Featuring Grammy Award-winning artist David Russell, Duo Noire, the Great Necks Guitar Trio, JIJI, and Party of One

Benjamin Verdery, artistic director

THE TENTH YALE GUITAR Extravaganza

Featuring Grammy Award-winning artist David Russell, Duo Noire, the Great Necks Guitar Trio, JIJI, and Party of One

Saturday, February 15
Morse & Sudler Recital Halls

Yale School of Music
Robert Blocker, Dean
THE TENTH YALE

GUITAR Extravaganza

Saturday, February 15, 2020 • Benjamin Verdery, artistic director

9:00 A.M.  Registration
            Sprague Memorial Hall lobby

9:30 – 11:00 A.M.  Visiting Student Guitar Ensembles
                    Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall
                    Hartt Suzuki Guitar Ensembles
                    Connecticut Suzuki Guitar Academy
                    Heritage High School, Leesburg, VA
                    Tuscarora High School, Leesburg, VA

11:15 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.  Q&A Session with David Russell
                        Sudler Recital Hall in W. L. Harkness Hall

12:15 – 1:00 P.M.  Life After Music School
                    Sudler Recital Hall in W. L. Harkness Hall
                    with Trevor Babb, Liz Faure, Jiyeon Kim, Adam Levin, Christopher Mallett, and Simon Powis
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 1:15 – 1:30 P.M. | Pre-Concert Talk  
*The Kithara Project*  
*Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall* |
| 1:30 – 2:30 P.M. | Concert  
*party of one & The Great Necks Guitar Trio*  
*Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall* |
| 2:45 – 3:45 P.M. | Master Class with Benjamin Verdery  
*Sudler Recital Hall in W. L. Harkness Hall* |
| 4:00 – 4:45 P.M. | Presentation  
*Why the Music of Jimi Hendrix Matters to Me*  
*Sudler Recital Hall in W. L. Harkness Hall*  
Benjamin Verdery, presenter |
| 5:00 – 6:00 P.M. | Concert  
*Duo Noire & JIJI (Jiyeon Kim)*  
*Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall* |
| 7:30 P.M.     | Concert  
*David Russell, guitar*  
*Morse Recital Hall in Sprague Memorial Hall* |

*The Yale Guitar Extravaganza was made possible in part by a grant and support from D’Addario and Company, Inc.*
VISITING STUDENT GUITAR ENSEMBLES

Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 9:30 am • Morse Recital Hall

HARTT SUZUKI GUITAR ENSEMBLES
David Madsen, director

Traditional
arr. Byrnes/Chambers/Pateman/Tafra/Tafra

Hot Cross Buns of Death
Akshita Gupta, Kamarley Leger, Kalyan Manandhar, Anna Parker, Levi Phan, Jaxon Richards, Anthony Salerno III, Arda Senecal, Kyrie Thames, Kailai Yang, Josephine Zipagan

Antonio Ruiz-Pipó
1934–1997

Danza
Ronan Bluth, Richard Hao, Evan Keane, Karmarley Leger, Jaxon Richards, Ryan Rickevicius

Jürg Kindle
b. 1958

Kalimba
Michael D’Andrea, Theodore Kulnych-Griffith, Aidan Ngai, Ben Rickevicius

Horacio Salinas
b. 1951

El Mercado de Testaccio

Francis Bebey
1929–2001

O Bia
Niamh Cleary, Michael D’Andrea, Aaron Ding, Sixian Huang, Paul Kendrick, Lang Le, Aidan Ngai, Matthew Reid, Ben Rickevicius
As a courtesy to the performers and audience, silence all electronic devices.

Please do not leave the hall during selections. Photography or recording of any kind is prohibited.

CONNECTICUT SUZUKI GUITAR ACADEMY
Trevor Babb, director

Andrew York
b. 1958

Lotus Eaters

CSGA Ensemble B
Brian Twitchell, Arnav Chaudry, Ahbi Polaki, Akhil Polaki, Marko Katra, Arya Mitra

Johann Sebastian
Bach
1685–1750

Paul Hindemith
1895–1963

Sinfonia No. 1, BWV 787

Rondo (1930)

Joseph Haydn
1732–1809

London Trio No. 1, Hob. IV:1

I. Allegro moderato

CSGA Ensemble A
Noah Richer, James Toomey-Wilson, Jesse Balkcom, Lukas Ceballos, Andrei Orasanu, Chayce Marshall
Guitar Extravaganza

TUSCARORA HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Matthew Dunlap, director

Georg Philip Telemann
1681–1767
arr. Adam Kossler

Leo Welch

Concerto for four violins

West Virginia Suite
I. Ghosts of the Mountains
II. Appalachian Rain
III. Middle Fork

Olivia Allen, David Anspaugh, Daniel Blackin, Ethan Brill, David Bruno, Marco Cevenini, Alexandra Custer, Chloe Duncan, Alex Estrada, Justin Hicks, Ethan Jones, Ethan Kemp, Iker Limon-Cruz, Zackary Moore, Olivia Rhodes, Aidan Wither

HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL
Dr. Kevin Vigil, director

Mark Houghton

Guitarchestra No. 9 (2019)

Don Felder, Don Henley, & Glenn Frey
arr. Michael Langer

Hotel California (1976)

Juan Andujar, Ryan Bodoh, Lindsay Bowman, Colin Brown, Arturo Campos-Aguilar, Keaton Dean, Michael Faringer, Melvin Flores-Aguirre, Inaya Hasan, Christopher Hays, Gabriel Kirkpatrick, Thomas Legaffney, Donovan Lopez-Monge, Gavin McKay, Jaiden Mehta, Uzair Shahzada, Emadeddin Souqi
PARTY OF ONE and THE GREAT NECKS TRIO

Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 1:30 pm • Morse Recital Hall

PARTY OF ONE
Liz Faure, guitar
Jess Tsang, percussion
with Addy Sterrett, soprano

Nicole Lizée
b. 1973

Family Sing-a-long and Game Night

Alishan Gezgin
b. 1994
‘18 MM

Made of Dawn (2018)

THE GREAT NECKS GUITAR TRIO
Scott Borg, guitar
Adam Levin, guitar
Matthew Rohde, guitar

Johann Sebastian Bach
1685–1750
transc. Rohde

Sonata in G minor for viola da gamba, BWV 1029
I.  Vivace
II.  Adagio
III.  Allegro

Bach
arr. Borg

Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 582
GUITAR EXTRAVAGANZA

MASTER CLASS with BENJAMIN VERDERY

Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 2:45 pm • Sudler Recital Hall

Patrick Roux  
b. 1962  
Heart, Soul and Passion

Juan Andujar  
Lindsay Bowman  
Arturo Campos-Aguilar  
Michael Faringer  
Uzair Shahzada

Ferdinando Carulli  
1770–1841  
Study in A minor

Olivia Allen

Matteo Carcassi  
1792–1853  
Etude No. 11

Chloe Duncan
DUO NOIRE and JIJI

Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 5:00 pm • Morse Recital Hall

DUO NOIRE
Thomas Flippin, guitar
Christopher Mallett, guitar

Note: All works composed for Duo Noire

Mary Kouyoumdjian
b. 1983

Byblos

Raymond Lustig
b. 1972

Figment No. 2: 7E

Clarice Assad
b. 1978

Hocus Pocus
I. Abracadabra!
II. Shamans
III. Klutzy Witches

JIJI
Jiyeon Kim, guitar

Note: All works composed for Jiji

Gulli Björnsson
b. 1991
‘17MM ’18MMA

Dynjandi

Jack Vees
b. 1955

Compass Rose
World premiere

Krists Auznieks
b. 1992
‘16MM

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<tr>
<th>Composer</th>
<th>Work/Composition</th>
<th>Date/Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacques de Saint-Luc</td>
<td>Suite in D major, “La Prise de Gaeta”</td>
<td>1616-1710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>François Couperin</td>
<td>Les silvains (1713)</td>
<td>1668-1733</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giulio Regondi</td>
<td>Air varié No. 1, Op. 21</td>
<td>1823-1872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johann Sebastian Bach</td>
<td>Chorale Prelude “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme,” BWV 645</td>
<td>1685-1750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sérgio Assad</td>
<td>Phyllis’ Portrait (2019)</td>
<td>b. 1952</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agustín Barrios</td>
<td>Caazapá</td>
<td>1885-1944</td>
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**David Russell**

*Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 7:30 pm • Morse Recital Hall*

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*Guitar Extravaganza*
Benjamin Verdery, artistic director

Described as “iconoclastic” and “inventive” by The New York Times, guitarist Benjamin Verdery enjoys an innovative and eclectic musical career. Verdery has given concerts at the International Guitar Festival (Singapore), the Festival International de Agosto (Caracas), the Schubert Festival (Germany), the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Metropolitan Opera, and elsewhere.

Among the composers who have written works for him are Ingram Marshall, Jack Vees, Martin Bresnick, Ezra Laderman, Christopher Theofanidis, and Roberto Sierra. Verdery’s own works have been performed by such artists as John Williams, Sergio and Odair Assad, David Russell, and the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet. As a recording artist, Verdery has released more than fifteen albums, all available on Amazon. On February 14, New Focus Recordings released his new CD, Scenes from Ellis Island: The Guitar Music of Ben Verdery.

Verdery is Artistic Director of 92nd Street Y’s Art of the Guitar series and is an honorary board member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas. He is Associate Professor (adjunct) of Guitar at the Yale School of Music and is Artistic Director of the School’s Guitar Extravaganza. Each summer Verdery holds his Annual International Master Class on the Island of Maui (Hawaii).

Benjamin Verdery uses D’Addario strings and plays a guitar built by Garrett Lee and Greg Smallman.

» benjaminverdery.com

Hartt Suzuki Guitar Ensemble
David Madsen, director
West Hartford, Connecticut

The Hartt Suzuki Guitar program, led by David Madsen and Jim Rickevicius, is presenting students from all levels of the program. Along with the private lesson and group class, children in Book 2 and up also receive a reading/ensemble class. The students you will hear today represent most of those ensemble classes.

David Madsen founded what is now the Hartt Suzuki Guitar Program in 1990. He is the Suzuki coordinator of the Community Division at the Hartt School of Music in West Hartford. David graduated with a B.M. in guitar performance from the University of Connecticut, and has since studied with David Leisner and Pepe Romero. He became a registered Teacher Trainer with the Suzuki Association of the Americas in 2000, and has conducted courses throughout North America, Singapore, Peru, Argentina, and Puerto Rico. Mr. Madsen is a member of the SAA’s Guitar Committee and the Teacher Development Advisory Committee.

Connecticut Suzuki Guitar Academy Ensembles
Trevor Babb, director
’12MM ’14MMA ’18DMA
Norwalk, CT

The Connecticut Suzuki Guitar Academy, founded by David Veslocki, delivers instruction to students in and around Norwalk, CT and recently established its
home at Factory Underground Studios in the South Norwalk Business District. The Academy delivers individual and ensemble instruction that has produced a level of playing that is nationally recognized. In 2018, an ensemble from the CSGA took second place in the most prestigious competition in the world, put on by the Guitar Foundation of America. Students from the CSGA have won prizes in the Boston Guitar Competition, the Mid-Maryland Guitar competition, the New Horizons Guitar Competition and more. Trevor Babb began teaching with CSGA in the fall of 2019. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Yale School of Music and received a Fulbright Award in 2012. In addition to teaching with CSGA, Trevor is also an Adjunct Artist Instructor at Vassar College and sustains an active performance career. Scott Hill of the Alturas Duo teaches at the CSGA as well.

“Playing Guitar with Your Brain” produced by guitarascendant.org.

Prior to his position at Heritage High School, he spent fifteen years as a classical guitar teacher, performer, composer, organizer and author. His interest in secondary school guitar programs began when he met John Graham (Lake Braddock Secondary School, FCPS) in 1991. Over the years he performed for, coached, and traveled with Graham’s students. He was invited to be a performer/clinician for the 2005 Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) Guitar Festival. It was at this event that he learned of several guitar openings for the following school year. Without hesitation, he applied for a position. He joined the faculty of Heritage High School in 2005 and has remained there ever since.

Dr. Vigil has organized many district, state and regional events. Of particular interest is the 2018 performance of Benjamin Verdery’s Scenes from Ellis Island performed by the PAVAN Guitar Orchestra; which included choir, actors and projected photographs.

Dr. Vigil was chosen as the 2014 Shenandoah University Teacher of the Year for LCPS and was presented a Winston Churchill Commemorative Crown by Churchill Scholar Helen Sanderson for his work in guitar education. Vigil serves as chair of the VMEA Guitar Council and as the Southern Division Representative for the NAfME Council for Guitar Education.

The Heritage Guitar Ensemble has been honored to perform and participate in every Yale Guitar Extravaganza since 2006. The

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**Heritage High School**

**Dr. Kevin Vigil, director ’90mm**

*Leesburg, Virginia*

Kevin Vigil holds performance degrees from Shenandoah University (DMA), Yale University (MM), and the University of Memphis (BM). His pedagogical and educational articles have been published in international journals including the GFA Soundboard (USA), the EGTA Journal (UK) and Gendai Guitar (Japan). He has presented lectures on guitar education, music, and the brain for the Guitar Foundation of America, Yale University, James Madison University, the Philadelphia Guitar Society and for a video series titled, **“Playing Guitar with Your Brain” produced by guitarascendant.org.”**
2009 performance brought international attention to the group in a review published in Classical Guitar Magazine (UK). The 2014 Yale Guitar Extravaganza was documented by LCPS-TV at vimeo.com/89619886. This performance marks the first time that they have programmed a rock tune, so feel free to sing along!

Tuscarora High School
Dr. Matthew Dunlap, director
Leesburg, Virginina

The Tuscarora High School Guitar Program was established in 2010. In the past ten years, they have participated in workshops and masterclasses with the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, Canadian Guitar Quartet, Ana Vidovic, Marco Tamayo, Julian Gray, Leo Welch, and Jason Vieaux. They recently performed a program featuring American composers throughout Spain. In the Spring of 2014 they were featured in the Yale University Guitar Extravaganza and the Peabody Preparatory Fret Festival. The following school year they performed with the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet at the Washington College Guitar Festival. They perform regularly for school and community events throughout the D.C.-metro area including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade in Leesburg. Members of the ensemble regularly participate in service-based organizations volunteering for the community, tutoring students, and coordinating fundraisers.

The director, Dr. Matthew Dunlap, has been teaching class guitar for 13 years with experience in various levels ranging from elementary to collegiate. He is currently the guitar teacher, AP music theory teacher, DE Music Appreciation teacher, and fine arts department chair at Tuscarora High School. He completed his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in guitar performance at Florida State University, Master of Music degree in guitar performance at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and Bachelor of Music degree in guitar performance at Kennesaw State University. During the summer of 2004 and 2005 he studied at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana with world renowned guitar pedagogue Oscar Ghiglia.

Liz Faure, guitar ’18MM

Liz Faure is out to learn every plucked instrument she can get her hands on. She most often performs as part of the contemporary classical music scene, in the Broadway theater pit, as part of various art-rock/pop projects, and with her guitar and percussion duo, party of one. party of one seeks to create a broader palette for new music, exploring where cross-genre and interdisciplinary channels can collide. Liz brings this curiosity to all her solo and collaborative ventures, and can be heard performing on guitar, classical guitar, pedal steel, banjo, and mandolin. She has a Master’s degree in classical guitar performance from the Yale School of Music and dreams of spending all her free time exploring the American backcountry.
**Jess Tsang, percussion**

Jess Tsang is a percussionist dedicated to the creation of new interdisciplinary works. Equally fascinated by the worlds of contemporary music, material culture, speech, and gastronomic arts, Jess views percussion as a flexible field with endless possibilities for intersection. A founding member of guitar and percussion duo *party of one* and experimental improv trio *See You Next Yesterday*, Jess has also collaborated with an eclectic variety of artists, dancers, and musicians including Rebecca Saunders, David Szanto, Elena Rykova, and Deborah Carruthers. Favorite projects include premiering Nicole Lizée’s interactive Mozart murder-mystery opera *No One’s Safe*, performing within Martin Creed’s installation *The Back Door* at the Park Avenue Armory, the world premiere of Dan Trueman and Rebecca Lazier’s Bessie-award winning *There Might Be Others*, and Kid Millions’ *100 Disciplines*, an immersive, hour-long work at the Brooklyn Museum.

**Addy Sterrett, soprano ‘18MM**

Soprano Addy Sterrett enjoys exploring a wide variety of solo and ensemble repertoire and has been praised for her “focused, ethereal… crystalline tone and adept precision” (Academy of Sacred Drama). Addy’s recent solo engagements include the premiere of William Cooper’s Requiem at Saint Peter’s Lutheran Church, the U.S. premiere of Joseph Kraus’ Requiem with Voices of Ascension, Bach’s *St. John Passion* and Reena Esmail’s *This Love Between Us* with Yale Schola Cantorum, and Mendelssohn’s *Hör mein Bitten* with the Yale Glee Club. Addy is a graduate of the Yale School of Music/Institute of Sacred Music, DePauw University, and Interlochen Arts Academy. Other musical endeavors and interests include singing and collaborating with her band SugarCave and playing the mountain dulcimer.

**The Great Necks Guitar Trio**

Scott Borg, *guitar* ’06AD  
Adam Levin, *guitar*  
Matthew Rohde, *guitar* ’06BA ’07MM

The Great Necks Guitar Trio has enchanted audiences across the US with its whimsical, interactive, and daring performances. Founded by guitarists Scott Borg, Adam Levin, and Matthew Rohde, the trio, through its original madcap arrangements, stretches at the conventions — and at times, the physical limits — of the guitar. “These guys aren’t afraid to shake things up and take chances,” writes *Classical Guitar Magazine*.

The trio’s debut album, *Original Arrangements for Three Guitars*, released in November 2018 on the Frameworks/Sony label, reached the top 10 in the Traditional Classical Billboard charts. Praised as “supremely satisfying and original” (*Classical Guitar Magazine*), the album is an exuberant romp through several centuries of orchestral and keyboard repertoire. In Borg’s “audacious” (*Boston Music Intelligencer*) arrangement of Sibelius’ *Finlandia* and Rohde’s “engrossing” (*The Whole Note*) arrangement of Márquez’s Danzón No. 2, the trio telescopes the panoply of timbres, colors, and sounds heard in the orchestra through the keyhole of the guitar — that instrument
once famously described by the late Andrés Segovia as “an orchestra in miniature.” In Scriabin’s Preludes, Op. 11; Bach’s Chromatic Fantasy, Toccata “Dorian,” and Nun komm, Der Heiden Heiland, and Villa-Lobos’ Alma Brasileira, the trio splashes new colors and carves new contours into works until now typically only known on the keyboard. In Albéniz’s Asturias, the trio pays homage to — and “exploits every guitar trick” (BMI) to reinvent — one of the most familiar mainstays of the classical guitar repertoire.

Recent and upcoming concert appearances by The Great Necks include The Boston Classical Guitar Society, the New Mexico Guitar Festival, the Troy University Guitar Festival, “Sunday Chatter”, The Austonian, Colorado State University, Mid-Maryland Guitar Festival, University of Rhode Island Guitar Festival, Trinity-By-The-Cove, and the Aguado Guitar Series.

As soloists, educators, and composers, Scott Borg, Adam Levin, and Matthew Rohde have distinguished careers of their own, marked by regular festival and concert appearances across five continents and a growing solo discography on the Naxos and Odradek labels. Adam Levin has been praised by the Washington Post for his “visceral and imaginative performances.” Of Scott Borg’s Carnegie Hall debut, New York Concert Review wrote: “each note was purposeful and focused.” A composer, Matthew Rohde recently completed the score to the “beautifully executed” (Los Angeles Times) 2018 HBO documentary It Will Be Chaos.

Together, Borg, Levin, and Rohde also co-founded Kithara Project, Inc., a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote widespread and equitable access to the classical guitar worldwide, particularly in the US and Latin America. The organization actively oversees classical guitar programs for at-risk youth in Boston, Albuquerque, and Mexico City.

» thegreatnecks.com

Duo Noire

Thomas Flippin, guitar ‘07MM ’08AD
Christopher Mallett, guitar ’09MM

Duo Noire is a “virtuosic pair” (I Care if You Listen) of the pioneering American classical guitarists, Thomas Flippin and Christopher Mallett. Offering “profoundly enjoyable” premieres of cross-genre contemporary music with “spectacular precision” (St. Louis Post-Dispatch), Duo Noire is breaking new ground in the world of classical guitar.

In 2015, they received a grant from the Diller Quaile School of Music to make guitar programming more gender inclusive. Their 2018 debut album on New Focus Recordings, Night Triptych, was the culmination of that effort and featured works written for them by six leading women composers. Night Triptych received universal praise from major critics, who hailed it as an “astounding...goldmine of ideas and feelings” (Stereophile), a “marvelous recital” (Limelight Magazine), “truly pathbreaking” (All Music), and “an important disc” (The Arts Fuse). The album was named one of the best classical albums of 2018 by both All Music and I Care if You Listen, and
was featured in *Chamber Music Magazine*, *Classical Guitar Magazine*, and WQXR’s *New Sounds*.

Collectively, Duo Noire have performed and recorded with MacArthur genius Jason Moran, Grammy-winning guitarist William Coulter, and *Porgy and Bess* Broadway star Alicia Hall Moran. Performance highlights include Carnegie Hall, China’s Peking University, the Guitar Foundation of America, the American Repertory Theater, the 92nd Street Y, and the Times Center. They are both graduates of the Yale School of Music, and their next project will feature a new piece written for them by 2020 Grammy nominee Nathalie Joachim.

» duonoiere.com

JIJI (Jiyeon Kim), guitar ’17MM

Applauded by the *Calgary Herald* as “talented, sensitive...brilliant,” JIJI is an adventurous artist on both acoustic and electric guitar, playing a wide range of music from traditional and contemporary classical to free improvisation.

Recent highlights include a wide array of venues, including Weill Recital Hall/Zankel Hall/Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall, David Geffen Hall, Lincoln Center, National Sawdust, Miller Theater, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, Le Poisson Rouge, Princeton Sound Kitchen, Virginia Arts Festival, Festival Napa Valley, 92nd Street Y, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

A passionate advocate for new music, JIJI has premiered works by numerous composers, including Paul Lansky, João Luiz, Natalie Dietterich, Evan Chapman, Molly Joyce, Krista Auznieks, Gulli Björnsson, Andrew McIntosh, and Farnood Haghanipoor. She has premiered two new guitar concertos by composers Natalie Dietterich and Hilary Purrington with NYYS and American Composers Orchestra. In March 2020 she will premiere an electric guitar concerto with Sinfonietta Riga.

As a chamber musician, she is currently a member of the Grammy-nominated ensemble Wildup. She has worked with Latin Grammy winning ensemble cuarteto latinoamericano, Latin Grammy-nominated ensemble Brasil guitar duo, mezzo-soprano Carla Canales, Alon Goldstein, Verona Quartet, Argus Quartet, and LINÜ. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Guitar at Arizona State University.

» jijiguitar.com
David Russell, guitar

Classical guitarist David Russell has been awarded a Grammy award in the category of best instrumental soloist in classical music for his CD *Aire Latino*, an Honorary Doctorate in Music by the University of Arizona in Tucson in 2014, and has been inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Guitar Foundation of America in 2018. He is world-renowned for his superb musicianship and inspired artistry, having earned the highest praise from audiences and critics alike. In recognition of his great talent and his international career, he was named a Fellow of The Royal Academy of Music in London in 1997.

In May 2003, he was bestowed the great honor of being made “adopted son” of Es Migjorn, the town in Minorca where he grew up. Later, the town named a street after him, “Avinguda David Russell.” In November 2003, he was given the Medal of Honor of the Conservatory of the Balearics. After winning the Grammy award, the town of Nigrán in Spain, where he resides, gave him the silver medal of the town in an emotional ceremony. In May 2005, he received an homage from the music conservatory of Vigo, culminating with the opening of the new Auditorium, to which they gave the name “Auditorio David Russell.” In 2009 David was named an honorary member of “Amigos de la Guitarra,” the oldest guitar society in Spain.

During his studies at the Royal Academy, David Russell won the Julian Bream Guitar Prize twice. He later won numerous international competitions, including the Andrés Segovia Competition, the José Ramírez Competition, and Spain’s prestigious Francisco Tárrega Competition.

David Russell spends his time touring the world, appearing regularly at prestigious halls in main cities such as New York, London, Tokyo, Los Angeles, Madrid, Toronto, and Rome. Concertgoers everywhere are in awe of his musical genius and inspired by his captivating stage presence. His love of his craft resonates through his flawless and seemingly effortless performance. The attention to detail and provocative lyrical phrasing suggest an innate understanding of what each individual composer was working to achieve, bringing to each piece a sense of adventure. A prolific recording artist, his collection includes seventeen CDs with Telarc International.

*The New York Times* wrote about his performance: “Mr. Russell made his mastery evident without ever deviating from an approach that places musical values above mere display. It was apparent to the audience throughout the recital that Mr. Russell possesses a talent of extraordinary dimension.” Upon hearing him play in London, Andrés Segovia wrote: “My congratulations on your musicality and guitaristic technique.”

» davidrussellguitar.com
MASTERY IS IN THE DETAILS

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