

Guitar Soundings

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Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this issue of the SCGS Newsletter will be available in PDF format only. No printed copies will be created or mailed out due to the various business closures and social/physical distancing requirements aimed at mitigating the spread of the virus in Washington state.



*Many thanks to everyone who donated to SCGS
during the GiveBig online fund-raising event in May.
We deeply appreciate your support in these difficult times
and will continue to do what we can to build and support
the local guitar community here in the Seattle area.*



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“Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all.” - Emily Dickinson

A note from the SCGS Board and Executive Director:

We hope that everyone is safe and well. Although the remainder of the **Seattle Classic Guitar Society 2019-2020 season has been canceled due to COVID-19**, our commitment to building and sustaining a connected musical community remains strong and hopeful. The SCGS Board is working hard behind the scenes to reschedule concerts and events when public gatherings are once again safe. Until that time, **please join us for virtual online musical events and activities coming up soon**, such as the **Zoom Open Mic on Tuesday, July 21, 7:00 PM PST**, with emcee Ellen Wanless. **Guitar Orchestra of Seattle is excited to embark on a virtual Guitar Orchestra project** with a powerful new piece by Thomas Flippin called “Beyond Ferguson.” Please see pages 4-5 of this newsletter for information on participating. Events will also be listed in the newsletters, emails, SCGS web page, and SCGS social media sites.

We all look forward to the day when we are safe to gather together and participate in community events and activities, sharing our dedication and passion for the classical guitar. As you know, SCGS reaches out to diverse communities through concerts, master classes, a guitar orchestra, open mic performances, and educational outreach projects, with free opportunities available to partake in all of these programs. We so appreciate your support over the years, helping SCGS offer music and education to populations that might not be able to afford or have access to the arts.



If you are interested in performing, listening, or would like more information, please send an email to scgs@seattleguitar.org.

GFA 2020 – FOCUS ON DIVERSITY & EQUITY

This year the annual Guitar Foundation of America (GFA) annual conference and competition was cancelled due to the pandemic. Amazingly, in a very short time span, they pulled together a full virtual online conference, offered it for free and it was fantastic! Every day for a week there were concerts, master classes, presentations, live discussions via Zoom and of course all of the competition performances (around 60 in all I believe). Some of the concerts and all of the competition performances were pre-recorded but it was wonderful to have a front row seat for everything and be able to interact in real-time via Zoom for the discussions.

A big focus of the conference this year were presentations and discussions about diversity, equity and related history in the guitar communities. Namely, how do we include more people of color and more women into the classical guitar community and into our repertoire? To those topics, I would strongly suggest watching the archived GFA videos (see links at the end of this article) and check out the resource page that Ciyadh Wells, one of the GFA presenters, has put together on her website.

Some of the main messages I got were to find music that is not only well-written, but music you really love. If you can go from zero pieces to 1, then you've just made a 100-percent increase in diversity representation on your program. Change takes time but if we all keep working at this we can create a more equitable future that includes and represents a wider diversity in our concert programs, our audiences and our guitar communities.

That said, finding guitar music composed by women and people of color prior to the 19th century is challenging due to the fact that historically these two large groups of people did not have equal rights, were not allowed to vote or get college degrees or pursue professional careers, did not have access or means to study music early on, and black people were enslaved in the US for centuries. So of course there's less compositional output when entire groups of people are marginalized, not allowed access to the education, tools and means to pursue a career in music. We can't change the past but we can change what we do going forward. This starts with what music is presented and taught in community outreach events, concerts in schools, private teaching and in our concert programs. If kids learn early on about diverse composers besides the usual standards, they will know that people of all genders and colors are professional musicians and composers and they can be too. How many of us grew up thinking that only white men could be orchestra conductors? It's still a very lopsided profession in terms of gender and color but it is finally improving. There was one teacher on one of the GFA presentations who said she

incorporates music by women composers into the curriculum for her school classes now and she includes it as she would for any other composer, not as some fluke or token.

The history presentations about important women guitarists of the past and women guitar and mandolin orchestras were fascinating, along with the wonderful old photographs.

All of the videos of the conference are available to watch anytime on YouTube or from links on the GFA website. Check the GFA conference schedule to find the day and video "block". You will need to scrub through the videos to find the starting point of the event you want to watch. - jp

GFA 2020 Schedule & Video Links

<http://www.guitarfoundation.org/page/2020ConventionLiveStreamSchedule>

GFA Videos – YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/user/gfavideo/videos>

GFA Videos – Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/guitarfoundation/live/>

Ciyadh Wells – Diversity Resources for Musicians

Creating a Diverse and Inclusive Guitar Community Presentation Resource Companion

Created By: Ciyadh Wells

<http://www.ciyadhwells.com/>

Diversity Resources

<http://www.ciyadhwells.com/resources>

Guitar Music by Black Composers

<http://guitarmusicbyblackcomposers.com/>

Information about women composers, luthiers, and performers

Companion Playlists for Listening

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Studies

The Institute for Composer Diversity

<https://www.composerdiversity.com/>

Center for Black Music Research

Anti-Racism Resources

Thought-provoking Articles

Organizations

DUO NOIRE - NEW MUSIC & BEYOND FERGUSON

Participating in the GFA presentations and talks were Thomas Flippin and Christopher Mallett of Duo Noire. In 2018 they released a duet CD of all new works written for their duo by women composers! Thomas Flippin's composition and video of "Beyond Ferguson" was also shown at GFA and is available to watch online on YouTube. Many have remarked on how moving this video was and also very hopeful to see these young student musicians from Cleveland playing so well and thoughtfully.

Duo Noire - Thomas Flippin and Christopher Mallett

Thomas and Christopher are graduates of the Yale School of Music. In June 2018 they released their critically-acclaimed debut album, *Night Triptych*, on New Focus Recordings. It was named one of the best classical music albums of 2018 by both All Music and I Care if You Listen. It features new works written for Duo Noire by accomplished women composers: GRAMMY-nominee Clarice Assad, Courtney Bryan, E.C.M. Artist Golfam Khayam, Mary Kouyoumdjian, Gity Razaz, and Gabriella Smith.

Duo Noire website: <http://www.duonoire.com/>

Beyond Ferguson – Based on a Melody by Michael Brown

Composed by Thomas Flippin of Duo Noire

Performed by Cleveland Classical Guitar Society students

Directed by Brian Gaudino

<http://youtu.be/uiogFVTPNiw>



Duo Noir – Thomas Flippin and Christopher Mallett

GUITAR ORCHESTRA

Guitar Orchestra of Seattle is excited to embark on a virtual Guitar Orchestra project with a powerful new piece by Thomas Flippin called "Beyond Ferguson".

If you are interested in collaborating remotely and participating in the virtual Guitar Orchestra, please contact Mark Hilliard Wilson at: weissismyvice@gmail.com. Mark will send you a part with the tempo and instructions on how to send a recording file. Mark has also set up some coaching tracks for anyone who is interested in playing along with him on their part. **Please read what the composer Thomas Flippin has to say about "Beyond Ferguson":**

"On August 9th, 2014 an unarmed Black teenager, Michael Brown, was fatally shot by the White police officer Darren Wilson. The shooting came less than a month after the widely reported and graphic police choking of Eric Garner and was part of a streak of stories about unarmed minorities being killed by police or civilians across the country (e.g. Jordan Davis, Renisha McBride, Jonathan Ferrell, Trayvon Martin, Ricardo Diaz-Zeferino, Rekia Boyd et al). Consequently, the events in Ferguson felt both familiar and tragic. It was tragic that Michael Brown needlessly lost his life weeks before starting college, and it was tragic that Darren Wilson had to go into hiding after receiving death threats.

Ferguson also felt divisive. Various witnesses gave conflicting accounts that made it impossible to know anything with certainty except that both men could have made better choices that day. The Justice Department concluded that Brown had stolen cigars moments earlier, initiating the encounter with Wilson. They also concluded that Wilson potentially showed poor judgment in his contact with Brown and that Ferguson's then majority-white government and police intentionally targeted Black residents for petty offenses to increase fines, used racial epithets toward Black residents, and sent racist emails. Ultimately, they did not exonerate Wilson, but concluded that he could not be prosecuted as long as the government could not disprove his saying that he felt threatened.

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It has been almost a year since the events in Ferguson unfolded and I originally felt called to write this piece for guitar ensemble students in nearby St. Louis. I had performed an outreach concert at Brown's high school mere months before his death and felt compelled to respond. Since then, police shootings and abuses of unarmed people of color have been recorded far beyond Ferguson (e.g. Tamir Rice, Samuel DuBose, Walter Scott, Dajerria Becton, John Crawford III, Freddie Gray, Sandra Bland, Levar Jones, Antonio Zambrano-Montes et al).

Writing a piece about such a timely and sensitive topic is certain not to please everyone, but the piece neither seeks to vilify all police, nor glorify unlawful or vulgar conduct. Rather, it attempts to give a historical context for the outcry to these shootings through a 1903 Du Bois reading, and through a musical collage of Negro spiritual, jazz, hip hop, and African influences. Accordingly, *Beyond Ferguson* begins with a melody from one of Michael Brown's raps, to give him a chance to speak directly and metaphorically for the dozens of unarmed citizens who have been killed by police in the past two years. And the music comes to an inconclusive end, waiting to be resolved."

– Thomas Flippin, New York City, August 2015

THE HEALING POWER OF MUSIC

Since 2016, I have had the joy and the honor of being a part of the Healing Music Project, a program of volunteers who provide welcoming and calming music for patients, family members, and staff at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance Clinic. Below is an article that I wrote about the healing power of music for the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance newsletter. On behalf of the Seattle Classic Guitar Society Board and community, we are sending healing thoughts to everyone for their physical, emotional, and spiritual well being during these challenging times. – Hilary Field, Executive Director, Seattle Classic Guitar Society

The Healing Power of Music

If you walk through the lobbies of the various floors of the SCCA during the week, you are likely to hear music wafting throughout the bustle of activity, providing a soothing atmosphere for patients and families as they wait for appointments. Music has the power to affect emotions, improve people's moods, and help relieve anxiety. Daniel Levitin, a professor of psychology and music at McGill University in Montreal, explains the impact of music on people's emotions, and in turn, their physical health. "This is mainly because music has the power to lift people's mood," says Levitin. "A positive mood, in turn, affects people's serotonin production, which boosts production of natural killer cells and T cells -- both vital for a healthy immune system." The British Society for immunology defines natural killer cells as "lymphocytes in the same family as T and B cells, coming from a common progenitor. However, as cells of the innate immune system, NK (natural killer) cells are classified as group I Innate Lymphocytes (ILCs) and respond quickly to a wide variety of pathological challenges. NK cells are best known for killing virally infected cells, and detecting and controlling early signs of cancer."

Music is also a distraction from pain and anxiety. One may listen to music and fall into the beautiful melodies, harmonies, and rhythms to relieve them from the stresses of their possible diagnosis, treatment, pain, and discomfort. Rachael Finnerty, a credentialed music therapist, and past president of the [Music Therapy Association of Ontario](#), says "when we are listening to music we are processing the memories and the emotions that are related to the music which makes it much more difficult for us to process the memories and emotions associated with the pain...both music and pain use the same neurological pathways, meaning that music can override the emotions and memories that are needed to evoke pain."

Many thanks to Winnie Melrose who coordinates the many healing musicians at SCCA, and to all the musicians who donate their time and talent to offer patients and families a reprieve from stress and pain. "Music has the ability to be uplifting, help relieve anxiety and provide a sense of calm to an otherwise stressful situation especially during cancer treatment" says Ms. Melrose. "Healing Music volunteers at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance help provide peaceful and relaxing music to patients and families while waiting for their appointments. Our musicians want to help brighten someone's day by sharing their gift of music in hopes to put smiles on patients and caregivers. They play an impactful part of a patient's cancer journey, hoping to provide a little "healing music" along the way." To quote the ancient Chinese philosopher and writer, Lao Tzu, "Music in the soul can be heard by the universe." – Hilary Field

MEMBER NEWS

SCGS MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN VIRTUAL GUITAR ORCHESTRA - GLOBAL CLASSICAL GUITAR INITIATIVE

In June, the Virtual Guitar Orchestra (VGO) – Global Classical Guitar Initiative, started its soon to be released second virtual guitar orchestra video project. The VGO's Second Edition was a composition called "Scient, Safe and Sane" by Sergio Assad. This new composition for the Second Edition of the Virtual Guitar Orchestra will include 200 performers, of both classical and finger style guitar, plus bass and drums. The video will feature some very famous guitarists such as Ralph Towner, Peppino D'Agostino, Antigoni Goni, Margarita Escarpa, Fabio Zanon, Jeremy Jouve, Xuefei Yang, Irina Kulikova, Jason Vieaux, Kevin Callahan, and many others. The Virtual Guitar Orchestra project was co-founded by Mak Grgic and Uros Baric. Uros Baric is also the editor of the videos.

Local guitarists who participated in the VGO Second Edition are:

Kevin Callahan
Stella Stephanie Kosim
Jessica Papkoff

If you haven't seen the VGO's First Edition video of Kaleidokithara by Sergio Assad, watch it on YouTube plus the Behind the Scenes video on how it was all done.

VGO - First Edition Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXMOEGl4xSY>

VGO - Behind the Scenes Video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gvRjbSOxLo0>

If you are interested in the Third Edition or want more information, go to the VGO website or Facebook page.

<https://virtualguitarorchestra.com/>



JEREMIAH LAWSON

Seattle guitarist, prolific composer and music writer, Jeremiah Lawson, has been very busy composing and writing. Check out his blogspot at: <https://wenatcheethehatchet.blogspot.com>

Ragtime and Sonata Forms

<https://wenatcheethehatchet.blogspot.com/search/label/ragtime%20and%20sonata%20forms>

Nikita Koshkin's 24 Preludes and Fugues, analyzed piece by piece:

<https://wenatcheethehatchet.blogspot.com/search/label/Koshkin%2024%20preludes%20and%20fugues>

Analysis of Matiegka's Op. 31, No.1 sonata in C major:

<https://wenatcheethehatchet.blogspot.com/2020/07/matiegka-six-sonates-progressives-op-31.html>

An article exploring Robert Gjerdingen's galant schemas as an entry point for pop/classical fusions--tonal and modal variants on the Romanesca by way of the Beatles, the Eagles and TLC:

<https://wenatcheethehatchet.blogspot.com/2020/07/robert-gjerdingens-galant-schemas-as.html>

Events Calendar:

Events are also listed on our website: www.SeattleGuitar.org

With the exception of online concerts and other online streamed events, all concerts and gatherings are currently canceled or suspended until such a time in the future when such gatherings are safe for groups to attend again.

Online Concerts, Festivals, Seminars, and Master Classes

Wed. July 1–Wed. July 29, 5:00 PM AEST (12:00 AM PDT)
Free Composition Course for Guitar
Melbourne Guitar Festival
4 week Live Online Course, hosted and taught by Dr Daniel Nistico, suitable for beginner, intermediate or advanced guitarists.
https://melbourneguitarfestival.com/js_events/free-composition-course/

Tuesday, July 7 – Saturday, July 11
New York Guitar Seminar at Mannes
Concerts and master classes with Berta Rojas, David Leisner, and others.
<https://mannesguitar.com/>

Friday, July 10, 2020 7:30 PM EDT (4:30 PM PDT)
Boyd Meets Girl
The duo of Australian guitarist Rupert Boyd and American cellist Laura Metcalf, offering works by Budos, Beyoncé, Lennon/McCartney, Schubert, and Messiaen.
New York City Classical Guitar Society Summer Season
<https://nyccgs.com/>

The Volterra Project – 2020 Digital Edition
Directed by Antigoni Goni
<https://www.facebook.com/VolterraProject/>
Under normal circumstances, students and faculty from around the world would have gathered for 10 days of sharing and devotion to the guitar and art.....and this is exactly what will be happening also this year! Special circumstances ask for special solutions, and we're very happy to hereby publish the schedule for the FULLY DIGITAL version of the 2020 Volterra Project! We will be posting on Facebook a daily video lesson by one of our faculty members, and alumni from over the world and from all previous VP editions will share their art with you on our page! Of course, there will also be some small surprises on the way! We hope to digitally greet many of you, so spread the word!

Tuesday, July 21, 7:00 PM PST
SCGS Virtual Open Mic online via Zoom
If you are interested in performing, listening, or would like more information, please send email to Hilary Field at: scgs@seattleguitar.org

Monday, July 27 – Friday, July 31
Summer Guitar Intensive Online at John Hopkins Peabody Preparatory
The Summer Guitar Intensive is open to guitarists from 9 years of age to adult and is designed to support the beginning guitarist, adult guitarists of all ages and abilities, and the most advanced young pre-professional guitarists in training.
<https://peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/guitar/guitar-institute/>

Friday, July 31 – Sunday, Aug. 9
Midsummer Music Dream Virtual Festival
Benjamin Verdery, Frederic Hand, Laura Snowden, and more
<http://www.midsummermusiquebec.com/>

Friday August 7, 2020 7:30 PM EDT (4:30 PM PDT)
Dan Lippel. A master of both the classical and electric guitar, in a program from J. S. Bach to premieres of pieces by Nils Vigeland and Alejandro Florez.
New York City Classical Guitar Society Summer Season
<https://nyccgs.com/>

More Classical Guitar Festivals and Competitions:
<https://www.thisisclassicalguitar.com/classical-guitar-festivals-competitions/>

Every Sunday:

Sundays from 2:30 – 4:30 PM, Seattle, WA
“As Best You Can” Guitar Sessions are meeting every Sunday from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, via Skype. All styles and genres of guitar music are welcomed! For more information or the Skype link, contact: asbestyoucan@outlook.com

Monthly:

First Friday of the month, 6:00–6:30 PM, Seattle, WA
Mark Hilliard Wilson plays music for meditation at St. James Cathedral every Friday throughout the year.

Cathedral's Vimeo page: vimeo.com/stjamescathedral
Facebook page: facebook.com/stjamesseattle

(If you are unable to participate at that time, the video will be archived for future viewing.)

CLASSICAL GUITAR OPEN MICS

SCGS will host an online open mic via Zoom on July 21st. In the meantime, our traditional open mics are suspended until a time in the future when such gatherings are deemed safe.

SCGS Virtual Open Mic online via Zoom

Tuesday, July 21, 7:00 PM PST

If you are interested in performing, listening, or would like more information, please send email to Hilary Field at: scgs@seattleguitar.org

Upcoming online Open Mic dates:

Tuesday, July 21, 7pm

Tuesday, September 15, 7pm

Tuesday, November 17, 7pm

West Seattle Unplugged!

An informal gathering of musicians in the cozy C&P Coffeehouse in West Seattle.

WHEN: 3rd Tuesdays, 7-9pm (except December).

WHERE: C&P Coffeehouse, 5012 California Ave. SW, West Seattle.

WHY: Practice Performing. Share Your Joy.

QUESTIONS?: Contact Ellen Wanless at: wisteria@drizzle.com

Paid for by the Seattle Classic Guitar Society and the C&P Coffee Company.

EASTSIDE CLASSICAL GUITAR GET-TOGETHERS

Eastside Get-Togethers (open mics) are on the first Thursday of each month on the Eastside in Bellevue, WA. All levels welcome. For more information please contact: nbonning@msn.com or phone Nancy at 425-454-0186.

Submit items for the Newsletter & Events Calendar at: SCGSNewsletter@hotmail.com Submission deadline for the September–October issue is August 10th, 2020. For articles, space is very limited, no guarantee of inclusion, articles subject to approval first and editing.



Seattle Classic Guitar Society

A nonprofit organization promoting the art of the classic guitar in the Puget Sound area.

Board of Directors:

Kindred Ritchie – Chair, acting President
Bill Clements – Vice President
Elizabeth Brown – Treasurer
Julie Wieringa – Secretary & Communications
Jessica Papkoff – Newsletter Editor
Ellen Wanless – Volunteer Coordinator

Executive Director:

Hilary Field

For more information contact us at:

SCGS
P.O. Box 30167
Seattle, WA 98113
E-mail: SCGS@seattleguitar.org
Phone: 206-365-0845
Website: www.SeattleGuitar.org

Board meetings are monthly, 2nd Monday, 7-9pm. SCGS members may attend by contacting SCGS (see above) to confirm location.

Donations are gladly accepted and are tax deductible; SCGS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

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Dear Friends of Seattle Classic Guitar Society,

Washington Governor Jay Inslee announced back in March that all performance venues in the greater Seattle area, including Benaroya Hall, will be closed for public events in an effort to reduce the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Today, May 1, 2020, Governor Inslee has extended the Stay-at-Home order to May 31st.

All performances and events scheduled at Benaroya Hall are canceled until further notice, including the performances by Michael Partington and Judicaël Perroy.

If you have already purchased tickets to the Michael Partington and/or Judicaël Perroy concerts, you have a couple of options regarding your existing concert tickets, whether you purchased them at Benaroya Hall, The Rosewood Guitar, or SCGS Mail Order.

If you purchased your tickets at Benaroya Hall Box Office:

1. Donate your tickets. If you are able, you may donate your tickets back to Seattle Classic Guitar Society via Benaroya Hall by calling 206.215.4747 or emailing tickets@seattlesymphony.org. By donating your tickets, you are providing vital support for music that inspires and connects our community -- plus, you receive a tax deduction!
2. Request a refund for your tickets. You may request a refund by calling the Benaroya Hall Ticket Office at 206.215.4747 or emailing tickets@seattlesymphony.org.

If you purchased your tickets at Rosewood Guitar or through SCGS mail order, you have the same options regarding your existing concert tickets.

For tickets purchased through SCGS mail order and The Rosewood Guitar please contact:
scgs@seattleguitar.org

Governor Inslee's decision prioritizes public health by restricting all large gatherings, and we are committed to the health and safety of everyone at our concerts. Please know that we remain dedicated to serving our community and truly appreciate your ongoing support. We look forward to resuming all our SCGS events in the near future.

Visit SCGS online at: www.seattleguitar.org

SCGS Membership and Member Renewals available online now!



(Go to the SCGS website and click "Join SCGS". It's quick and easy!)

Donate Online to SCGS!

(Go to the SCGS website, click "Donations", and then click the "Make a Donation Online" button.)

Visit SCGS on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/seattleclassicguitarsociety/>

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4
CULTURE



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Seattle Classic Guitar Society *Membership Application*

Yes! I want to help support the Classic Guitar in Puget Sound!

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Please indicate if you are a new or renewing member and membership type. Memberships are for 1 year. Donations are greatly appreciated. All donations are separate from the membership amount and are fully tax-deductible. Donations and Memberships may also be made online at: www.seattleguitar.org.

Membership:

☐ New Member
☐ Renewal
☐ \$15 Student/Senior
☐ \$20 Individual
☐ \$35 Couple

Donations:

☐ \$50 Friend
☐ \$100 Contributor
☐ \$250 Benefactor
☐ \$500 Patron
☐ Other amount: \$ _____

☐ My employer will match my donation!

(Please enclose matching gift form or use your employer's online process.)

What does membership do for me?

Membership in the SCGS gives you discounts on tickets to the International Concert Series, a one-year subscription to Guitar Soundings newsletter, notification of events via mail and email. Your support also helps us to bring the finest international artists to perform in the Seattle area, educational outreach in schools, open mics and support for local artists year after year.

Please send your check or money-order,
made payable to SCGS, to:
P.O. Box 30167, Seattle, WA 98113

Email: scgs@seattleguitar.org | Website: www.seattleguitar.org

WWW.SEATTLEGUITAR.ORG