



Colorado Springs Guitar Society Newsletter

September 2011

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Last Month's Meeting

Last month's CSGS meeting was held Monday, August 8th, at ASUUC. The performers and pieces played were:

- Group pieces : Gavotte, Minuet, and Bouree (G. F. Handel), Pavane of Welburn (arr. Forest), Allemands I and II (T. Susato), and Folk Song from Chile (arr. Thorlaksson)
- Rock Goldberg: Andante, Op. 35 no.1 (Fernando Sor) and Estudio No. 1, Op. 60 (Matteo Carcassi)
- Bert Bradford: Study number 18 (Matteo Carcassi) and Renaissance Lute piece in D (Anon., arr. O. Chilessotti)
- Larry Breslin: Flamenco demo (L. Breslin, in the traditional flamenco style)
- Bob Camley: "Pavane of Welburn" (arr. for solo guitar by R. Camley)
- Jim Bosse and Tom Stringer, guitar duets: Prelude, Allemande, and Courante from the B-flat Partita (J. S. Bach)
- Jim Bosse: Mussette in D from the Anna Magdalena Bach Notebook, and Andante from the sonata no. 2 for unaccompanied violin in C (J. S. Bach)
- Cliff Bryant and Tom Stringer, guitar duet: Le Rossignol (Anonymous, Elizabethan lute duet, arr. Frederick Noad)
- Tom Stringer: Aria and variations (Girolamo Frescobaldi, arr. Andres Segovia)

CSGS Officers:

- **Mike Zimmerman**, President
- **Jim Bosse**, Vice President
- **Bruce Downs**, Secretary
- **Greg Playle**, Webmaster
- **Tom Stringer**, Newsletter Editor
- **Mark Mathews**, Member at Large

Contact information:

<http://www.coloradospringsguitarsociety.org/>

The Next Meeting of the CSGS

Meetings are always **the second Monday of each month**, at All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church (ASUUC), 730 North Tejon, at 7:30 PM, and are *free and open to the public*. The next meeting is **Monday September 12th**.

All guitarists that wish to may join in playing a set of easy to medium difficulty group pieces (all are posted on the CSGS website <http://www.coloradospringsguitarsociety.org/>):

- Gavotte, Minuet, and Bouree (G. F. Handel)
- Pavane of Welburn (arr. Forest)
- Allemandes 1 and 2 (T. Susato)
- Folk Song from Chile (arr Thorlaksson)

This will be a group activity at the start of the meeting. If you are going to join in, please pick and practice the parts you would like to play. If possible please print and bring the sheet music, and also please have your guitar tuned to standard pitch before the meeting begins.

Upcoming Concerts and Workshops

Faculty Classical Guitar Recital by Nicolo Spera

Faculty Recital on Tuesday, September 27, a free concert, at 7:30 in Grusin at the College of Music. This will be a program of Italian Guitar music and poetry.

Classical guitar recital by Johannes Moller

Sponsored by the Denver Guitar Society. The concert date is 1 October 2011, **7:30 PM**, at South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street at Ellsworth, Denver. General admission is \$20; for more information see <http://denverclassicalguitarsociety.org/dcgs/concerts/2010-2011>, or call 303-940-7097

Classical guitar recital by Mark Teicholz

Sponsored by the Denver Guitar Society. The concert date is 12 November 2011, **7:30 PM**, at South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street at Ellsworth, Denver. General admission is \$20; for more information see <http://denverclassicalguitarsociety.org/dcgs/concerts/2010-2011>, or call 303-940-7097

Stargazers Theater, at 10 S. Parkside Dr., Colorado Springs <http://www.stargazerstheatre.com/> brings in a number of music concerts potentially of great interest to CSGS newsletter readers. See the web site above for a list of their concerts and other events. Stargazers Theatre and Event Center is a multi use indoor facility with a seating capacity of 500 people concert style and 220 people banquet style. They feature concert events ranging from rock, country, blues, jazz, classic rock, folk, Celtic, bluegrass, comedy and more.

Quotes and Anecdotes

by Mark Mathews

"When I began, the guitar was enclosed in a vicious circle. There were no composers writing for the guitar, because there were no virtuoso guitarists."

- *Andres Segovia*

"Lean your body forward slightly to support the guitar against your chest, for the poetry of the music should resound in your heart."

- *Andres Segovia*

"It is better to make a piece of music than to perform one, better to perform one than listen to one, better to listen to one than to misuse it as a means of distraction, entertainment, or acquisition of 'culture'."

- *John Cage*

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GUITAR MUSE - September 2011 - Gypsy Jazz

Guitarists

by Mark Mathews

The acknowledged king of the Gypsy Jazz guitar genre is Django Reinhardt, who started playing in the 1920s and compiled a lengthy discography of over 700 songs until his death in 1953. He may be best known for his collaboration with violinist Stephane Grappelli in the Quintet of the Hot Club of France that played in Paris from 1934 to 1939. At the start of WWII, Grappelli left the group, but Reinhardt was able to keep playing in France throughout the war. He reunited with Grappelli after the war and had a successful career playing and recording the many styles of jazz that evolved, including a series of concerts in America as a guest soloist with the Duke Ellington Orchestra.

There have been a few Django Reinhardt documentaries made and a sampling is available on YouTube. A decent five part series begins at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5Zk2gAJ0Kk&feature=related>

There are many Django Reinhardt festivals around the world keeping this genre alive and well. USA festivals are held in the Pacific Northwest, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New Mexico, Wisconsin, and even Colorado. In Europe, there is the L'espirit Manouche in the UK, Pont-à-Celles in Belgium, and perhaps the big daddy of them all is in Samois Sur Seine, France, where Django is buried.

Here's a clip from the Django festival in London, 2010 showing the typical goings-on at these kind of festivals:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5OYY-GZVhqk>

The current names in Gypsy Jazz guitar are impressive, playing much of the Reinhardt repertoire. A few artists worth investigating are Bireli Lagrene, Fapy Lafertin, and Didier Lockwood, as well guitarists not usually known for playing Gypsy Jazz like Joe Pass and Tommy Emmanuel.

Colorado Springs' own Mango Fan Django sponsored a Gypsy Jazz concert this August where they opened for the Gonzalo Bergara Quartet. The concert was well attended, with more than a hundred fans packing the First Congregational Church on St. Vrain. Bergara was in Colorado to play at DjangoFest Colorado in Crested Butte. Gonzalo's guitar playing is fluid and lyrical, and typifies the gypsy style that has become the expected level of competency of this genre. Their web site is:

<http://www.gonzalobergara.com>

Mango Fan Django plays around the Springs fairly often and it is well worth watching guitarist Archtop Eddy tapping his

foot at lightening speed. Thumper would be proud. Get more information at their website:

<http://www.angelfire.com/ma2/mango/index.html>

Here are a few YouTube links of Gypsy Jazz guitar performances for your pursuing pleasure:

Here's Gonzalo Bergara playing "Minor Swing":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=weTQAGYUDHo&feature=related>

Here's Mango Fan Django playing "There Will Never Be Another You":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMh7mphlkdQ>

Here's Django playing "Nuages" (audio):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cj_TOEXkH_Q&feature=related

Django and The Quintet of the Hot Club of France:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtqisGpyPZc&feature=related>

Fapy Lafertin is a very well regarded Gypsy Jazz guitarist:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wuPJDGW-CUg&feature=related>

The Biréli Lagrène Trio playing "Them There Eyes":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWb8iL9xlvE&feature=related>

Tommy Emmanuel from Australia playing "Nuages":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lge9OuvEZk&feature=related>

Joe Pass at Montreux Jazz playing "Nuages":

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbaODIgvWFc>

And Ramses II doing "Two Guitars":

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zoJ_1-sf504&feature=related

Until next time,
Mark Mathews



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Status of the New CSGS Website

Greg Playle continues to work on and update the CSGS website. Note that now the current newsletter will be posted on the web, along with an archive of the various group pieces we will be drawing from. We will no longer be sending out the newsletter and the group pieces as attachments. If you have any ideas about what you would like to see added to the website, please contact him at Webmaster@ColoradoSpringsGuitarSociety.org or discuss them with him at the next meeting.



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By Randy Reynolds

- Double Top and traditional guitars
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Master luthier Randy Reynolds (see his ad above) has a blog with a number of great, informative articles that will of interest to guitarists. You can read all of these articles at <http://www.reynoldsguitars.com/blog.shtml>. Articles that can be read on his site deal with, to give a couple of examples, evaluating the tone and dynamic range of a new guitar, and the pros and cons of choosing a luthier-built guitar.

Musicians wanted for Sunday Services at ASUUC

ASUUC occasionally requests classical guitarists for their Sunday services. The agreement is that the CSGS is allowed use of the church facilities for the meetings in exchange for providing music during their services. Solos, duets, etc are welcome. Please contact Mike Zimmerman if you would like to perform occasionally at ASUUC services. *(Editor's note: if you play for a service, we will, if you wish, include a photo and a brief note about the pieces you played.---TAS).*