63 – Fernando Sor J

April 27 Zoom Meeting

Program



Shane McKevitt

- Recuerdos de la Alhambra – Francisco Tárrega

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. ♪