



BCGS



newsletter

Volume 19, No. 3, March/May 2012



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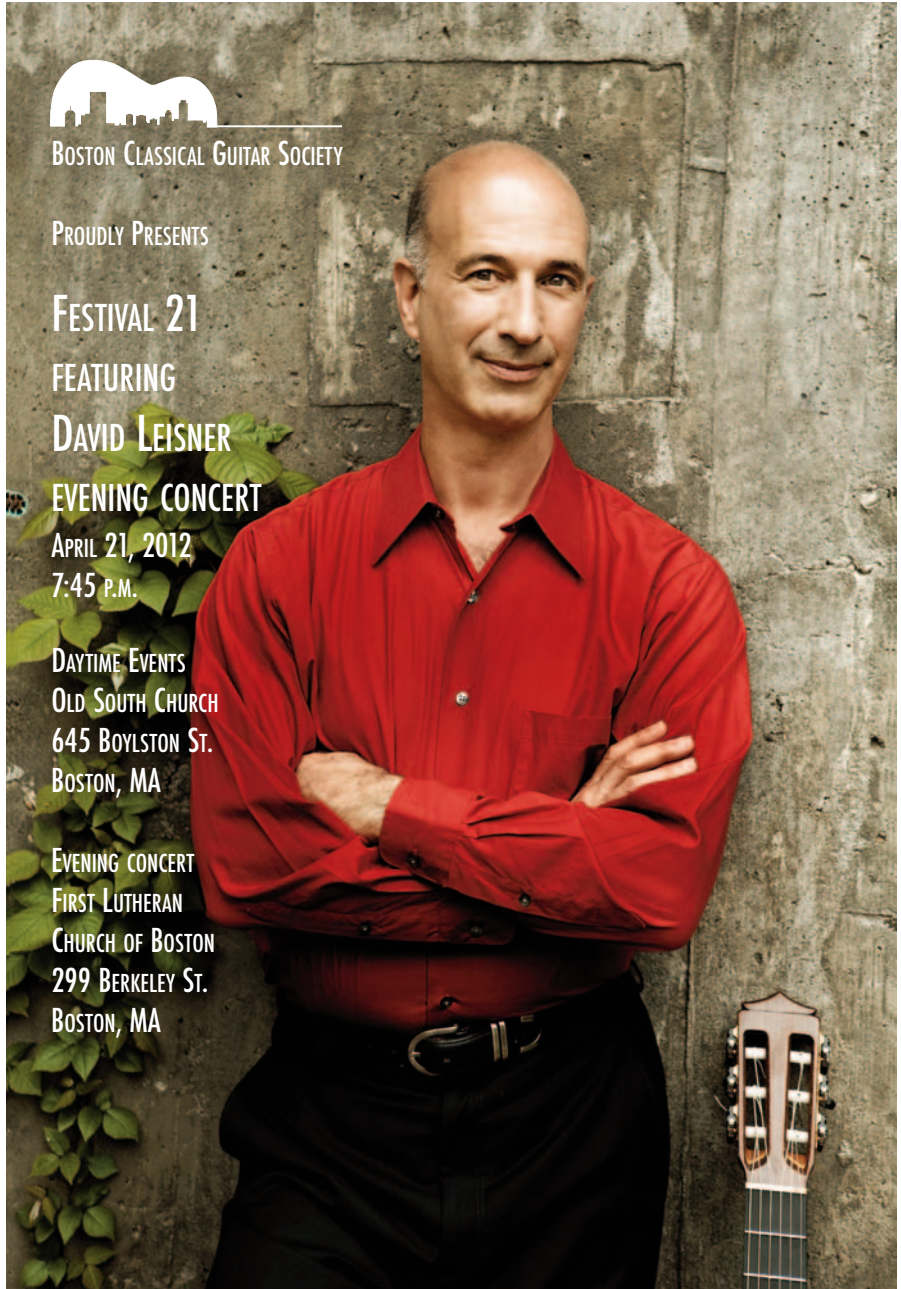
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BOSTON CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY

PROUDLY PRESENTS

FESTIVAL 21

FEATURING

DAVID LEISNER

EVENING CONCERT

APRIL 21, 2012

7:45 P.M.

DAYTIME EVENTS

OLD SOUTH CHURCH

645 BOYLSTON ST.

BOSTON, MA

EVENING CONCERT

FIRST LUTHERAN

CHURCH OF BOSTON

299 BERKELEY ST.

BOSTON, MA

See schedule for Festival 21

Download Leisner program featuring works by Del Tredici, Britten, Leisner, and Carrillo at bostonguitar.org

Event and Concert Tickets at: www.itsmyseat.com/bcgs.html

Letter to Members

Dear Members,



Spring is a period of transition on many fronts, and the same is true for the BCGS concert series. Last month, Xuefei Yang treated us to a magnificent concert in front of an enthusiastic audience of 240. Her uncanny ability to balance grace and artistry with powerful projec-

tion and authoritative delivery shined on Rodrigo's *Invocation and Dance* and Regondi's *Variations on the Bellini opera, I Capuletti e I Montecchi*. Her visit to Boston created a lot of buzz in the community and exposed many new concertgoers to BCGS programs.

Our final event of the season is Festival 21, coming up on Saturday, April 21st. As in previous years, we are celebrating and promoting the present and future of the guitar. In addition, the all-day schedule will bring together area professionals, students, ensembles, and aficionados for a spectacularly diverse, interactive musical offering. We are delighted to have the generous support of the **Augustine Foundation** and **New England Foundation for the Arts**, whose contributions make Festival 21 possible.

The Festival 21 evening concert features David Leisner in a truly epic concert. He will open with a world premiere composition from Carlos Carrillo, titled *Mariluna*. In addition, David will perform the Boston premieres of David Del Tredici's *Facts of Life* and his own piece, *Labyrinths*. This is David Del Tredici's 75th birthday year and the composer will be in attendance. Also on the program is *Nocturnal* from Benjamin Britten, one of the great twentieth-century guitar masterpieces. David has numerous connections to Boston as a former faculty member at New England Conservatory, so it will be wonderful to welcome him back to the city.

Preceding David Leisner's concert will be the world premiere of a brand new guitar ensemble piece written by Anthony Paul De Ritis and commissioned by the BCGS. Tony is currently Professor and Chair of the Music Department at Northeastern University. He has received performances nationally and internationally, including at the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and UNESCO headquarters in Paris, where his *Melody for Peace* was premiered by the Prague Philharmonic. We are honored to have Tony's piece for Festival 21: his music is inventive and engaging, perfect for a performance by the Festival 21 joint guitar orchestra and an anticipated 60 players!

Following a guitar orchestra open rehearsal, Belgian virtuoso Jerome Mouffe will lead a technique workshop for anyone with a guitar, all levels and ages. Next, Festival 21 will host a

Conservatories Recital featuring talented guitar students nominated by esteemed faculty from area music departments, including NEC, Boston Conservatory, Longy, Keene State, Rhode Island, and Berklee.

The afternoon session will commence with the annual Members' Concert. We are delighted to have contributions from Jose Lezcano (with harpist Franziska Huhn), Robert Margo, Steve Rapson, Jeff Wyman, and George Attisano. After a recharging coffee break, the Guitar Ensembles Concert will showcase groups from the Providence Mandolin Orchestra, Keene State, Timberlane High School (NH), Rhode Island University, Wheeler School (RI), and our own Boston Guitar Orchestra, led by Scott Borg and Colin Thurmond.

As we approach the end of our season, I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to the society with your work, invaluable advice, enthusiasm, musical contributions, concert attendance, and financial support. I'm especially grateful to **George Ward**, pillar of the BCGS Board, curator of the Hingham Saturday Sounds Series, and Newsletter publisher; **Will Riley**, internet marketing coordinator and Newsletter editor; **Thuy Wagner**, treasurer, concert hospitality, and legal advice; **Scott Borg** and **Colin Thurmond** for guitar orchestra direction, management, and coaching; **Oscar Azaret** for expert performance party coordination; **Karen** and **Jon Parsons** as artist hosts; **Nancy Knowles** for season poster design; and **Frank Wallace**, Director Emeritus, webmaster, and consultant-at-large. Such a positive, engaging, and artistically rich community provides the foundation for many successful BCGS seasons to come.

Sincerely,

Dan Acsadi
Director, BCGS

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composer at work close at hand was an extraordinary, irreplaceable, immensely inspiring lesson for me in composition. The commissioning of this masterpiece and bringing it to life in performance and recording has been one of the most important accomplishments of my musical life.

BCGS: For this recital you are also programming the Boston premiere of one of your own works, *Labyrinths*, which has wonderfully alliterative movement titles. Many of your compositions have very evocative titles - does a working title come to you as you compose, after the work is completed, or does it inspire the composition in the first place? Can you elaborate on this piece in particular?

DL: The titles just happened, after the fact. As they occurred to me, one by one, I realized an alliterative pattern was emerging, which suited the music, and then I realized that something that happens in the final movement related to it as well. It was just a lucky coincidence, or perhaps part of an unconscious plan from the beginning - I'll never know...

My composition style took a dramatic turn in the early part of the last decade, toward a more reductive (or dare I say, Minimalist?) approach. As life in general got faster and more complex, I found myself wanting to go slower and pay closer attention to the nuanced details of things. This began with observations in art and nature and soon worked its way into my music. *Labyrinths* for guitar (there's also been one for solo piano) was one of the earliest of these works. Each movement obsesses on a small amount of musical material, exploring and inspecting and expanding its nature and its possibilities in slowly shifting detail. I look forward to sharing this piece with the Boston audience.

BCGS: Do you have any new compositions in the works? Is there a medium you haven't written for before that intrigues you (a guitar concerto, perhaps)?

DL: I recently completed two vocal commissions, one for famous baritone Wolfgang Holzmair for baritone and solo cello, with German translations of Lao Tzu, and a set of songs for tenor and guitar to Mary Oliver poems for tenor William Ferguson. Next up is a big work for cello and guitar, for the cellist Zuill Bailey and me to play in our upcoming recitals next season and beyond.

Otherwise, you hit the nail on the head - I'm dying to write a guitar concerto. It seems like I'm a natural for this, with my orchestral writing experience. But it requires a decent amount of money for commission, as it's a time-consuming and costly project to undertake. So I hope that something of this nature comes along sometime. I'm also chomping at the bit to write a large-scale string quartet. I've written a short one, as well as a work for string quartet and guitar and another with baritone, so I'm ready to do the big piece for quartet.

BCGS: Thank you, David!

Society members can find more information about David Leisner at his website: <http://www.davidleisner.com>

BCGS Performance Parties

If you are a BCGS member and not receiving "e-vites" contact Oscar Azaret at: joazaret@comcast.net

December 3, 2011

Hosted by Carl Kamp, Union Music, Worcester



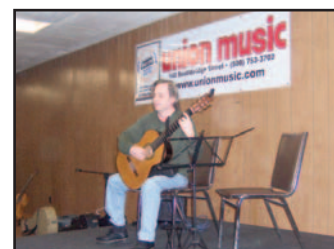
Carl Kamp and Bob Sullivan



Jozsef Halajko



Michael Hurley



Mike Tomases

January 14, 2012

Hosted by Oscar & Leslie Azaret, North Andover



Bill and Joanne Harriman



Bob Margo



Cesar Varsa and Marco Endara



George P. Attisano and J. Oscar Azaret



*Michael Hurley,
Steve Rapson,
and Robert Jackson*

Calendar

Saturday, April 7, 3:00 pm

BCGS Saturday Sounds Special at the Hingham Public Library
Jose Lezcano, solo guitar

Saturday, April 14, 2:00-6:00 pm

BCGS Performance Party at Donna Ricci's home in
Newburyport

Sunday, April 15, 3:00 pm

Duo Diavolo- flute, guitar & Venezuelan cuatro
Orlando Cela, flute & Venezuelan cuatro Aaron Larget-Caplan,
guitar First Parish Church, Dorchester

Saturday, April 21

ALL DAY BCGS Festival 21 featuring David Leisner
Old South Church and First Lutheran Church of Boston

Saturday, April 28, 3:00 pm

BCGS Saturday Sounds Special at the Hingham Public Library
Robert Margo and Wendy Silverberg, voice & guitar

Saturday, May 5, 3:30 pm

BCGS Saturday Sounds Special at the Hingham Public Library
Boston Guitar Orchestra, Scott Borg conducting

Sunday, May 6, 2:30 pm

Concierto de Aranjuez by Rodrigo, Aaron Larget-Caplan guitar
soloist. Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra

Saturday, May 19, 2:00 pm

BCGS Performance Party at Donald & Naoko Hague's Home in
Pepperell

Saturday, June 16, 2:00 pm

BCGS Performance Party TBA

June 20-24, Boston GuitarFest: Back to Bach.

Artistic Director: Eliot Fisk, special guest Oscar Ghiglia.
Competitions, seminars, concerts, and youth guitar workshop.
www.bostonguitarfest.org.

**Please visit the BCGS website at www.bostonguitar.org
for more information**

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 this webpage for three months. Send inquiries to [adbcgs\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:adbcgs[at]gmail.com); send checks to BCGS, P.O. Box 470665, Brookline, MA 02447, or PayPal the money to [bcgsemail\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:bcgsemail[at]gmail.com).

Guitars for Sale

R.E. Brune Concert Flamenco, 2003, Spruce/Cypress: \$8,800; guitars played by Segovia, Romero, Sabicas, Moreito. powerful, bright, elegant, clear. (617) 838-3745; noahlubin@gmail.com

Ramirez, R4, 2001; good condition. Indian rosewood back/sides. Cedar(?) top \$1,400. joe.classical@yahoo.com (617)959-2712

Lessons

Monthly Performance Development Classes with guitarist Judy Handler in Vernon, CT. Guitarists of all levels & styles welcome. Supportive atmosphere. Receive feedback. Enjoy interacting with other guitar aficionados. (860) 871-1815 guitarduo@comcast.net

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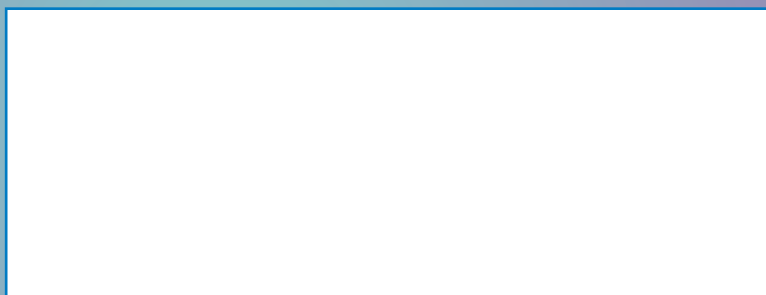


BOSTON CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY

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(Address Correction Requested)



DAVID LEISNER
FESTIVAL 21
April 21, 2012



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