2017-18 Sundin Music Hall Concert Series

Phil Heywood & Tim Sparks
Meng Su
Issam Rafea (solo oud)
Xavier Jara (GFA winner)
Lute-a-Thon (with guest vocalist)
Montenegrin Duo
Emanuele Buono
Petra Poláčková
Classical Guitarathon
Dear Guitar friends,

Summer! So many outdoor concerts and festivals – so little time! I make it a point to get outside to hear and play music in the summer – it brings me joy. Speaking of joy, our new season brochure will be arriving in your mailbox soon! Please consider purchasing a season ticket to support our season!

Summer is the time for grant writing and planning our next steps. Our state and regional grant funding comes from legislative appropriations made by possible by the voters of Minnesota through the Legacy Amendment, which designated, in 2008, an increase in the state sales tax by three-eighths of one percent to “to protect, enhance, and restore wetlands, prairies, forests, and fish, game, and wildlife habitat; to preserve arts and cultural heritage; to support parks and trails; and to protect, enhance, and restore lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater. Please take a moment to thank your legislator for their support of our concert series – which receives a tiny but necessary portion of these funds. As always, thank you for your memberships and contributions to the Minnesota Guitar Society.

Sincerely,
Emily Youngdahl Wright
Managing Director

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).

Sundin Music Hall is handicap accessible and there is ample free parking available.
2017-18 Sundin Music Hall Concert Season

Phil Heywood & Tim Sparks
Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017

Tim Sparks and Phil Heywood are two of the reasons why Minnesota is known nationwide as a hotbed for acoustic fingerstyle guitar. Both guitarists are widely recognized for their solo careers and have inspired seasoned pros and aspiring students alike with their unique talents. Both are former National Fingerpicking Champions who have gone on to release numerous recordings and compile lengthy performance resumés.

About ten years ago Tim and Phil began to work up duets and perform together. They’ve built an exciting and wide-ranging repertoire drawing from American folk/blues/early jazz roots, some brilliant forays into “world” music, and a few well-chosen pop obscurities. The two have honed a dynamic concert format that showcases each guitarist’s solo selections and culminates in the full glory of two world-class fingerpickers going at it together. This Sundin Hall performance offers a rare Twin Cities opportunity to hear Tim Sparks and Phil Heywood in a true concert setting.

Tim Sparks has been redefining the acoustic guitar repertoire since he won the National Fingerpicking Championship in 1993 with a groundbreaking arrangement of Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker Suite. Sparks continues to surprise, challenge, and thrill audiences with his diverse repertoire and stunning technique. Equally at home with Country Blues, Jazz or World Music, Sparks’ extraordinary ability has earned him an international reputation as one of the most innovative guitarists working today.

Phil Heywood has been based in the Twin Cities since the mid-1980s, performing locally and regionally while also establishing himself in the greater guitar and acoustic music world. In 1986 he won the National Fingerpicking Championship, and followed up a year later by winning the American Fingerstyle Guitar Festival Competition in Milwaukee. He has appeared on NPR’s A Prairie Home Companion, where he was thrilled to play a tune with legendary guitarist Chet Atkins. Phil has performed with just about every Twin Cities acoustic guitar luminary (including Tim Sparks, Dean Magraw, Pat Donohue, Dakota Dave Hull, Peter Lang, Spider John Koerner, Billy McLaughlin), and has opened shows for such national artists as Norman Blake, John Renbourn, Greg Brown, Chris Smither, and John Hammond. The most recent of Phil’s six CDs is entitled Rollin’ On, released in late 2014.

Meng Su
Friday, Oct. 20, 2017

Born in Qingdao, China, Meng Su demonstrated her artistic gifts as an exceptionally talented guitarist from an early age. Before graduating from high school, she had already won many awards, including the 5th Vienna Youth Guitar Competition, the 48th Tokyo International Guitar Competition, the Christopher Parkening Young Guitarist Competition, and the 2nd Iserlohn International Guitar Competition in Germany.

In her short time as a performing artist, she has performed solo, duo, and quartet concerts across the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Austria, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Finland, Croatia, Korea, Japan, and China, in which she has impressed audiences with an ability and artistry that exceeds her years.

2017-2018 Sundin Music Hall Series
1531 Hewitt Ave, St. Paul
Sept. 23 – Phil Heywood & Tim Sparks
Oct. 20 (Friday) – Meng Su
Nov. 11 – Issam Rafea (solo Oud)
Dec. 9 – Xavier Jara (GFA winner)
Jan. 20 – Lute-a-Thon (with guest vocalist)
Feb. 16 (Friday) – Montenegrin Duo
Mar. 17 – Emanuele Buono
Apr. 21 – Petra Poláčková
Jun. 2 – Classical Guitarathon

Concerts held on Saturdays unless otherwise indicated. All concerts begin at 8 p.m.

To reserve tickets for any Sundin Music Hall concert, please call 612-677-1151 or visit the MGS web site, <www.mnguitar.org>.
Xavier Jara (Classical Guitar GFA winner)
Saturday, Dec. 9, 2017

American classical guitarist, Xavier Jara (b 1993), is the 1st prizewinner of the 2016 GFA International Concert Artist Competition. A native of Minnesota, Jara was a student of Alan Johnston at the MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis until 2011 when he moved to Paris, France to study with Judicael Perroy. He studied in Paris for six years with Perroy. During this time he completed his Bachelor’s Degree at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris where he also studied with French guitarist, Olivier Chassain, and lute master, Eric Bellocq. He received 1st place in a number of international competitions including the Boston Guitarfest (2014), the Gargnano, Italy Competition (2015) and the Tokyo International Competition (2016). In 2016, Jara returned home to the United States to win the Guitar Foundation of America’s Rose Augustine Grand Prize.

Montenegrin Duo
Friday, Feb. 16, 2018

The Montenegrin Guitar Duo is frequently invited to eminent international events (e.g. Festival Internacional de Musica y Danza de Granada, Kotor Art Festival, Koblenz Guitar Festival, A Tempo music festival, Guitar Foundation of America International Guitar Convention, Shenyang International Guitar Festival, Daejeon International Guitar Festival), for recitals and concerts with orchestras, as well as for masterclasses, lectures on transcribing Bach’s music and adjudicating competitions. The duos’ performances have been highly acclaimed by both audience and critics who praise their historically informed performances of J. S. Bach’s English Suites in a new, fresh approach on two guitars.
Sundin Music Hall Concerts

Concert Season Artists, continued from p. 4

Their repertoire includes the transcriptions of ancient music and original compositions dating from the 19th, 20th and 21st century, with a special emphasis on the contemporary music originally written for two guitars, as well as improvisation. MGD’s ultimate goal is to broaden the guitar repertoire and further integrate guitar with other instruments.

Their debut CD with works by Domeniconi, Piazzolla and Bogdanovic was published in 2013 by the Montenegrin Music Centre. The first of two volumes of Bach’s English Suites, a world premiere of this unique project, transcribed by the duo, was published in 2015 for Naxos Records and was praised by audience and music critics alike. English Suites Vol. 2 was recorded in October 2016 and will be released in 2017.

Goran Krivokapić is one of the leading musicians of the international guitar scene. A first prize winner at nineteen prestigious international competitions, his focus lies on the expansion and developing of guitar repertoire. He has performed all over Europe, North and South America, Asia, Africa and Russia, appearing at major halls as the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow, Lubkowitz Palace in Vienna and Auditorio Conde Duque in Madrid.

Danijel Cerović is lecturing guitar and chamber music at the Music Academy in Cetinje (University of Montenegro). A versatile solo and chamber musician, he is also a member of the artistic board of the Montenegrin Music Centre and the Montenegrin Symphony Orchestra. He participates actively in the organisation of numerous international music events. He is the founder of the Niksic Guitar Festival and competition.

Emanuele Buono
Saturday, March 17, 2018

Emanuele Buono has established himself as a musician with unique musical and technical ability to make the classical guitar sing. His full technical mastery combined with high musical sensibility are consistently praised around the globe by the press following his performances and has earned him the respect of the most prominent guitarists today. His latest recording on Naxos was American Record Guide’s Critic’s Choice Award winner.

Emanuele’s journey into the international concert scene started with the XIII International Guitar Competition and Festival of Alessandria (Italy) in 2008, where he was awarded the prestigious Golden Guitar as the best young concert-player of the year. In 2009, he won the Gold Medal at the prestigious International Christopher Parkening Competition (Malibu, USA) by unanimous decision of the jury and became the youngest winner in the competition’s history.

Born in Turin, Italy in 1987, he began his studies when he was very young. At the age of eighteen, he was awarded a first class degree with honors at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan and later proceeded to further his studies at the Accademia Chigiana of Siena, where he obtained the certificate of merit twice in succession.

Petra Poláčková
Saturday, April 21, 2018

A musician’s musician, Petra Poláčková began her guitar studies at the age of six at the Elementary Art School in Roznov pod Radhostem where she worked with Mr. Bohuslav Faltus and Mrs. Miroslava Pavelkova. She also studied with Zdenek Dvorak at the Elementary Art School Lounskych in Prague. In 2004 she graduated from an 8 year high school in Roznov pod Radhostem. In 2010 she completed her studies at the School of Music in Pardubice (Czech Republic) with Prof. Petr Saidl. She obtained her Bachelor and Master Degree with Prof. Paolo Pegoraro at Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Graz (Austria).

Ms. Poláčková has participated in master classes throughout Europe presented by internationally acclaimed classical guitarists: Giampaolo Bandini, Leo Brouwer, Zoran Dukic, Massimo Felici, Hubert Käppel, Rolf Lisslevand, Pablo Márquez, Lorenzo Micheli, Nigel North, Thomas Offermann, Stefano Palamidessi, Elena Papandreou, Paolo Pegoraro, Thomas Müller-Pering, Judicaël Perroy, Pavel Steidl, Alexander Swete, Jens Wagner, Brigitte Zaczeck, Piotr Zaleski and others. In 2011 she received the Merit Diploma at the Chigiana Academy of Siena in Maestro Oscar Ghiglia’s Class.

Since 2002, she has won three first prizes in Czech Republic national competitions in Opava, Ceske Budejovice and Pardubice and six first prizes at international competitions in Dolný Kubín (Slovakia), Kutna Hora (Czech Republic), Bratislava (Slovakia), Krzyzowa (Poland) and Krynica (Poland). In 2011 she won second prize at the International Guitar Festival Rust (Austria), second prize (first not assigned) at the International Guitar Competition Stefano Strata Pisa (Italy) and first prize at the 36th International Guitar Competition Gargnano (Italy).

Classical Guitarathon
Saturday, June 2, 2018

Our annual season finale will feature outstanding classical guitarists from Minnesota.
**Community Concert Series**

**Music for a Summer Afternoon — A musical offering by Milena Petkovic**

Sunday, August 27, 2 p.m.
Community Room at Silver Lake Village Condos
2407 – 39th Ave. NE, St. Anthony Village, 55421
Seating is limited
RSVP requested: janfillmore@q.com

This event is free. Donations gratefully accepted, refreshments will be served.

Milena Petkovic has been charming audiences in the Twin Cities with her extraordinary, focused, technical mastery, combined with her ability to communicate her delight in the music to her listeners. Her gentle smile and enthusiasm do not falter, even in the midst of intricate passages. At our recent classical guitarathon, she received a standing ovation for her performance of a modern suite for classical guitar by Carlo Domeniconi. In addition to her solo career, she plays in a duo, Mediterranean Breeze, with Branko Barnic. Milena was born in Prizren, Serbia. Milena began playing classical guitar at the age of eleven. During her studies first in Serbia and then in Indiana, she participated in and won first and second place awards at numerous national and international music festivals. She is currently in her final year of doctoral studies at the University of Minnesota, School of Music where she also holds the position of Teaching Assistant. Milena is a student of Professor Maja Radovanlija.

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**Summer Notes: Go outside and play**

A few of the listings for area summer concert series – most cities and towns have an outdoor music series - here are a few:

- **Minneapolis Music in the Parks**
  <https://www.minneapolisparks.org/activities__events/music__movies/music_in_the_parks>
- **Minnetonka/Excelsior Summer Concert Series**
  <http://lakeminnetonkamag.com/lake-area-summer-outdoor-concert-schedule>
- **Music in the Parks St. Paul**
  <https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/parks-recreation/activities/summer-activities/music-parks>

**Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Festival**
Aug. 10 - 13, 2017, El Rancho Mañana, Richmond, MN.
Nominated IBMA Event of the Year FIVE Times!

**Minnesota Americana-Roots Music Contests**
REGISTRATION is open now - register early as these contests fill fast.

**Twin Cities Classical Guitar Meetup**
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 you are 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. To find out more about our group, you can visit us at <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

**Support Our Friends**
We appreciate the support of music stores and schools throughout the metro area who help distribute our newsletter. Wherever you see copies available, please take a minute and thank the people in charge for helping the MGS!

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**Send Us Your News**
Got 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 of a guitaristical nature to editor@mnguitar.org. Nota bene: the deadline for each issue is the 25th of each odd-numbered month, (So, to get your news in the September-October issue, send it to us by July 25).

Please check the Calendar on our website for concert dates and events and for contact information to post your events – the calendar is updated by outstanding MGS board member and volunteer, Al Norton. Our website is created and maintained by the efforts of valiant MGS volunteer webmaster, Amy Lytton, with technical support from MGS Board President, Mark Bussey.
FLAMENCO GUITAR TECHNIQUE. Scott Mateo Davies teaches all-levels group class based on the Canyarotto School of Madrid, created by Aquilino Jimenez el Entri, in a relaxed setting that guarantees results. Sundays at 11 a.m., 2-hr session. Cost: $20. Also helpful to classical players (nylon-string guitar required). Visit <www.scottmateo.com> or call 612-749-2662.

LESSONS: Guitar, banjo, Suzuki guitar and violin, piano, electroacoustic bass, voice, mandolin! Everything from rock to blue grass. Instruction and instruments. Northern Pine Studios in Lino Lakes. Call Chris at 651-780-1625.


TRAVEL CASE FOR SALE. New, unused SKB I-series rolling waterproof flight case for acoustic guitar. TSA locks. Will fit dreadnought or grand auditorium size guitar. Model #3i-4217-18T. $225. Contact Fred Jew at (612) 532-5179 or <willowfox14@aol.com>.

GUITAR FOR SALE: 2009 Kenny Hill New World Player 628mm scale (short scale). All solid, cedar top. Two repaired cracks. Hard case. $700. <AL@A-Light.net> for photos and info.

CLASSICAL GUITAR INSTRUCTION. Beginning/Advanced. Prof. Maja Radovanlija, University of Minnesota faculty member. Call (812) 391-3860 or email <mradovan@umn.edu>.

GUITAR LESSONS. Any style, any level, at The St. Paul Guitar Studio! Individualized lessons are taught at comfortable pace. Studio is located in Lowertown and features individual rooms and a lounge. For schedules, availability, and pricing, visit the studio website at <www.stpaulguitarstudio.com>.

FLAMENCO GUITAR LESSONS by Diego Rowan-Martín. Come and learn any of your favorite Palos of the Spanish flamenco guitar—beginning, intermediate and advanced levels. He studied with Tony Hauser and continued in Spain with great maestros such as Manolo Sanlúcar, Juan Manuel Cañizares, Tomatito, El Entri and Oscar Herrero. Afternoons & evenings, Mon.-Fri. Private lessons: $25/2hr. Call (612) 770-9618 or e-mail: <diego rowan@hotmail.com>.


GUITAR FOR SALE: 2010 Kevin Aram classical guitar, spruce/Indian, 20th fret, played in, better-than-new condition! $8,950 or best offer. Call Jeff Lambert at (952) 546-1429 or email <jeff guitar@willowfox14.com>.


JAY GORDON transcriptions for guitar solo and duets now available at Strings By Mail <stringsbymail.com>. New transcriptions faithful to the original piano works include music of Albeniz and Granados, new unusual transcriptions for guitar by Berlioz, Ravel, Faure and Polleri. Original solos available, too. All available as PDF downloads under sheet music/classical guitar/SBM Exclusive Downloads. Check it out!

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As a member of the Minnesota Guitar Society, you receive ticket discounts on all MGS-sponsored events, a year’s subscription to the Guitarist and the opportunity to place free classifieds in each issue.

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july / august
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