



newsletter

Volume 16, No. 4, June/August 2009

Coming Events

Saturday, July 11, 2:00 p.m. – 6 p.m.
BCGS Performance Party at George Attisano's home 617-964-1908, 25 Holman Road, Auburndale, MA

Wednesday, July 15, 7:00 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Gerry Johnston, guitarist, performs at the Bourne Public Library, Bourne, MA

Summersundays Concert Series

- **June 28, 2:00 p.m.**
German guitarist Norbert Dams
- **July 19, 2:00 p.m.**
José Lezcano, Cuban-American guitarist
- **July 26, 2:00 p.m.**
Back Bay Guitar Trio
- **August 2, 2:00 p.m.**
Soprano/poet Nancy Knowles
- **August 16, 2:00 p.m.**
Frank Wallace and Friends

See Calendar Section for more information

Contents

Letter to Members	3
Barcelona Festival	4
Calendar	5
Festival 21 Review	6
Classifieds	7

BCGS Staff

Director	
Daniel Ascadi	bostonguitar@hotmail.com
Newsletter Staff	
George Ward, Design	g.w.ward@mac.com
Robert Margo, The Fourth String	margora@bu.edu
Bob Healey, Society Speaks	bob@bobhealey.net
George Ward, Advertising	g.w.ward@mac.com
Membership Director	
Daniel Ascadi	bostonguitar@hotmail.com
Publicity	
Jesse Acker-Johnson	jesseackerjohnson@gmail.com
Performance Party Coordinator	
Oscar Azaret	JOscar.Azaret@lsi.com

• • • FESTIVAL 21 REVIEW • • •



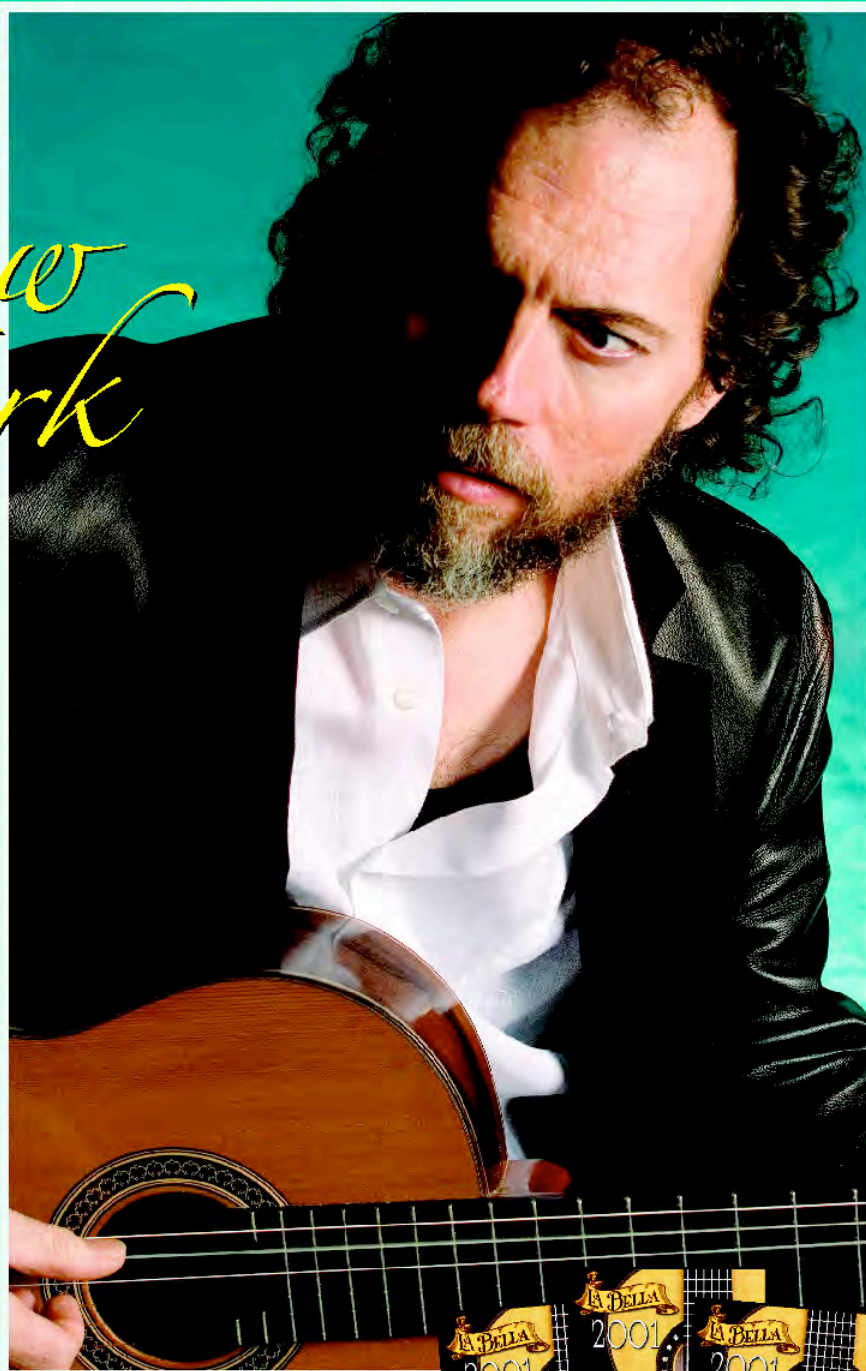
Ernesto García de León
Photo by Nancy Knowles

Grammy award winner

Andrew York

Teams up with
the La Bella family.

Andrew York is one of today's most visible and innovative classical guitar composers, winning a GRAMMY with the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet during their sixteen year partnership. Andrew's discography includes "California Breeze," a new recording for Sony Japan, three solo CD's for the GSP label, ten CD's with the LAGQ on Delos, Sony and Telarc labels, as well as inclusion on Rhino Records "Legends of Guitar" and numerous other compilations. For the last decade, Andrew's concert touring schedule has spanned more than thirty countries. Recent concerts include Bogotá Colombia, Ankara Turkey and Andrew's eleventh tour of Japan. La Bella strings is very happy to welcome such an innovative composer and player to their family.



La Bella®

256 Broadway • Newburgh, NY 12550 • (845) 562-4400 • Fax (845) 562-4491 • www.labella.com

Letter to Members

Dear Members,



It is with tremendous pride that I announce that Daniel Acsadi has taken over the position of Director of the BCGS. Dan has been Membership Director and a close ally of the society and mine for the past two years. He knows where we've been, how we got where we are and where we are going. The Society is in good hands!

I want to thank all the folks who have helped me through the past two years: past Directors Berit Strong, David Newsam, Nicholas Ciraldo, Glorianne Collver-Jacobsen and Bob Ward, all of whom have offered advice, consultation, their time and energy to continuing the work of the BCGS. I thank our current Board Members: George Ward, Lawrence Bernabei, new Treasurer Thuy Wagner, Jesse Acker-Johnson and Charlie Carrano; and the essential volunteers: Karen and Jon Parsons who host all of our artists, sometimes for several days; Oscar Azaret manages the Performance Parties; our Party hosts; Lou Arnold posts online calendar dates; Saul Meyerson-Knox assisted with the Third Life Series; Bill Hartner helps at most concerts and will solicit new ads; and last and most of all, my beautiful wife Nancy Knowles for her patience with me as well as her exquisite design work that you see on all our posters.

I believe we need to continue moving toward the day when our Society is a greater artistic and economic presence in the City of Boston and throughout the region. We need greater involvement from our members, a broader sense of cultural mission, more integration with the existing cultural organizations and educational institutions of the region, more collaboration with other Societies and arts groups, and a more professional attitude about the workings of the BCGS in general. We need a paid Executive to run the daily workings of a thriving Society. You can not imagine the daily emails and publicity work, contract negotiation and general communication that go into each concert, even each performance party, which requires maintenance of lists and contacts and exploration of new avenues of communication in our technological world.

Dan will need your help, your suggestions and your hard work. Our Board is developing a culture of professionalism in the operations of the Society. But we still need lawyers and businessmen, grant writers, fundraisers, or anyone with a passion for the arts in general or experience on other Boards to advise and aid with our growth and development.

I have become aware in the last two years of wonderful trends in other communities: the Austin GS has a several hundred thousand dollar budget; a school district in northern Virginia has over 20 teachers teaching full-time as guitar instructors; other Societies bring in 400 people or more to their concerts. We can do this; we've only just begun. I will remain an active member of the Board and look forward to working with Dan and all of you toward a bright future for the guitar in Boston.

Frank Wallace

Dear Members,



It is an honor to serve as the next Director of your Boston Classical Guitar Society. I approach this new position with much enthusiasm and an understanding that the hard work it involves can lead to wonderful results.

During the tenure of Frank Wallace, attendance at our concerts has been rising; we have entered into great partnerships, such as with LaBella string company; Oscar Azaret began managing our thriving performance party program; we have also started Festival 21, focusing on contemporary guitar music. I am happy that Frank will stay on as Director of Festival 21 and as a Board member.

When I initially decided to pursue a double major in music and economics at Cornell University, I was quite unsure of how I can make the two fields relate. While at New England Conservatory for my Master's and Doctoral degrees under the mentorship of Eliot Fisk, I realized the absolute necessity for

(continued on next page)

LUTHIER'S WORKSHOP

LW-LGL

THOMAS KNATT

Luthier-Guitars & Violins

La Gitana Instruments
687 Townsend Rd., Groton MA 01450
Instrument Making Classes

- Removable neck guitars for airline travel • OM fingerstyle guitars
- Classical guitars in the Bouchet-Friedrich tradition
- Custom Repairs • Strings & Accessories-mail and email

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

Letter to Members *(continued)*

musicians to branch out and organize in lieu of the disappearing traditional models of the music industry. The BCGS is well positioned to become the critical link among professional guitarists, aficionados, institutions, and the community.

In the upcoming months I will be working with the Board to develop a clear vision for the future of our organization. I will stress the need for unifying Boston area guitar grassroots efforts and to partner more seamlessly with events such as Boston GuitarFest. The need for closer collaboration with the numerous distinguished guitar departments and instructors remains. I will also focus on an expansion of the BCGS mission to include more outreach events and a goal to serve our community. While the situation is difficult for many music organizations, there exist wonderful models of success in the music nonprofit sector that we can adapt to Boston's uniquely rich musical culture.


The focal point of our society remains our Artist Series. The BCGS will present an exciting fall lineup, beginning with the Cavatina Duo on October 4 and GFA winner Gabriel Bianco on November 1. We will be adding events throughout the summer and will keep you up to date.

In order to take the BCGS to the next level, we will need more funding. We have received some grants and are working on others, but it is your financial support that is critical for the success of our organization. We are also actively looking for more volunteers as well as dedicated individuals who are interested in serving on the Board of Directors.

I would like to thank the Board: Frank Wallace, Larry Bernabei, Thuy Wagner, Jesse Acker-Johnson, George Ward, and Charlie Carrano for their work and the trust they have placed in me.

Have a wonderful summer and see you at our events!

Dan Acsadi, Director



Alan Carruth-Luthier

51 Camel Hump Rd.
Newport, NH 03773
(603) 863-7064
www.alcarruthluthier.com

*

Handmade Instruments
Lutherie Instruction
Hours by appointment

*

Barcelona Festival of Song

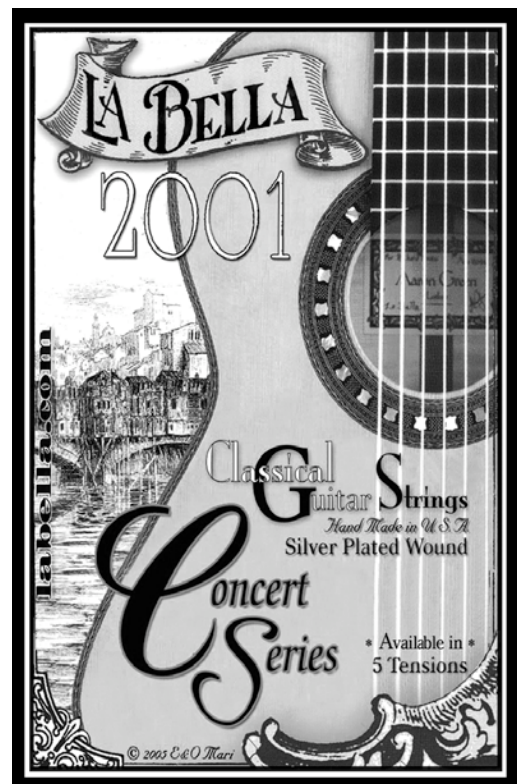
To Spanish and Latin American song enthusiasts everywhere: Grammy-nominated guitarist, composer, and Keene State faculty member José Lezcano will be directing and team-teaching a special 3-credit class through Continuing Education at Keene State College. Entitled "Barcelona Festival of Song," the course takes place July 1-11 in the beautiful city of Barcelona, Spain, and features faculty from diverse countries. Festival founder and organizer Patricia Caicedo is a critically acclaimed soprano and musicologist with special expertise in Latin-American and Spanish song and has published several volumes of songs by leading composers in Spanish, Portuguese, Quichua, and Guarani complete with program notes and IPA guides for pronunciation and diction. A highlight of this year's festival will be the premieres of two song-cycles, by José Lezcano (for voice and guitar) and Max Lifshitz (for voice and piano) on the poetry of Colombian poet Jorge Nef.

The tuition fee includes housing in a private apartment with kitchenette close to all festival venues, and admission to all classes and concerts. For a significantly smaller fee, students can audit the course. For more information contact:

jlezcano@keene.edu or bbaker@keene.edu. Also visit www.barcelonafestivalofsong.com

Saludos

José Manuel Lezcano, Ph.D.





Calendar

Saturday, July 11, 2:00 p.m. – 6 p.m.

BCGS Performance Party at George Attisano's home 617-964-1908, 25 Holman Road, Auburndale, MA 02466

Wednesday, July 15, 7:00 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Gerry Johnston, guitarist, performs at the Bourne Public Library, Bourne, MA

Gerry Johnston will perform selections from The American Songbook on classical guitar. A donation to local food pantry is requested.

Summersundays Concert Series

Gyre Music and Artistic Director Frank Wallace present a new concert series featuring guitarists in NH. summersundays will happen at the historic Hillsborough Center Congregational Church in Hillsborough, NH. All concerts are at 2 p.m., free admission; donations to help maintain this delightful country church are greatly appreciated. Bring lunch and eat on the beautiful green before the concert. Call 917 693-5603 for more information or go to <http://summersundays.tumblr.com/>.

June 28, 2:00 p.m.

German guitarist **Norbert Dams** performs **Love and Tears:** Music from the Golden Age of the Classical Guitar in Paris and Vienna on a beautiful 19th century guitar

• July 19, 2:00 p.m.

José Lezcano, Cuban-American guitarist, with guest Colin Isotti, performs music of Latin America and original compositions

• July 26, 2:00 p.m.

Back Bay Guitar Trio presents music from their new CD, *The Journey*, showcasing the group's wide stylistic range; transcriptions of Debussy, Brahms, Gershwin, Prokofiev and Brubeck; Latin American compositions from Paulo Bellinati and Astor Piazzolla

• August 2, 2:00 p.m.

Soprano/poet **Nancy Knowles** reads and sings from her new dramatic memoir, *The Girl in the Moon*, with music by Frank Wallace

• August 16, 2:00 p.m.

Frank Wallace and Friends present music by Wallace, Villa Lobos, and other Latin American composers; August Waters, mandolin, and others TBA.

FESTIVAL 21 - 2009, In Review

By Frank Wallace, photos by Nancy Knowles



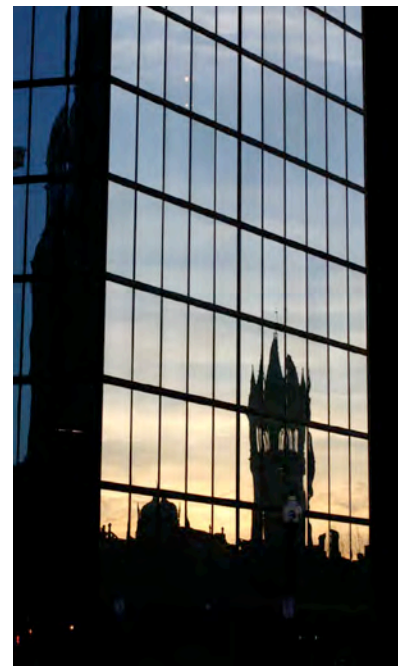
This year's Festival 21 featured three Mexican guests, Ernesto García de León, Pablo Garibay and Dieter Hennings, who were all such gracious people and wonderful musicians as was Michael Lorimer, our fourth guest performer from New York City. The weather was stunning, flowers outside the church were gorgeous, and the Chapel was magnificent with its rich acoustics. A dozen or so fans and performers ended the Festival at Bar Lola for *tapas* and sangria! Festival 21 2009

was made possible by grants from the Augustine Foundation and the Mexican Consulate.

Ernesto gave a class on folk influences in his music with Michael Lorimer and Zaira Meneses translating. It was enlightening. He played samples of his brother's singing and demonstrated improvisation techniques. Michael and Ernesto split a concert the first night and focused entirely on Ernesto's music. You can see a link to all the programs on the website page: www.bostonguitar.info/performers/09_festival21.html

Dieter played amazing and difficult music with such ease and concentration. Even Pablo commented on how stunned he was at Dieter's mind, "what must go on in there?" he said. It was as if he was sight-reading, but in absolute perfection of detail and nuance. Pablo is one of the most powerful and beautiful players I have ever heard - full of color and dynamics. His program was the most varied including the José Sonata and Ponçe, but he also played the most "far out" piece - *Sinapsis* by Sigal

(continued on next page)



Old South Church reflection in the Hancock Tower

FESTIVAL 21 *(continued)*

- a computer aided improvisation. The audience loved the piece! You can see or hear his performance of *La noche de las ranas* and other pieces at: www.tumblr.com/tumblelog/frankwallace/search/garibay

The other event that grabbed people's attention was the Members' Concert - again you can see the program PDF at my blog - Michael Lorimer said afterwards that he can't imagine another Society putting together such a high quality concert of members. One of the most exciting performances was again by

a Mexican – our very own Zaira Meneses, who, like Pablo, played with amazing tone and color. Bob Ward offered two compositions by Johanson and Harrison and Berit Strong gave a strong rendition of Carlos Chavez's *Three Pieces*. Nancy Knowles' voice filled the hall on *El Canto*, a vocal duet with guitar, composed by me and based on a poem by Mexican artist Jaime Goded. That was followed by an original composition by Mike Dillon (not listed on the program) and a great rendering of John Lennon's *Dear Prudence* by Robert Squires, complete with singing. After *Debil del Alba*, another composition of mine played by Dan Acsadi, new Director of the Guitar Society, the Back Bay Trio ended up with a final Mexican composition, *Polimero* by Federico Garcia Castell.



Top left: Ernesto García de León,
Center: Pablo Garibay
Bottom left: Frank Wallace and
Nancy Knowles.

Top right: The Back Bay Guitar Trio,
David Newsam, Steve Marchena,
and John Mason

Group shot above: L to R.
Beret Strong, Daniel Acsadi, Frank Wallace,
Pablo Garibay, Michael Lorimer, Dieter Hennings
Center: Amparo Anguiano, Ernesto García de León,
Zaira Meneses,
Bottom: Dananai Anguiano, Nancy Knowles, and
Rachel Fisk

Classifieds

Classifieds are \$10 per issue of the BCGS newsletter for a 32-word ad, and \$0.25 for each additional word. The fee includes posting on bostonguitar.org. Send inquiries to c.carrano@comcast.net; send checks to BCGS, P.O. Box 470665, Brookline, MA 02447.

Individual Guitars for Sale

RAMIREZ CLASS 1A 1969 Serial No. 3.883, braz/cedar. Owner since 1981, I've taken excellent care of it. Concert quality. Sounds and plays beautifully. Recently appraised. Photos available. \$6,000. (includes original case.) Contact info: Andre 508-344-6585, martind28@mac.com.

ERIC MONRAD 2004 classical guitar in excellent condition. Englemann spruce top, Indian rosewood B+S, Sloane machines. Has great warm sound, and plays very nicely. Asking \$6500. Call Mark (508) 543-0428, mark.small6@verizon.net.

RAMIREZ R-4 GUITAR 2002 "Modelo de Conservatorio" Indian Rosewood B+S, Cedar soundboard, solid bases and clear trebles, \$1500, very good condition. David Bruce, osprey974@hotmail.com, 1-207-443-5317.

DIETER HOPF 1984 classical Brazilian/cedar, \$4500 or BO email: romanorich@yahoo.com.

JOSE RAMIREZ 1A 1974 Cedar and Indian Rosewood. 664mm scale length. Mark Leaf case included. \$4500.00. Pictures upon request. Contact info: cartobum@yahoo.com.

TEZANOS PEREZ 1998: Spruce Top. Brazilian Rosewood back and sides. Very good condition. May need setup work. Buyer can decide. Very playable. Nice sound. \$4500 (negotiable). marcoux@verizon.net

THOMAS HUMPHREY 1991 Millenium Model-Brazilian side and back, Spruce top. Excellent condition. Warm and strong bass and a treble with great clarity. Raised fingerboard for easy access to high treble notes. \$8500 or best offer. Adam Levin (847)732-8058, adam.4.levin@gmail.com

RAMIREZ 1A SEGOVIA 1980 originally owned by Albert Valdes Blain; Mark Leaf case; \$6,500.00. Rick Bernstingle: (978) 486-4011, frederic.bernstingle@verizon.net.

ANTONIO APARICIO 2002 Classical Model AA132, All Solid Rosewood/Cedar. Great condition. Beautiful warm sound. Lists on luthiermusic.com for \$3600. I'm asking \$2300. Chris Ruth (978)407-8657, cruth@hologic.com.

NICHOLAS IOANNOU Classical Guitar, 1985. Rosewood/Spruce. Excellent sound. Good condition but needs some work. \$1,800. Chris Jones (781)789-5809, cjones1@gis.net.

R.S. RUCK FLAMENCO NEGRA 1997 #638. As-new condition. 655/52, Englemann/Indian. Laquer finish. Gotoh deluxe tuners. Clear golpeadors. Very loud. \$9,500. Lance F. Gunderson, (207) 439-7516, lancefgunderson@yahoo.com.

Luthiers and Dealers

ALAN CARRUTH, LUTHIER Offering handmade guitars of all kinds and lutherie instruction at 51 Camel Hump Road, Newport, NH 03773. (603) 863-7064, www.alcarruthluthier.com

STEPHAN CONNOR, Classical Guitar Maker. Come visit my shop and try out the latest guitars! (508)294-1711, Cataumet, Mass. steveconnor@juno.com; www.connorguitars.com.

HANDCRAFTED GUITARS BY THOMAS KNATT - \$1,500-\$3,000.

Inexpensive guitars for serious students \$400-\$700. La Bella, Hannabach, D'Addario and other strings and accessories - Dynarette thigh cushions - Repairs and Guitarmaking class. 687 Townsend Road, Groton, MA 01450, 1-978-448-9663, luthiers@alum.mit.edu, www.ziplink.net/~tknatt.

UNION MUSIC - We carry a selection of new classical guitars including Kenny Hill's California made "Master Series" and Signature "double top" models. We also carry Hill's line of all solid French polish guitars and traditional New World guitars. In addition we have classical guitars by Guild, Cordoba and Samick as well as a selection of used and consignment guitars. Strings, accessories and excellent on-site repairs by luthier David Dick. For more information please contact classical guitarist Carl Kamp by phone: (800) 213-0013 or (508) 753-3702, email: carl@unionmusic.com, website: www.unionmusic.com, or visit our climate-controlled showroom at 142 Southbridge St, Worcester, MA 01608.

Guitar Instruction

CLASSICAL, FLAMENCO, JAZZ GUITAR Private instructions, all levels. Prof. concert guitarist; 30 years exp. Theory/comp/improv. Guitar Accessories. By appt. Lance Gunderson (207) 439-7516 / (617) 527-4904, lgunder@attglobal.net.

CLASSICAL & JAZZ GUITAR Private lessons with New England Conservatory graduate. Gerry Johnston. Haverhill, MA. ph.(978) 372-2250. email: gerajohnno@yahoo.com



Eliot Fisk



The Amadeus Duo



Angel Romero

**Played by the
world's best.**

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

UNION MUSIC



QUALITY CLASSICAL GUITARS

- Handmade Guitars by Kenny Hill, Rodriguez, Laraviee, and Others
- Taylor & Martin New Cutaway Electronics
- Flamenco Guitars
- Used & Consignment Guitars

Strings, Accessories and
Excellent On-Site Luthier
Repairs

(90 Day 0% Financing Available)

www.unionmusic.com

800-213-0013 or 508-753-3702

email: info@unionmusic.com

142 Southbridge St., Worcester, MA 01608

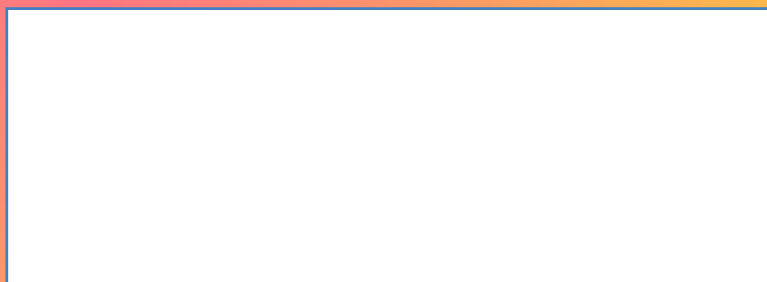


THE BOSTON CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY

P.O. Box 470665

Brookline, MA, 02447

(Address Correction Requested)



www.bostonguitar.org

