

Musical Program

Mathias Duplessy (b. 1972)

Rêve Exalté (2017)

Radamés Gnattali (1906-1987)

Sonata for Cello and Guitar (1969)

- I. Allegretto comodo
- II. Adagio
- III. Con spirito

Johann Friedrich Burgmüller (1806-1874)

Nocturne in A minor

Stephen Goss (b. 1964)

Motherlands (2019)

- I. Incantation
- II. Roah Veroh
- III. Hymn
- IV. Kosichka
- V. Motherless Child
- VI. Beirut

INTERMISSION

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5 (Aria)

Erik Satie (1866-1925)

Je Te Veux (1897)

Jaime Zenamon (b. 1953)

Reflexões (Reflections) No. 6 (1986)

- I. Fluido
- II. Doloroso
- III. Vivissimo

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The Placitas Artists Series

Presents

Patterson/Sutton Duo
Cello and Guitar

Sunday, September 22, 2024



Kimberly Patterson, cello
Patrick Sutton, guitar

Concert generously sponsored by
Cindy & Allen Bourne
Dianna & John Shomaker

Notes On Today's Concert

"Although largely ignored until recent years, the cello and guitar repertoire is an embarrassment of riches. Our goal as a duo is to shine a light on this remarkable and diverse genre of chamber music. Much of this afternoon's program focuses on hidden gems written for cello and guitar from around the globe. Diverse folk musics stretched and filtered through the lenses of some of today's top guitar composers." – Patterson/Sutton Duo

Mathias Duplessy is a fascinating and eclectic French guitarist and composer with a large output of genre-bending world music. This one-movement *Sonata for Cello and Guitar* is part of his growing oeuvre of chamber music. Its relentless groove, reminiscent of tango and rock, in addition to a *film noir* aesthetic, make this piece an exciting new addition to the repertoire. [PSD]

Radamés Gnattali's life and work transcended the borders between the popular and the cultivated. As director of Brazil's Rádio Nacional, he led their orchestra in an extraordinary range of genres and played a critical role in the dissemination of Samba music outside Rio and across socio-economic lines. Gnattali combined traditional rhythms and melodies with a more refined approach to harmony. His talents showed how the Samba could be expanded and enhanced without losing its essence. This sonata is one of his most famous and appreciated works. Although it employs a traditional classical form, the heavily syncopated rhythms and lush harmonies give this piece a distinctly Brazilian flair. [PSD]

Johann Friedrich Burgmüller was a German pianist and composer who lived most of his adult life in Paris. He wrote many works for solo piano, including three sets of études intended for young learners. Among his non-piano compositions are his *Trois Nocturnes pour Violoncelle et Guitare*, dedicated to the Viscount Gabriel Molitor. Works written for cello and guitar were rather scarce in Burgmüller's time, but the apparent fact that Molitor was the owner of a Stradivarius violin suggests that the dedicatee may have been the original cellist for these pieces. Today's selection is the first of the three nocturnes, *Andantino*. [JR]

The Patterson/Sutton Duo has worked with Welsh composer and guitarist **Stephen Goss** for many years. The *Motherlands* set of pieces is featured on the duo's 2019 album of the same title. Goss wrote the work on commission from two friends who wanted a piece connected to their respective roots (American Protestant and Russian Jewish). "After an initial *Incantation* for the solo cello," Goss explains, "*Motherlands* explores a number of musical traditions, from Klezmer and folk music to hymns and spirituals. Sometimes I use traditional melodies in their entirety (*Roah Veroh*), at others I use fragments from several sources to generate new melodies (*Hymn*)." [PSD]

Heitor Villa-Lobos is one of the most famous Latin-American composers of the 20th century. Like his younger Brazilian colleague Radamés Gnattali, he incorporated Brazilian folk music elements into his classical compositions. As a classical guitarist, he was well-suited to create the *12 Etudes* and the *Five Preludes* for classical guitar that have long been standard works in the repertoire of that instrument. His *Bachianas Brasileiras* (Bach-inspired Brazilian pieces) is a set of nine pieces scored for various combinations of instruments.

Notes (Continued)

Villa-Lobos was also a cellist, which may help explain why he originally composed the *No. 5 Aria* for an orchestra of eight cellos accompanying a soprano vocalist. Interestingly, the composer himself also arranged this version for guitar and cello. [JR & PSD]

French composer and pianist **Erik Satie** is best known these days as the creator of many somewhat eccentric solo piano pieces, most famously his *Gymnopédies* and *Gnossiennes*. Also notable is his collaboration on the 1917 Diaghilev ballet *Parade*, featuring Satie's music and Picasso's sets and costumes. Satie's unconventional musical ideas had an impact on many other composers, both of his day and beyond. He composed the sung waltz *Je Te Veux* (I Want You) for cabaret singer Paulette Goddard, for whom he was an accompanist. [JR]

Bolivian composer and guitarist **Jaime Mirtenbaum Zenamon** wrote *Reflexões No. 6* for his duo with cellist Matias de Oliveira Pinto. The languid texture of *Fluido* and the pleading, heartfelt conversation of *Doloroso* expose the intimate and tender collaborative relationship that can exist between the two instruments. The infusion of Zenamon's South American heritage is heard most vividly through the characteristic rhythm in the electrifying final movement, *Vivissimo*, bringing the set to a rousing conclusion. This set has quickly become a staple of the cello and guitar genre.

[Above notes compiled by Jay Rodman (JR) from text and information provided by the Patterson/Sutton Duo (PSD) and from online sources including Wikipedia.]

About Patterson/Sutton Duo

Praised by BBC Music Magazine for their "beguiling" sound and by The Strad for their "wit and imagination" the Patterson/Sutton cello and guitar duo have graced international festivals and concert series worldwide. They serve as Juilliard Global Visiting Artists and have released two acclaimed studio albums, *Cold Dark Matter* and *Still Life: Collected Music for Cello and Guitar by Stephen Goss*, featured on NPR's "Performance Today" and Apple Classical Music playlists. The duo commissions new music, with their recent piece *Still Life* by Stephen Goss being nominated for a 2021 Ivor Novello Award.

Their recent performances include prestigious events such as the Guitar Foundation of America Convention, New York City Classical Guitar Society, Cleveland International Classical Guitar Festival, and international venues in Vietnam, China, and Slovakia. Soundboard magazine praised their GFA engagement as "a deeply inspiring performance." They have presented lecture-recitals at notable conferences like the Dublin Guitar Symposium and the International Guitar Research Center Conference in the UK.

Dedicated to educational outreach, they held a residency at the Afghanistan National Institute of Music in Kabul in 2014, sponsored by the US State Department, and performed at the Canadian Embassy. The Juilliard School has also sent them to various international schools for performances and teaching engagements.

Dr. Kimberly Patterson is an associate professor of cello at the University of Memphis. Dr. Patrick Sutton is an assistant professor and head of the guitar department at the University of Memphis. They married in June 2017.

Exhibit One Artists

Judith Roderick

"We all live on this beautiful, diverse, resilient planet. It is difficult to watch what we humans are doing to each other and to the Earth. The focus of my Art is to illustrate and appreciate some of the richness and beauty that still abounds here."

Gail Sacharczuk

"My art is a reflection of my love for pastel painting, emphasizing expressive mark-making in a wide array of subject matter. Portraiture, urban scenes, and natural landscapes are favorite themes, with structural elements a dominant visual presence."

Nancy Schrock

"Since moving to Placitas in 2019, I have been inspired by its community of artists. With my artwork, I try to capture something fascinating but fleeting like images, ideas, or feelings, so I can give those to you, the viewer."

Kay Naranjo

"What a joy to have found a creative outlet that utilizes my "accounting brain" in my new-found retirement. I look at each rock with joy know that the skills used throughout my career are neatly placed on each and every rock."

Art On Exhibit
9/20/2024 - 10/31/2024



Gail Sacharczuk
Soft Pastel on Paper



Judith Roderick
Hand-Painted Silk Art Quilts



Kay Naranjo
Hand-Painted New Mexico Rocks



Nancy Schrock
Pastel & Colored Pencil