MGS Mission Statement
Promote the guitar in all its stylistic and cultural diversity through sponsorship of public forums, concerts, and workshops. Serve as an educational and social link between the community and amateur and professional guitarists of all ages.

Announcing Our 2018-19 Sundin Hall Concert Series

Tengyue (TY) Zhang
Saturday, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m.

To start this year’s Sundin Hall concert series, we are delighted to present the 2017 first-place winner of the Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition, Tengyue Zhang of China.

Tengyue (TY) Zhang was born in Hebei, China. He began to study classical guitar at the age of five with his father. At seven, he was introduced to Professor Chen Zhi, with whom he studied at the Music School attached to the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. In 2012, he was accepted into The Juilliard School undergraduate program, and during his six years of study there with Sharon Isbin, he received his Bachelor of Music in 2016, and his Master of Music in 2018.

TY has given recitals in Vienna, Serbia, China, and the United States. His performance for the 2017 New York Guitar Festival was broadcast on WQXR radio. The GFA prize sends him on a concert tour of over 50 cities in North America, including his recital debut in Carnegie Weill Hall, with additional dates in Europe, South America, and his native China. TY performs Rodrigo’s Concierto

Minneapolis Guitar Quartet
Saturday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.

For the second concert of our new season, we are delighted to welcome back the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet, a group with a long history of artistic excellence and many ties to our Society. The current line-up features the virtuosic playing any fan of theirs has come to expect, coupled with a unique blend of backgrounds and musical tastes. We are grateful for their appearance here. For the story behind this, see the Editor’s Note on page 2.

The Minneapolis Guitar Quartet has captivated audiences throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. From Bach to Piazzolla to Prince, the MGQ’s eclectic programs are propelled by virtuosity and synchronization that come from decades of classical training and ensemble experience. The foursome—Joseph Hagedorn, Maja Radovanlija, Ben Kunkel and Wade Oden—build an intimate and comfortable rapport with their audiences through their engaging stage presence and good humor.

The MGQ has performed its programs throughout the U.S. and Mexico, with recent and upcoming tours in China, Serbia, Montenegro, Germany, Macedonia, and Bulgaria. A sampling of notable performances include residencies at UCLA and Princeton, San Francisco’s Omni Foundation Dynamite Guitar series, Tianjin Grand Theater and Congqing Guotai Arts Centre. Concert appearances include dates with the Austin Symphony, St. Paul Chamber

Don’t be late!
Sundin Music Hall concerts all start at 7:30 p.m. this season!

In This Issue: Complete series info on p. 3, OpenStage info on p. 6, Member News and Notes on p. 6.
Farewell from Emily

Dear Minnesota Guitar Society friends,

Thank you for your support and enthusiasm these past five years. I started a position as a chaplain at the end of August and have resigned from my position as Managing Director. I have cheerfully handed the reins back to Paul Hintz. It has been an honor and a delight to serve as the director of this wonderful organization. I want to thank the board and the members who have contributed their time, energy, ideas, and dollars to keep the MGS active, alive, and energized.

The work of the MGS makes it possible for audiences in Minnesota to hear extraordinary guitarists play beautiful music in a lovely setting. The masterclasses and Open Stage that are sponsored by the MGS mean that aspiring guitarists are given a chance to play for and learn from each other and from master artists. The beauty of the music and dedication of the players inspires all of us, and I am convinced that hearing and creating music makes this world a better place. I am looking forward to listening to future concerts from the audience, and signing up for a slot at Open Stage. I hope to see many of you in the future!

Sincerely,
Emily Youngdahl Wright

Minneapolis Guitar Society

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Sundin Music Hall is on the Hamline University Campus at 1536 Hewitt Ave. in St. Paul.

Directions: from I-94, head north on Snelling Ave. in St. Paul, past University Ave. to Hewitt Ave. Turn right, Sundin Hall is on your left, a half-block east of Snelling. Free parking is available one block past the hall, in lots off Hewitt (on your right) or off Pascal (1 block north).

Editor’s Note
Those of you who received other announcements about our Sundin Hall series know that originally, and until just before this issue of Guitarist was to go to the printer, we expected to welcome the Amadeus Guitar Duo for our October concert. Last minute, unsolvable visa problems forced them to cancel their U.S. dates this fall. We hope to host them next season. Those of you who regularly attend our concerts know this is not the first time we’ve faced such a disappointment and challenge. Thanks to Eva Beneke and friends last spring, and the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet now, we can still enjoy wonderful music played by outstanding artists with international reputations. We thank them all. How to respond to the ongoing issue of visa approvals for international artists is something our intrepid Artistic Director Joe Hagedorn is working on. We hope to have more on this in the next issue of Guitarist. We thank you for your support. See you at Sundin!
Sundin Music Hall Concerts

It’s not too early to make your fall, winter, and spring concert-going plans. Read on to find out who you’ll be able to hear at Sundin Hall. But don’t be late. Buy a season ticket. Remember: all concerts this year start at 7:30 pm!

Edmar Castaneda, Saturday, Nov. 17

Since arriving in the United States in 1994, Colombian-born harp virtuoso Edmar Castaneda has forged his own distinctive path in music. He brings not only an unfamiliar instrument but a wholly original voice to jazz, branching out into a world of different styles and genres.

Born in 1978 in the city of Bogotá, Colombia, Castaneda took up the harp as a teenager to play the folkloric music of his homeland. He discovered jazz shortly after moving to New York City to join his father in 1994 and was drawn to the freedom and sophistication of the music. With no precedent for the harp in the jazz world, Castaneda studied the harp at a restaurant gig by night. He was ushered into the jazz community by legendary trumpeter Paquito D’Rivera, who recognized Castaneda’s passion and took the young harpist under his wing. Since then, Castaneda has taken New York and the world stage by storm with the sheer force of his virtuosic command of the harp, revolutionizing the way audiences and critics alike consider an instrument commonly relegated to the “unusual category.”

Acoustic Guitarathon, Saturday, Dec. 8

From long-established, internationally stars of the steel-string scene to vital and original newcomers, Minnesota has a deep, strong tradition of players on the classical guitar’s metallic cousin. Some of the best will be on stage for this guitarathon. Watch for the next issue of the newsletter to learn more, or visit our website later this fall.

Karmen Stendler, Saturday, Jan. 26

Slovenian classical guitarist Karmen Stendler has appeared in a wide range of venues, from Ljubljana’s Philharmonic Hall to Artegna Castle in Italy, Konzerthaus Klagenfurt in Austria, and the Hall of the Arts Academy in Berlin. Other performances include appearances at international guitar and chamber music festivals in Italy, Slovenia, Spain, and Germany.

She has studied at and received degrees from the University of Music (Franz Liszt) in Weimar and the Academy of Music in Ljubljana, in addition to studies in Stuttgart with the Bulgarian Kaltchev Guitar Duo and at the Superior Conservatory of Aragón in Spain.

She is a multiple prizewinner at national as well as international competitions in Italy, Spain, and Slovenia.

She has regularly recorded for Slovenian Radio and Television, which has broadcast many of her concerts in Slovenia including the Roland Dyens’s Concerto en si, which she played as a soloist in 2011. Since 2013 she has also regular recorded at the Baros Records Studio in Slovenia.

Karmen’s debut CD First was released in January 2016.

In addition to solo projects she is an active chamber musician, with the Weimar Guitar Quartet, and also in guitar duo, duo with violin, duo with accordion, and trio with violin and accordion. She is also an advocate of Slovenian music, which she regularly includes in her programs.

In her free time she likes to read, eat and has a black belt in karate. She also loves to learn foreign languages. Currently fluent in Slovenian, English, German, Serbian, and Spanish, she is also learning Italian and French. She plays a guitar made by Daryl Perry (Canada).

Goran Ivanovic and Fareed Haque Guitar Duo Saturday, Feb. 23

Inspired by the rhythms and melodies of flamenco, jazz, classical, rock and the Balkan region, this performance will feature the unrivaled guitar artistry of two of the finest players of their respective generations. Their music balances between blazing virtuosity and sheer beauty.

Goran Ivanovic and Fareed Haque have recorded two CDs together, Macedonian Blues and 7 Boats, to great critical acclaim, even getting the nod as one of the best acoustic guitar albums of 2004 in Acoustic Guitar magazine.

Sabrina Vlaskalic, Saturday, Mar. 23

Serbian-born Sabrina Vlaskalic started her formal music education at the age of 7. Nearly refused at her entrance exam and labeled as “musically ungifted,” she had the choice of enrolling in the classical guitar class or not enrolling in the music school at all. Her father, a genuine guitar lover, decided to take over the role of her guitar guide and gave her his own inexpensive instrument. He soon realized she was an extraordinarily talented child who is now praised as a phenomenon of classical guitar.

Growing up in a politically unstable region, wars, and the strong tradition of the Balkans all affected the musical taste of the young virtuoso. Her innovative programming ranges from Bach to Brouwer and Bogdanovic. She pays special attention to discovering and reestablishing seldom performed or forgotten pieces, such as Elolio de la Guitarra, one of the most challenging of Rodrigo’s composition. Her affinity for contemporary music expression has resulted in acclaimed performances of Ginastera’s Sonata Op. 47 and Walton’s Bagatelles, but the Balkan musical idioms in Tadic’s Walk Dance and Bogdanovic’s 6 Balkan Miniatures are a highlight of her diverse repertoire. Her performances continued on p. 5

Tenguye Zhang  Sept 29
Minneapolis Guitar Quartet  Oct 20
Edmar Castaneda  Nov 17
Acoustic Guitarathon  Dec 8
Karmen Stendler  Jan 26
Ivanovic & Haque Duo  Feb 23
Sabrina Vlaskalic  Mar 23
Celil Refik Kaya  Apr 27
Classical Guitarathon  Jun 1

www.mnguitar.org
Tengyue Zhang, continued from p. 1

de Aranjuez with the Allentown Symphony in 2018 and recital/concerto tours in Russia as the prize of the Frauchi Competition. With the goal of sharing his love of music through the guitar in every piece he plays, TY’s concert repertoire is filled with diverse cross-genre music. His debut CD will be released on Naxos in June of 2018, and includes works by Bach, Scarlatti, Brouwer, Assad, Tansman and Castelnuovo-Tedesco.

In addition to First Prize in the Guitar Foundation of American (GFA) International Concert Artist Competition in 2017, TY has received first prize in other top competitions in Austria, China, Russia, and the U.S., including the GFA International Youth Competition Senior Division, Austria’s Forum Gitarre Wien International Youth Competition, the Changsha International Guitar Competition, the 2017 Schadt String Competition, and the 2017 Alexander Frauchi International Competition in Moscow.

When he’s not playing the guitar, TY enjoys road cycling, surfing, and traveling. For more information, visit <www.tengyuezhang.com>.

Tengyue Zhang Program

Poetry in Motion

Variations on a Theme by Scriabin
— by Alexandre Tansman (1897-1986)

Three Pieces from 24 Capriccios de Goya
— by Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco (1895-1968)
    No. 12, “No Hubo Remedio”
    No. 20, “Obsequio A El Maestro”
    No. 18, “El Sueño de la Razón Produce Monstruos”

from Violin Partita No.2 in D minor, BWV 1004
— by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Chaconne

Sonata K. 53 — by Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

INTERMISSION

Three Works — by Roland Dyens (1955-2016)
    Libra Sonatine
    III. Fuoco
    Hommage a Villa-lobos
    IV. Tuhú
    Tango en Skai

Primavera Porteña (Spring)
— by Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

Herjan — by Jeffrey Holmes (b. 1971)
Commissioned by the Augustine Foundation

Aquarelle — by Sergio Assad (b. 1952)
    I. Divertimento
    II. Valseana
    III. Preludio e Toccatina

Minneapolis Guitar Quartet Program

Windy** — Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

From Toccata in D minor, BWV 913**
— J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Adagio & Fugue

Old Castle, by the river, in the middle of a forest**
— Hiromi Uehara (b. 1979)

Danzas Argentinas** — Alberto Ginastera (1916-1983)
    Danza del viejo boyero
    Danza de la moza donosa
    Danza del gaucho matrero

INTERMISSION

Proseta se Jovka Kumanovka* — Traditional, arr. Maja Radovanlija (b.1975)

Macedonian Girl* — Jonče Hristovski, arr. Maja Radovanlija

StarWaves (On a Song of Nick Drake)*
— Ian Krouse (b. 1956)
 Commissioned by the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet with funding from the Augustine Foundation

* Written for the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet
**Arranged by the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet

continued on p. 5
include new and old music originally composed for the guitar, and her own transcriptions of Albeniz, Zamboni, Cimarosa, and Bach.

The winner of some 12 special and 26 first prizes in various competitions throughout Europe, Vlaskalic is one of the most successful classical guitarists today.

She is the professor of classical guitar at The Prince Clause Conservatoire (The Hanze University) in Groningen, The Netherlands.

Celil Refik Kaya, Saturday, Apr. 27

Born in Istanbul, Turkey, Celil Refik Kaya began his guitar studies at age six with his father, Dr. Mehmet Refik Kaya. When he was 19, he earned his bachelor’s degree from the Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University State Conservatory in Istanbul, and won a scholarship from the Turkish Educational Foundation. He also studied composition with the famous Turkish composer Mehmet Nemutlu.

Kaya then pursued a master’s degree in New York City at Mannes College, The New School For Music as a full-scholarship student. There he studied with Michael Newman and Sharon Isbin. During his master’s program he studied composing, arranging, and transcribing with renowned guitarist-composer Frederic Hand.

Since his concert debut as a child, Celil Refik Kaya has received high praise and many awards. He is the youngest first prize winner ever in the 2012 JoAnn Falletta Buffalo Philharmoni, one of two three-time prizewinners and Sharon Isbin. During his master’s program he studied composing, arranging, and transcribing with renowned guitarist-composer Frederic Hand.

Maja performed extensively as solo and chamber musician, touring Serbia, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Macedonia, Greece, Tunisia, Switzerland, and other European countries. As a graduate student (M.M and D.M) at Indiana University, she studied guitar with Ernesto Bitetti and early music with lutenist Nigel North. Maja’s eclectic musical background includes performances with Mu Daiko Japanese Theater and improvised concerts with guitarist/composer Alex Lubet. In 2011, she was appointed to the guitar faculty at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Maja joined the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet in 2012.

Benjamin Kunkel is an active solo and chamber musician and has given concert appearances across the United States. Recent performances include the Minnesota Guitar Society, Cleveland Classical Guitar Society, Cleveland Composers Guild, Greater Cleveland Flute Society, Heights Arts, and Chamber Music Midwest. He regularly collaborates with acclaimed Minneapolis-based choral group The Mirandola Ensemble. He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota in 2007 as a student of Jeffrey Van. He earned a master’s degree at the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2009, studying under guitarist Jason Vieaux. While there he was twice awarded the Rosalia Ablan Memorial Prize in Guitar. He frequently premières new works, collaborating with composers to expand the classical guitar’s repertoire. He is currently on the faculty of Century College and St. Joseph’s School of Music. He has the distinction of being the first native Minnesotan to be a member of Minneapolis Guitar Quartet, which he joined in 2014.

Wade Oden was born in Lubbock, Texas, and grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota. He received his B.M. and M.M. in guitar performance at the University of Minnesota, and is pursuing his doctoral degree in the same field. Wade’s guitar teachers include O. Nicholas Raths, James McGuire, and Jeffrey Van. He directs the guitar program at Normandale Community College. Wade’s performance credits include concerts with the Voce y Cuerdas duo performing a widely varied repertoire including new works by composers Chris Gable, Libby Larsen, Carol Barnett, and Todd Harper. In 2008, he toured with the Rose Ensemble to the Festival d’Il de France. This performance was recorded and broadcast on Radio France. He is an active composer and arranger and his “Aquam Effunde” for piano, bass clarinet, and marimba won first prize in the 2005 Eric Stokes songwriting contest.
Joe Hagedorn reports that the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet (Joe Hagedorn, Ben Kunkel, Wade Oden, and Maja Radovanlijja) will be touring Eastern Europe this fall with performances and masterclasses in Belgrade (Serbia), Plovdiv (Bulgaria), and Skopje (Macedonia). The concert in Bulgaria will feature the European premiere of Jeffrey Van’s “Music of Love and the Stars” for SATB choir and guitar quartet.

Chris Olson reports that he recently joined the faculty at three colleges in three different states. He will be teaching guitar lessons at Minnesota State-Mankato, UW-River Falls, and Luther College in Decorah, Iowa this fall. He is looking forward to working at real colleges, for a change. He can be heard performing at several venues around the Twin Cities, with numerous ensembles, including the acoustic duo Camille & C.O. Find his schedule and much more at <www.chrisolsonmusic.com>.

To mark the 45th anniversary of the recording sessions that produced the landmark Joe Pass album *Virtuoso*, Paul Hintz will be giving a free, one-hour, solo jazz guitar concert at the indoor amphitheater of Woodbury’s Central Park on Sunday, November 4th at 2 p.m. For more info, visit <www.paulhintz.com>.

The Twin Cities Classical Guitar Meetup is an informal group of players interested in getting together to perform pieces, attend concerts, or simply enjoy sharing ideas about classical guitar. Whether a rank beginner or a seasoned pro, you are welcome here. Membership is free and open to all. The only requirement is an interest in the fascinating world of classical guitar. For more about our group, visit <www.meetup.com/classicalguitar> (where you can also read about our past gatherings). Classical guitar open stage showcase is the third Saturday of the month at 2 p.m. at the Underground Music Café.

Got news? A CD release planned? New teaching studio or schedule? Concert coming up in your area? We want to hear about it! We want to tell the (MGS) world! Send all and any news or views of a guitaristical nature to <editor@mnguitar.org>. The deadline for each issue is the 25th of the preceding odd-numbered month.

New Season for OpenStage!
— By Mark Bussey, MGS Board President

Another year of OpenStage soon! We’ve got the second Sunday of the month reserved from September 2018 through May 2019 at Underground Music Cafe in Falcon Heights.

Begun in 2002, OpenStage provides a fun, supportive, and informal way for guitarists of every level to experience the joy of playing in public. We focus primarily on acoustic, finger-style, and classical guitar, and maintain a format similar to many other open mic events. There’s a simple sign-up sheet for performers, who each get 8 to 10 minutes (2 to 4 songs). Folks usually hang out after playing to swap tips, share music, and just socialize with other guitar nerds.

The Underground Music Cafe in Falcon Heights, MN about 10 minutes from either Minneapolis or St. Paul downtown. The address is: The Underground Music Cafe, 1579 Hamline Ave N, St Paul; (651) 644-9959; <www.undergroundmusiccafe.com>.

2018-19 Schedule:
(Second Sunday of the month!)

2018
Sunday, Sept. 9, 2-4 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 14, 2-4 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 11, 2-4 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 9, 2-4 p.m.

2019
Sunday, Jan. 13, 2-4 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 10, 2-4 p.m.
Sunday, Mar. 10, 2-4 p.m.
Sunday, Apr. 14, 2-4 p.m.
Sunday, May 12, 2-4 p.m.

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To reserve tickets for any Sundin Music Hall concert, please call 612-677-1151 or visit the MGS web site, <www.mnguitar.org>. Sundin Music Hall concerts all start at 7:30 p.m. this season!

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University of River Falls, WI Faculty Member
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FOR SALE: 2015 Sakurai-Kohno Maestro model. Spruce top, South American rosewood back and sides. $11,000 or best offer. Contact Xavier Jara: <xavierjara@bishop@gmail.com>; (952) 567-9077.

FOR SALE: Kennedy custom archtop jazz guitar, 17” body, solid spruce sunburst top, hollow body, TV Jones pickup. $2900. (651) 442-5397 or <cnolson@music@gmail.com>.

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