



BCGS



newsletter

Volume 18, No. 1, September/November 2010

BCGS Events

Saturday, October 2, 8pm
BCGS Artist Series: Paul Galbraith.
Saturday, November 6, 2010, 8pm
BCGS Artist Series: Jason Vieaux.

Series Events

Saturday, September 18, 3pm – 4pm
Steve Marchena at the Hingham Public Library.
Sunday, September 26, 3pm – 5pm
Aaron Larget-Caplan, Meeting House Hill Church
Saturday, October 16, 3pm – 4pm
Back Bay Guitar Trio, Hingham Public Library.
Saturday, October 23, 7:30pm
North Meadow House Concert Series. Piano Guitar Duo of Anne Ku and Robert Bekkers.
Friday, November 12, 7:30pm
North Meadow House Concert Series. Michael Nicoletta guitar recital
Saturday, November 20, 3pm – 4pm
Trio Cordefiato at the Hingham Public Library.

Performance Parties

Saturday, October 16, 2pm – 6pm
BCGS Performance Party, Auburndale, MA
Saturday, September 11, 2pm – 6pm
BCGS Performance Party, North Andover, MA
See the Calendar Section for a complete list of events and more information.

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2010-11 boston classical guitar society 

artist series

paul galbraith
oct 2
jason vieaux
nov 6
ana vidovic
feb 25
festival 21
rafael aguirre
apr 16

all concerts 8:00 pm
first lutheran church
299 berkeley street
FESTIVAL 21 daytime events:
old south church, 645 boylston street

TICKETS itsmyseat.com
\$25 general; \$20 seniors, students, BCGS members
INFO bostonguitar.org (313) 529 0750



Artist Series Special, 3 Concerts for \$50

Purchase 3 concert tickets in advance and save \$25 on General Admission and \$10 on Senior/BCGS Member/Student Admission.

Offer includes: Galbraith, Vieaux, Vidovic concerts only.

Go to www.bostonguitar.org now to take advantage of this special offer.

Letter to Members

Dear Members,



Welcome to the 2010-11 BCGS season! I hope you have had a wonderful summer and are recharged for an exciting Fall filled with music and friends!

Our first concert features the incomparable Paul Galbraith on October 2nd at

First Lutheran Church of Boston in the Back Bay. Paul's exploits on the eight-string Brahms guitar have earned him accolades from around the world as one of the most unique artists in our field. You can hear how expansive his guitar sounds on his recent YouTube performance of Albeniz. The additional strings, cello-like setup, and resonator box transmit a rich, overtone-filled soundscape that reinterprets our standard repertoire while creating new possibilities for transcriptions and original works. Do not miss this rare chance to see Paul in New England!

Jason Vieaux continues our series on November 6, also at First Lutheran. The youngest winner ever of the Guitar Foundation of America, he has further propelled his career with a groundbreaking adaptation of Pat Metheny's music to the classical guitar and highly successful recordings of Bach and Albeniz. Jason's technique is one of the most polished that I have seen and his artistry is evident from the very first note he plays. It will be joy to host Jason this fall. Both season tickets (with a special limited-time rate) and single concert tickets are available online at www.itsmyseat.com/bcgs.html. Stay tuned for more information regarding our February concert with Ana Vidovic and April's Festival 21, led by Frank Wallace.

2010-11 also marks the first full year of our guitar orchestra. I encourage all of you who play the guitar (all levels welcome!) to sign up with orchestra director Scott Borg (scottborgguitar@hotmail.com) and take part in an exciting and unique guitar experience. The more players we have, the happier the sound! We plan on having monthly rehearsals and several performances during the season, to be announced. Together, let's make the orchestra a group of which the entire region can be proud!

Do check out other great guitar events during the year as well: The Hingham Library guitar series, organized by George Ward, will again showcase favorite local performers.

Under the guidance of Oscar Azaret, our performance parties are a thriving group of friendly and supportive guitar players and aficionados, gathering in private homes and cozy coffeehouses.

For a sampling of Boston's next generation of classical guitarists, check out Zaira Meneses's Guitar and Friends (guitarandfriends.com).

In a few weeks you will receive notice of our fall membership drive. Please renew your support of the BCGS or make an additional donation to support our programs and artists. We have one of the premier guitar concert series in the US and your help is critical in helping us spread the joys of our instrument.

As always, many thanks go out to BCGS Board members and volunteers: Will Riley, Thuy Wagner, Frank Wallace, George Ward, Oscar Azaret, Bill Hartner, George Attisano, and Karen and Jon Parsons. You make our events possible!

Have a colorful Fall season and see you soon,

Dan Acsadi

Director, BCGS



The Way Life was Meant to Be

by Hildegunn Rodrick

Success and fame is the name of the game. Competition for the limelight and the adoration of great crowds drive the talented and the ambitious. Society and the media fuel the race, exalting some, while leaving broken dreams in their wake. How refreshing then, to enter a home on a quiet Saturday afternoon and find the gathering of the BCGS.

The room is full of talent. Some bring name recognition, others aspirations, and then there are those who came just for the love of it. All are there to participate in the sharing of beautiful music. The atmosphere is welcoming and supportive. Each who brings a performance is given a turn. Shaky hands calm down and fumbling fingers are forgiven. You are among friends. The gift of music is offered freely, the gift of support and appreciation is returned joyfully. Could this be the way life was meant to be?

The underlying ideals of great spiritual philosophies are expressed here. Great gifts are exchanged in a quiet, simple place unnoticed by most. A hindu proverb says "They who give have all things; they who withhold have nothing". Though the challenges and solutions of our lives are complex, to me there is a profound "rightness" in this simple offering and receiving of the gift of music poured from passionate hearts.

A musical "friends' meetinghouse." How appropriate for New England.

BCGS Performance Party Pictures:
Javaroom in Chlemsford, MA. Candy Liu, proprietor.



Tom Knatt

Robert Margo



Dan Acsadi

George Attisano



Jimmy Lanzillotta

Jozsef Halajko



Michael Hurley

Oscar Azaret



Donna Ricci

Richard Young



North Meadow House Concert Series Announces Fall Concerts

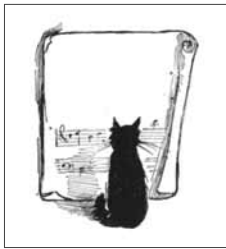
Saturday, October 23, 7:30 pm. The Piano Guitar Duo of Anne Ku and Robert Bekkers will perform at the North Meadow House Concert Series. Based in the Netherlands, this young duo is doing very exciting things with the somewhat neglected chamber combination of piano and guitar. Robert gets a huge sound from his Hilhorst guitar that competes well with Anne Ku's powerful piano playing. They have a delightful website with many interesting works posted for listening (recommended: "When Bach, Stravinsky and the Who Met"!!!) <http://www.pianoguitar.com/about.htm>

Friday, November 12, 7:30 pm. Michael Nicolella will perform a recital of original and newly arranged works for guitar. Michael is a terrific player with an astounding repertoire of original works (some of which involve tape and electric guitar). Originally from Rhode Island, Michael is now based in Seattle so it is indeed a rare pleasure to be able to hear him on this coast again. One look at his website will convince you of Michael's joyful and eclectic approach to music! <http://www.nicolella.com/news.htm>

North Meadow House Concert are presented in the home of Mark and Beverly Davis in Hampton, CT. Tickets are \$15.00; reservations are required, as seating is limited. If you are interested in attending these concerts, or would like to be on the North Meadow e-mail list for concert, master classes and workshops please write to: markmdavis@yahoo.com

A Sixteenth Century Spanish Mystic and a Dead Cat

by Donna Ricci



A sixteenth century Spanish mystic and a dead cat brought me back home to my truest love, the love of music. I had studied music as an undergraduate in the mid 1970's, graduated with a double major in music and history and was certified to teach both. I then did what most of us did back then, went into business since there were no available teaching jobs in the

late 1970's. But that wasn't the only thing that lead me away from music. At that time, I used to attend Friday afternoon concerts at Symphony Hall, the matinee costing \$4.00, which was very attractive to a recently graduated woman with no prospective job on the horizon. On this particular Friday afternoon the program opened with a Stravinsky piece, not my favorite composer, and I sat uninspired through the first half. I considered leaving, yet never one to leave things undone I decided to stay for the second half of the program. It was the debut of a young cellist. I noted that he was just about my age and I thought, "Hmm, let's see what this kid can do." He began playing the Dvorak Cello concerto. From the first note I was spellbound; I am surprised I did not fall out of my balcony seat onto the floor below I was so caught up in the power of his playing. I sat enthralled until the final note. As I left Symphony Hall, walking down Huntington Avenue in a daze, I thought, "How could I possibly consider a profession in music, having just heard what I did. How could I ever express myself like that?" And while this was not the main reason I left music for so long, it had a powerful influence on me. Of course, I could not have understood then what it meant to be comparing myself to Yo Yo Ma.

Many years passed where I drifted far from music and did this psychology thing. In July of 2004 I moved to Newburyport with my two aged and ailing cats, Basil and Sage. That fall, I hosted a party for my new neighbors. After everyone had left, Basil, who came to me as a stray at 16 weeks and was now over 20 years, pierced my heart with a look that said, "It is my time. You and Sage are home now. You need to let me go." All night I tried to deny the look saying, "We still have a little more time; I can give you more medicine and more shots and more trips to the vet," but his pleading eyes, and his weak purrs shattered my delusion. The next morning I held him in my arms singing "Bless the Beasts and the Children" as he breathed his last breath. While music had not had a prominent place in my life those twenty years, I had not abandoned it completely. I had studied opera and sang and played clarinet in the church choir. Basil and I had even played piano duets as he walked up and down the keyboard of my old baby grand while I banged out Gershwin melodies. After he was gone, my friend Dennis who had been my music theory tutor and sweetheart in college, and who had remained a lifelong friend, came to my house with his mandolin and consoled Sage and me in our grief with his soulful playing. Sage, who I had thought was completely deaf now in his 16th year, seemed to respond to the sound of the strings. This stirred something in me. "I need music back in

my life," I told Dennis and asked him to help me buy a mandolin. I had never played a stringed instrument so I had no idea what I was getting myself into. I bought a mandolin in the fall of 2004 and attempted to learn on my own with little success. However, as I plucked melodies my grief subsided but, more importantly, an old, rusty door creaked open.

On a parallel course, over the years I would occasionally get messages from St. Theresa of Avila, a sixteenth century Spanish mystic. It wasn't like I was hearing voices while brushing my teeth or seeing apparitions in my cereal. She was a little more subtle than that. I would open a bureau draw and find one of those prayer cards with her "Let nothing disturb thee" prayer on it and have no idea how it got there. One day her famous book, *Interior Castles* was sitting on my bookshelf, but I had no recollection of buying it. In the winter of 2005 and 2006 her name kept coming up in conversation. I had heard that the medical intuitive Carolyn Myss was going to be speaking in New York City at a time when I was going to be there and I decided to hear her before I even knew what the topic was. She was, in fact, talking about her newest book, *Entering the Castle*, her experiences with messages she received from St. Theresa of Avila. That winter I recommended St. Theresa's *Interior Castle* to my church book club and moderated the discussion. In preparation for this I needed to buy another copy of the book - the mysterious one having disappeared off my shelf! While in the bookstore I looked up and saw a CD entitled Avila. I bought the CD, sight unseen or, rather, sound unheard. When I got it home and realized it was classical guitar I thought, "I don't even like classical guitar. Why did I buy this?" But I listened to it several times and thought, "This is really good." I even considered emailing the guitarist but prayed to Theresa to keep me from going down the road of classical guitar groupie. She must have obliged because I tossed the CD aside and went about my business.

So here is where it comes together. That spring, Sage became sicker. I was reminded of Basil and why I began playing mandolin so I took it out again. At this time I had scheduled a meeting with the Newburyport Welcome Wagon Lady for business purposes. She was shocked to realize she had not visited me when I first moved in two years prior. "How did that happen?" she asked, as if somehow I had intentionally avoided her visit. "I never miss anyone!" I know how it happened. It wasn't my time. But now it was.

(continued on page 6)

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web: www.ziplink.net/~tknatt email: tknatt@ziplink.net
phone: 1-978-448-9663

Calendar

BCGS Sponsored Events

Saturday, October 2, 8pm

BCGS Artist Series: Paul Galbraith. First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley Street, Boston. www.bostonguitar.org.

Saturday, November 6, 2010, 8pm

BCGS Artist Series: Jason Vieaux. First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley St., Boston. www.bostonguitar.org.

Series Events

Saturday, September 18, 3pm – 4pm

Saturday Sounds Special at the Hingham Public Library. Steve Marchena, solo guitar. www.hinghamlibrary.org. 781-741-1405

Sunday, September 26, 3pm – 5pm

"Dance, Sleep, Bach" - Aaron Larget-Caplan performs exotic dances and new lullabies in a recital at the Meeting House Hill Church on the "Sunday at Three" concert series. Admission: Free, Location: Meeting House Hill Church, 10 Parish St., Dorchester, MA 02122, 617 436-0527 info@firstparishdorchester.org

Saturday, October 16, 3pm – 4pm

Saturday Sounds Special, Hingham Public Library. Back Bay Guitar Trio, David Newsam, Sharon Wayne, John Mason www.hinghamlibrary.org. 781-741-1405

Saturday, October 23, 7:30pm

North Meadow House Concert Series. Piano Guitar Duo of Anne Ku and Robert Bekkers. The Davis home in Hampton, CT. Tickets are \$15.00; reservations are required, email markmdavis@yahoo.com for more information

Friday, November 12, 7:30pm

North Meadow House Concert Series. Michael Nicolella will perform a recital of original and newly arranged works for guitar. Davis home in Hampton, CT. Tickets are \$15.00; reservations are required, email markmdavis@yahoo.com for more information

Saturday, November 20, 3pm – 4pm

Saturday Sounds Special at the Hingham Public Library. Trio Cordefiati; Laura Finkelstein (flute), Jeff Leiserson (clarinet), Sean Winkler (guitar). www.hinghamlibrary.org. 781-741-1405

BCGS Performance Parties

Saturday, October 16, 2pm – 6pm

BCGS Performance Party. 25 Holman Road, Auburndale, MA George Attisano's home, phone: 617-964-1908

Saturday, September 11, 2pm – 6pm

BCGS Performance Party, 334 Bear Hill Rd. North Andover, MA 01845. Oscar Azaret's home, phone: 978-688-3544

Performances

Saturday, October 2, 7pm – 9pm

Recital w/premiere, Aaron Larget-Caplan, guitar. Wellfleet Library, 5 West Main St. Wellfleet, MA 02667. Aaron Larget-Caplan performs a solo recital Music: Bach, Barrios, Piazzolla, Torroba, and the world premiere of "Mi Tango" (2010 version) by Hayg Boyadjian. Wellfleet Library: (508) 349-0310

Wednesday, October 20, 7pm – 9pm

Aaron Larget-Caplan recital "Bach, Dance, Sleep". Exotic dances, tangos, and serenades by Albéniz and Piazzolla, New Lullabies from Aaron's latest CD release and a prelude and fugue or two by Bach. Admission: Free, Location: Whistler House Museum Of Art, 243 Worthen St., Lowell, MA 01852 (978) 452-7641, www.AaronLC.com

Friday, October 22, 8pm

Bekkers Piano & Guitar Duo, 17 Eddy St., W. Newton, MA. Music of Rodrigo, de Falla and others. By reservation only: \$15 includes wine and cheese. Call Frank Wallace at (917) 693-5603 for reservations. For more information on the

Bekkers Duo at www.pianoguitar.com and www.concertblog.wordpress.com/2010/08/01/house-concert-for-your-friends/

Saturday, October 23, 1pm – 2pm

Aaron Larget-Caplan, Aaron Larget-Caplan performs an all-ages family concert of the Tour Spanish history, geography, language and poetry at the Whistler House Museum Of Art, 243 Worthen St., Lowell, MA 01852. Admission: Free, Info: (978) 452-7641, www.AaronLC.com

Thursday, November 4, 7pm – 9pm

Spirit of Spain - Orlando Cela, flute, Aaron Larget-Caplan, guitar. Tour Spanish and Latin American music and history with the Spirit of Spain. Aaron is joined by flautist Orlando Cela for an exciting program of dances and songs by composers Piazzolla, Albéniz, Rodrigo and more. Free, Location: Richard Sugden Library, 8 Pleasant St., Spencer, MA 01562 Info: www.SpenceryPublicLibrary.org, 508-885-7513, www.AaronLC.com

Monday, November 1, 11am - 1:30pm master class; 7:30pm recital

Aaron Larget-Caplan, recital - Salem State College Free admission. www.AaronLC.com

Thursday, November 4, 7pm – 9pm

Spirit of Spain - Orlando Cela, flute, Aaron Larget-Caplan, guitar. Spanish and Latin American music and history. Piazzolla, Albéniz, Rodrigo and more. Admission: Free, Location: Richard Sugden Library, 8 Pleasant St., Spencer, MA 01562. Information: www.SpenceryPublicLibrary.org - 508-885-7513 www.AaronLC.com

Stay current with the BCGS Events Calendar at www.bostonguitar.org

Classifieds

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Ramirez 1a-#17132 built 1983. Brazilian Rosewood back and sides, Cedar Top, 664 scale. A fine concert instrument in good condition with no cracks or repairs. \$4000.00. In Southern Maine. Email: osprey974@hotmail.com. 207-443-5317.

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TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD

Classified Ads are \$10 per issue up to 32-words, plus \$0.25 for each additional word. This fee includes a print ad in the newsletter and posting on our website, bostonguitar.org, until the next quarterly newsletter is published. Ad copy and payment must be received in February, May, August, or November to guarantee placement. Send inquiries to adbcgs@gmail.com; send checks to BCGS, P.O. Box 470665, Brookline, MA 02447, or PayPal the payment to bcgsemail@gmail.com.

A Sixteenth Century Spanish Mystic and a Dead Cat, continued

Because in the course of our business, she gave me the new resident packet of discount coupons. One of the coupons was for a free half hour music lesson at the Musical Suite. I called the Musical Suite and was told they didn't have a mandolin teacher but they had a classical guitar teacher, John Tavano, and that he would call me. When he left his name on my voice mail I thought, "Why does that name sound familiar?" I pulled out the CD and saw that the teacher who called me and the guitarist on Avila were one and the same. So I began studying mandolin with John. In short time I realized I wanted to play guitar, so I bought a folk guitar. But like the mandolin, I was not inspired to practice. During a lesson I played John's classical guitar. Once my fingers touched the nylon strings of this instrument I had a musical experience unlike any I had known. Nothing had ever felt so right. Something that had whispered to me long ago was singing in a loud and resonant voice.

Shortly after I began studying classical guitar with John, I asked, "Why did you name your CD Avila?" He said, "I was in a bookstore and I looked up and I saw this book entitled Avila." Sitting across from him, my guitar in my lap, I thought of Basil and St. Theresa and knew at that moment, they had brought me home.

Eliot Fisk

The Amadeus Duo

Angel Romero

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Guitars by Stephan Connor feature the uniquely pioneered Sound Portal system giving them power, nuance and playability for world-class performance.

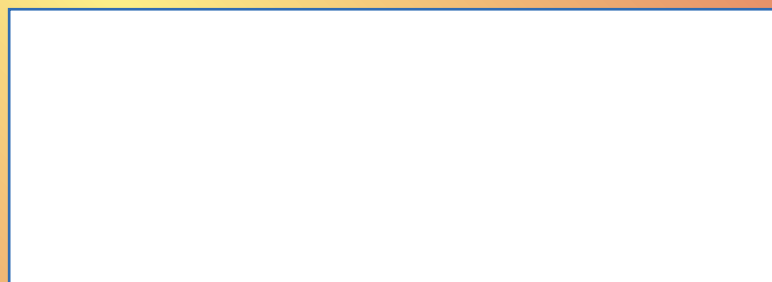
Find out why.
www.connorguitars.com/why

CONNORGUITARS



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