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.

Sundin Music Hall
2014-15 Concert Series Preview

Minnesota Guitar Society—Find us and like us on Facebook!
From the editor:

We are entering our 29th season of bringing renowned guitarists to Minnesota, as well as promoting the important work of the many Guitarists living and working in Minnesota. The Minnesota Guitar Society’s Sundin Music Hall Concert Series offers audience members a unique chance to see extraordinary guitarists in an intimate, acoustically rich setting. This season, more than ever before, our chosen artists offer a glimpse into what is happening in the world wide guitar community. We do bring in amazing solo classical guitarists, and guess what? Some of them are women! We have flamenco and jazz! We have classical guitarists playing music that was composed seven hundred years ago and seven months ago. We have guitarists who make people laugh and then gasp in awe. Primarily we are attempting to promote and showcase the amazing diversity and range of the guitar. This issue is full of our incredible, upcoming season’s artists, who will be playing for us starting in September. I plan to soak up as much local, outdoor music as possible until then. See our “News and Notes” section for summer happenings.

Wishing you well until we meet again,
Emily Wright

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 2014-15 Concert Series
At a Glance!!

Friday, September 26
Diego Figueiredo — Jazz fingerstyle guitarist from Brazil

Saturday, October 25
Gohar Vardanyan — Classical guitarist from Armenia

Friday, November 14
Flamenco Guitarathon — Tribute to Paco de Lucia

Saturday, December 6
Anton Baranov — Guitar Foundation of America winner from Russia

Saturday, January 24
Quaternaglia — Guitar quartet from Brazil

Saturday, February 21
Miroslav Tadic — Composer, multi-cultural guitarist from Yugoslavia

Saturday, March 28
Jérémy Jouve — Classical guitarist from France

Friday, April 17
Antigoni Goni — Classical guitarist from Greece

Saturday, May 30
Classical Guitarathon — featuring professional classical guitar players from Minnesota

Series Tickets: 
$120 (member, etc.)
$155 (non-member)

Single Tickets: 
$22 (general admission)
$17 (MGS members & seniors)
$10 (students & patrons with limited means)

To reserve tickets for any Sundin Hall concert, please call 612-677-1151 or visit the MGS website, <www.mnguitar.org>.
Sundin Music Hall Concert Series

**Friday, September 26**

**Diego Figueiredo**
Jazz fingerstyle player from Brazil

Diego Figueiredo (pronounced fig-a-reed-o) is considered one of the most talented guitar players in the world today. He is the winner of several important competitions including the Montreux Jazz Competition and the VISA Prize.

Diego has released over nineteen albums to date, three DVD’s, and several instructional books. His music is a fusion between Jazz, Bossa Nova and Classical. Diego’s unique interpretations, along with his phenomenal technique and emotion, has created an explosion of adoring fans and concert goers. Diego has performed in over forty countries around the world.

Besides being a guitar player, Diego is a producer, arranger, orchestrator, multi-instrumentalist and has recently produced and arranged the double album “As várias caras de Drummond” for which Belchior wrote the music for Drummond’s poems, and which was released in CARAS magazine.

With a variety of works already released, Diego is doing shows on the most important stages around the world enchanting and charming the public wherever he goes with his unique touch.

**Saturday, October 25**

**Gohar Vardanyan**
Classical guitarist from Armenia

Widely admired for her technique and artistry, Armenian guitarist Gohar Vardanyan has performed throughout the United States for numerous guitar societies, universities, and arts organizations, including the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, and guitar societies in Seattle, San Francisco, Houston, Miami, and New York City to name a few. She has appeared on National Public Radio in the United States and Radio Nacional in Argentina. Guitar International Magazine has described her as “the complete package. Not only is she able to draw you into her performances with engaging musical interpretations, but she has the technical facility that is required of any concert level guitarist.” Her playing has been described as “passionate,” “evocative,” and “virtuosic.” Ms. Vardanyan holds a Master of Music Degree from The Juilliard School where she studied with Sharon Isbin, and a Bachelor of Music degree from the Peabody Conservatory of Music where she studied with Manuel Barrueco. She is also an alumna of the Aspen Music Festival and School.

**Friday, November 14**

**Flamenco Guitarathon**
Tribute to Paco de Lucia

The 2014 Flamenco Guitarathon will be a tribute to the late Paco de Lucia (pictured at left), world renowned, legendary, Spanish flamenco guitarist, considered by many to be the greatest guitarist of all time, and who brought flamenco music to the world stage with his playing. Paco de Lucia died at the age of 66 while on vacation with his family in Mexico in February, 2014.

**Saturday, December 6**

**Anton Baranov**
Guitar Foundation of America winner, from Russia

Russian guitarist Anton Baranov is a prizewinner of more than fifteen prestigious international guitar competitions, including the Koblenz Guitar Competition, Andrés Segovia Competition, Agustín Barrios Competition, Robert Vidal Competition, and Pittaluga Guitar Competition. At the height of his young career, he won both the Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition and the Francisco Tárrega Competition in 2013.

Known for his daring interpretation and innovative programming, guitarist and composer Roland Dyens calls him, “a real musician, one of those rare guitarists who are able to have their attendees almost forget the instrument they play, managing to have them focus on the expressivity of the music and only this.”

**Saturday, January 24**

**Quaternaglia**
Guitar quartet from Brazil

Quaternaglia Guitar Quartet (QGQ) has been widely acclaimed as one of the world’s top contemporary guitar ensembles. QGQ—comprised of Brazilian guitarists Chrystian Dozza, Fabio Ramazzina, Thiago Abdalla and Sidney Molina—is known both for its artistic excellence and for its significant contributions to the expansion of the guitar quartet repertoire. Over the past twenty years, the ensemble has estab-

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continued on p. 4
lished a broad canon of original pieces and arrangements through partnerships with composers including Leo Brouwer, Almeida Prado, Egberto Gismonti, and Paulo Bellinati.

The quartet first attracted the attention of international critics when it was awarded the “Ensemble Prize” at the International Guitar Contest of Havana in 1998. Since then, the group has regularly performed in various notable guitar and chamber series in the United States and the world. Quaternaglia’s discography includes the albums Quaternaglia, Antique, Forrobodó, Presença, Estampas, and Jequibau as well as the DVD Quaternaglia, recorded live. As part of the celebration of the group’s twentieth anniversary, in 2012, Quaternaglia performed as soloist with Sinfônica Heliópolis conducted by Isaac Karabtchevsky.

**Saturday, February 21**

**Miroslav Tadic**  
Composer, multi-cultural guitarist from Yugoslavia

In their January 1997 issue, the editors of GUITAR PLAYER magazine voted Miroslav Tadic one of the world’s thirty most radical and individual guitarists.

Tadic completed his formal education in the United States after studying in Italy and his native Yugoslavia. He has performed and recorded in a wide variety of settings and musical styles, ranging from music of the Baroque and Classical periods to blues, jazz, and rock. Tadic’s performing and recording credits include projects with Terry Riley, the Los Angeles Opera with Placido Domingo, London Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo, MDR Leipzig Symphony Orchestra, among others. He is frequently heard in Europe, Japan, North and South America.

In recent years Tadic has concentrated on developing an approach to improvisation which combines and juxtaposes musical material drawn from many diverse sources, including Baroque, European classical and North Indian classical music, Eastern European folk traditions, blues, jazz, and rock. He is noted for his pioneering work in applying the elements of classical and flamenco techniques to the electric guitar.

**Saturday, March 28**

**Jérémy Jouve**  
Classical guitarist from France

Jérémy Jouve had his musical training in France, studying with distinguished guitarists including Eric Franceries, Alberto Ponce, and Roland Dyens. He is a graduate of the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris, and of the Paris Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse in guitar and chamber music. He was selected to pursue further studies with László Hadady, principal oboist of the Ensemble Intercontemporain.

At the age of ten he played a Vivaldi concerto with the Orchestre de Chambéry, going on to win various national prizes.

Based in Paris, he embarked on an international career, with awards including first prize in the International Competition of the Guitar Foundation of America (Mexico, 2003) and in the Tycho International Guitar Competition (Poland, 2002). His new CD, second volume of Rodrigo solo works for guitar (Naxos 8.572984), came out in June 2013. His duo album with flute, recorded for Reference recording at Skywalker Studios of San Francisco in 2012, is officially nominated at Grammy Awards 2014.

**Friday, April 17**

**Antigoni Goni**  
Classical guitarist from Greece

Acclaimed by the New York Times as “An eloquent player with a graceful touch and a rich sound,” the Greek guitarist, Antigoni Goni enjoys a truly international career, performing extensively in Europe, Russia, the Americas, and the Far East, both as a recitalist and soloist. In 1995, to an already long list of international competition prizes she added the first prize of the Guitar Foundation of Americas (GFA), thus becoming the first and only Greek guitarist to ever conquer it. A NAXOS and KOCH recording artist, her highly successful recordings have been praised for being expressively poetic and technically exciting and have been received with great enthusiasm by the international musical community. At least a dozen of the pieces she has recorded have been included in Enrique Robichaud’s classical guitar CD guide: Guitar’s TOP 100 Best.

She is the Founder and Chair of the Guitar Department, Pre-College Division, at the Juilliard School of Music. She is also the founder and artistic director of “the Volterra Project, Summer Guitar Institute”, a workshop bringing together, every summer, international students and professionals of the highest caliber for 10 days of intense study and inspired performances.

**Saturday, May 30**

**Classical Guitarathon**

Our popular, annual festival concert featuring and celebrating professional classical guitar players from Minnesota.

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**This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.**
I love my “Fernandosaur” T-shirt. It came free with an MGS sponsorship. Although I’m four years younger than Fernando Sor when he died at age 61, sometimes I feel like a dinosaur. The t-shirt reminds me that even T-Rex has value. Ask any seventy-year-old.

And speaking of seven-year-olds: two years ago when I started studying classical guitar again after 25 years in “hibernation”, my first teacher quipped: “There are seven-year-olds who are better than we will ever be.” I thought about that for a long time.

With that bug in my ear, an imaginary “seven-year-old” sometimes visits my basement studio. He sits there watching me practice and smiling. I smile back. Hanging on the wall next to my imagined observer is a wooden panel painted with all capital letters:

LIFE IS NOT A RACE, BUT INDEED A JOURNEY.
BE HONEST. WORK HARD. BE CHOOSY.
SAY “THANK YOU”, “I LOVE YOU”, AND “GREAT JOB” TO SOMEONE EACH DAY.
LET YOUR HANDSHAKE MEAN MORE THAN PEN
AND PAPER.
DREAMING DOES MATTER. IT ALLOWS YOU TO
BECOME THAT WHICH YOU ASPIRE TO.
APPRECIATE THE LITTLE THINGS IN LIFE AND
ENJOY THEM. SOME OF THE BEST THINGS REALLY
ARE FREE.
DO NOT WORRY, TAKE TIME FOR YOURSELF –
PLAN FOR LONGEVITY.

Plan for longevity! You know, when the first home video recorders started showing up in the late ‘60s Andrés Segovia was already in his late ‘70s. Young people comment that in those grainy YouTube videos he looks awful. Like one foot is already in the grave. Nevertheless, Segovia performed until the time of his heart attack at age 94, just days before a scheduled recital at Carnegie Hall.

Perhaps you’ve seen the Christopher Nupen production, Andrés Segovia in Portrait? The CD is available on Amazon.com. In this colorful retrospective you can observe Segovia’s masterful technique: how the left-hand fingers are always relaxed, always curved. They never stray more than a breath from the fretboard. You see the chubby right hand fingers move faster than video itself. If you press the pause button the still frame shows little more than a blur.

One thing I was surprised to notice in the documentary: While strolling along a shady lane in Granada, Andrés is wearing bedroom slippers. Elderly people, especially if they are over weight, can suffer from reduced circulation in the feet and legs leading to swelling and edema. This makes it painful or impossible to wear normal street shoes. So at all ages, and at all levels of accomplishment, we’re reminded that healthy lifestyle can extend not only longevity but the enjoyment of our days.

Most readers of this newsletter would agree that practicing, playing and sometimes performing beautiful music has intrinsic value that transcends any outward reward or recognition. When a tree falls alone in a forest, with no one to hear it, is there sound? That question is up to the philosophers. But when I practice alone in my basement, I believe that ministering angels swirl about the room, cheering me on to that next difficult measure—measure after measure—until the entire piece finally begins to flow. There is no better cure for the “Fernandosaur” blues.

MGS T-Shirts

Designed by our own artistic director, Joe Hagedorn:
Fernandosaur - Minnesota Guitar Society t-shirts come in sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL and shirt colors: black, green, or blue.

Available for $20 each at MGS Sundin Hall concerts, or e-mail Joe at: hagedorn@visi.com
News & Notes—Concerts About Town

Concerts About Town
Remember to visit the calendar page at <www.mnguitar.org> for additional, up to date concert information. Our members can submit their performances to the calendar by sending an email to <Calendar@mnguitar.org>.

- **July 7/8**, Bill Frisell at the Dakota, two shows each night, 7 and 9 pm.
- **July 11**, Phil Heywood and Tim Sparks at the Aster Café in Minneapolis, 9 pm.
- **July 19**, Phil Heywood and Tim Sparks at the Three Crows in Delano, 7:30 pm.
- **July 27**, Jim Falbo at the Lake Harriet Bandshell, 2 p.m.

In August I suggest playing music outside with your friends...

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. Through our website we organize regular meetings and performance events at various venues (members houses, cafes, etc.), as well as provide a discussion forum where members can exchange information on a wide variety of topics related to classical guitar. The group has met several times with very positive feedback from participants. 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).

Ukulele Corner
The Twin Cities Ukulele Players, (T-Cup), are continuing to meet at Olivet Congregational Church, 1850 Iglehart Avenue, St Paul, 7 p.m. We meet on the 1st and third Thursdays of the month. Come share in the fun of learning to play an instrument (for beginners) creating our own arrangements, (for more advanced players), choosing songs we enjoy and performing for the community. The group is led by folk musicians Emily Wright, teaching beginning ukulele, Doug Wright, offering instruction on more advanced ukulele techniques and gamba virtuoso/instructor and secret ukulele player Julie Elhard, creating beautiful classical arrangements and keeping us all together. Be careful, playing the ukulele is contagious. For more information call Emily at 612-275-4701, look for us on www.facebook.com/TCukuleleplayers or email TCUkuleleplayers@gmail.com.

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!

Have Fun with the MGS—Volunteer!
Our members make it all possible. If you are a friend of the MGS but haven’t joined, or haven’t renewed your membership, please do so! If you’d like to get (more) involved with our many activities—well, we need help! Specifically:
- Distribute our newsletter. Time commitment: 2 to 4 hours every other month.
- Help publicize our concerts. Time commitment: Variable.
To learn more about these and other opportunities, email <editor@mnguitar.org>. Thanks!

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 stuff in the Sept/Oct issue, send it to us by July 25th.)
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.

To join the Minnesota Guitar Society, please fill out the information on this coupon and mail it to:
Minnesota Guitar Society, P.O. Box 14986, Minneapolis, MN 55414

- Student $15
- Regular $25
- Family $30
- Patron $50 - $199
- Sponsor $200 - $499
- Benefactor $500 +
- Renewing
- New Member

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