

The
Guitar Studio
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL & COMPETITION

January 16-18

at the Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU

The Guitar Studio Foundation and Altamira Guitars presents
The Inaugural Guitar Studio International Festival and Competition



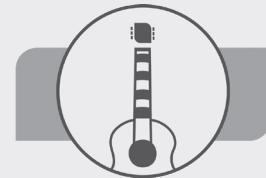


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Guitarras

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WELCOME TO THE INAGURAL GUITAR STUDIO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL & COMPETITION



Held at the stunning Van Cliburn Concert Hall, the Guitar Studio International Guitar Festival has gathered top guitarists from around the globe to compete for the highest cash prize in classical guitar, \$15,000, along with a custom Altamira concert guitar. This festival has something to offer everyone, of all ages, from workshops, masterclasses and concerts from world renowned classical guitarists and we are glad your here.

CONCERT SCHEDULE:

Bokyung Byun: Friday, January 16, 2026, 7 p.m.
Tengyue Zhang: Saturday, January 17, 2026, 1 p.m.
Gabriel Bianco: Saturday, January 17, 2026, 7 p.m.
René Izquierdo: Sunday, January 18, 2026, 6 p.m.
Competition Finals: --

STAFF:

Will Douglas	Sergio Hernandez Felix
Courtney Douglas	Tom Johnson
Jon Souder	April Seals
Kevin Manderville	Scott Stice
Isaac Bustos	Matthew Nazier
Beiyan Liu	Jose Andrade

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:





Bokyung Byun

Concert:
Friday, January 16, 2026
at 7 p.m.

Praised as a leading guitarist of her generation, Bokyung Byun is the recipient of the 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant and the first female winner of the JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition. Other top honors include first prizes at the Guitar Foundation of America and Montreal International Guitar Competitions.

She has performed as a soloist with orchestras such as the Buffalo Philharmonic and Utah Symphony, and given acclaimed recitals across North America. Critics praise her for her “gorgeous tone, immaculate technique, and sophisticated musicianship.”

Passionate about both classical and contemporary repertoire, Byun co-founded Sounding Board, a new music initiative that promotes collaboration between guitarists and composers. Her recordings have been lauded for their artistry, and her Naxos Laureate Series album was named a Critics’ Choice by American Record Guide.

Born in Seoul, Korea, Byun studied at The Juilliard School and USC, and now serves on faculty at the University of North Texas. She is an Augustine Strings artist and plays a guitar by Dieter Mueller.

Website: bokyungbyun.com

Concert Program: Bokyung Byun

Homenaje a la Guitarra

Eduardo Sainz de la Maza
(1903-1982)

Collectici Intim

Vicente Asencio
(1908-1979)

La Serenor

La Joia

La Calma

La Gaubanca

La Frisanca

Mother

Lee Byungwoo
(b.1965)

Run I

Intermission

Passacaglia (Omaggio a Roncalli), **Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco**
Op. 180 (1895-1968)

Miriam & Leon's Daughters

Celil Refik Kaya
(b. 1991)

Loretta

Reyna

Abigail Cloe

Adriana Sofia

Sonata No. 2

Carlos Guastavino
(1912-2000)

II. Andante sostenuto

III. Presto



Tengyue Zhang

Concert:
Saturday, January 17, 2026
at 1 p.m.

TY Zhang is an internationally acclaimed guitarist and the first Chinese winner of the prestigious 2017 Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition. His victory launched a 50-city U.S. tour, including his Carnegie Hall debut and a Naxos solo album praised for its mastery and ease. In 2023, he made history again with violinist Strauss Shi as the first violin-guitar duo to win the Concert Artists Guild Competition. TY has performed and taught across Europe, Asia, and the Americas, and is a passionate educator, producing content for platforms like Tonebase and GFATV. He holds degrees from Juilliard and USC, and as of September 2024, serves on faculty at the University of California, Irvine.

“His [Zhang] playing is always tasteful and deeply expressive without any exaggeration. He takes his place as one of the finest of this emerging generation of magnificent artists.”

—American Record Guide

Website: tengyuezhang.com

Concert Program: Tengyue Zhang

Rito de los Orishas	Leo Brouwer (b.1939)
II. Danza de las diosas negras	
Frevo	Marco Pereira (b.1950)
BWV 997 Prelude	J.S.Bach (1685-1750)
Primavera Porteña (Spring)	Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)
24 Caprichos de Goya	Mario C. Tedesco (1895-1968)
No. 18 El sueño de la razón produce monstruos	Roland Dyens (1955-2016)
Hommage a Villa-Lobos	
IV. Tuhu	
Schindler's List (arr. TY)	John Williams (b.1932)
Aquarelle	Sergio Assad (b.1952)
II. Valseana	
III. Preludio et Toccatina	
*Alchemist (2024)	Stephen Goss (b.1964)
World Premiere	(commissioned by Hanson Yao and Altamira for Tengyue Zhang)
I. El sueño de Santiago	
II. Tangier	
III. Lead Crystal	
IV. Al-Fayoum Oasis	
V. Alchemy	
VI. Simum	
VII. Tesoro	



**The TCU School of Music
is proud to support the
2026 Guitar Studio
International Festival and Competition**



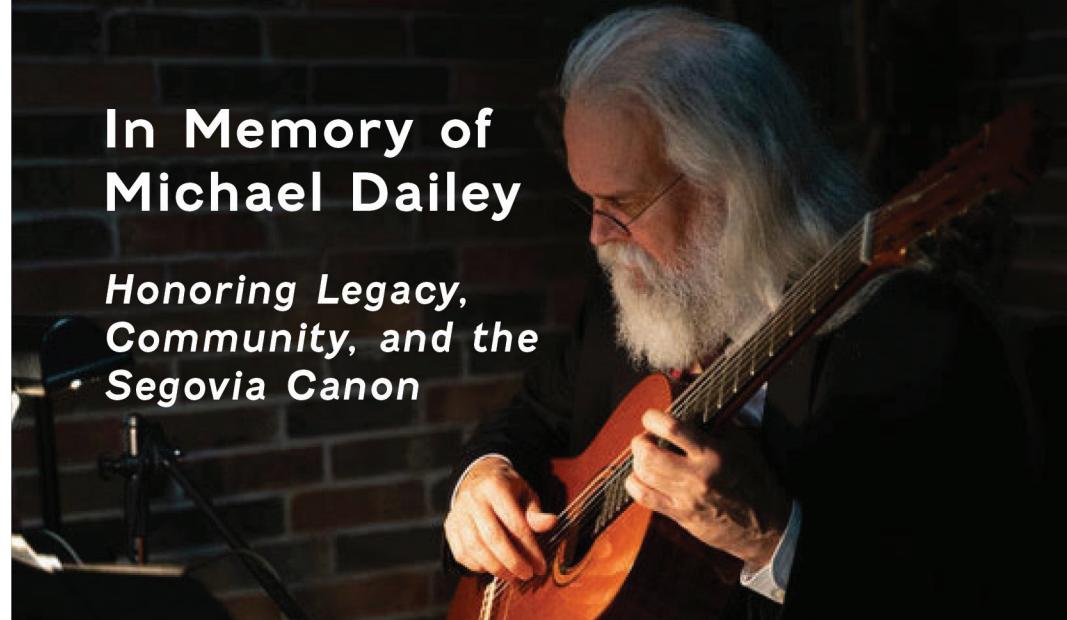
**COLLEGE of
FINE ARTS**
School of Music



Upcoming Events

In Memory of Michael Dailey

**Honoring Legacy,
Community, and the
Segovia Canon**



Michael Dailey (1946–2021) was a cornerstone of the classical guitar community in Fort Worth and far beyond. Often referred to as Fort Worth's Father of Classical Guitar, Michael founded The Guitar Studio in 1983 with a simple but powerful belief: that great music education is built on relationships, generosity, and a deep respect for tradition.

Michael was a student of Andrés Segovia, and through that lineage he carried forward not only a technical and musical tradition, but a philosophy of mentorship. The Segovia Canon is more than a collection of works or an approach to repertoire. It represents continuity, craftsmanship, discipline, and the passing of knowledge from one generation to the next. It is for this reason that we chose to honor that canon here. It reflects Michael's lifelong commitment to preserving the art form while nurturing young artists within a supportive community.

At the heart of Michael's work was connection. He believed that a studio should be more than a place for lessons. It should be a gathering place where students, families, colleagues, and friends feel invested in one another's growth. Many who passed through The Guitar Studio did not simply study guitar there. They became part of a musical family, connected through shared experiences, mutual encouragement, and a love of the instrument.

That spirit of connection continues today through The Guitar Studio, The Guitar Studio Foundation, and this festival. Building meaningful artistic communities takes time, care, and trust. Michael understood that music thrives when people feel seen, supported, and inspired to contribute something lasting.

We are grateful to carry his legacy forward and to share it with the wider community he helped shape."



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Arlington, Texas

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Gabriel Bianco

Concert:
Saturday, January 17, 2026
at 7 p.m.

Gabriel Bianco is considered one of today's leading classical guitarists. He has won first prize in numerous international competitions, performed in over fifty countries across every continent, and recorded eight CDs.

His honors include ADAMI "Classical Revelation" (2011) and first prizes at major competitions such as the Guitar Foundation of America (USA), Andrés Segovia Competition (Spain), Hubert Käppel Competition (Germany), Gitarre Forum Wien (Austria), Silesian Autumn (Poland), and Barbezieux (France), among others.

He has appeared in concert at prestigious venues worldwide, including the Théâtre du Châtelet, La Folle Journée de Nantes, Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow, the Herbst Theatre in San Francisco, the Central Conservatory of Beijing, Yamaha Hall in Tokyo, the Kyiv Philharmonic, the Zurich Opera, and the Lausanne Opera.

A passionate chamber musician, Bianco has been a member of Quatuor Éclisses since its founding in 2012, for which he has created numerous arrangements and recorded four albums with Ad Vitam Records. He also collaborates with mezzo-soprano Marina Viotti and has recorded with oboist Michaela Hrabankova.

His solo discography includes recordings for Naxos and Ad Vitam Records, featuring works by Bach, Mertz, Koshkin, Da Milano, Scarlatti, Regondi, and Paganini. He is also actively involved in the creation of contemporary music, collaborating with composers such as Sergio Assad, Karol Beffa, Atanas Ourkouzounov, and Thomas Viloteau.

Born in Paris in 1988, Gabriel Bianco studied at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris under Olivier Chassain, earning top honors in guitar and chamber music. Since 2018, he has served as Senior Docent at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam, where he teaches guitar and directs the classical guitar department. He performs exclusively on Savarez strings.

Website: gabrielbianco-guitar.com

Concert Program: Gabriel Bianco

Boléro, op. 31

Napoléon Coste
(1805–1883)

Präludium und Fuge, BWV 997

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Canción del emperador

Luis de Narváez
(v.1500–v.1550)

Asturias (Leyenda)

Isaac Albéniz
(1860–1909)

Variations sur un thème de Scriabine

Alexandre Tansman
(1897–1986)

Intermission

Rêverie

Mykola Lysenko
(1842–1912)

Variations sur un thème de Mozart, op. 9

Fernando Sor
(1778–1839)

Capricho árabe

Francisco Tárrega
(1852–1909)

Ara

- I. La rumeur
- II. Le concours
- III. Nemesis

Night in Bastille

Orestis Kalampalikis
(1988–)

Thomas Viloteau
(1985–)



René Izquierdo

Concert:

**Sunday, January 18, 2026
at 6 p.m.**

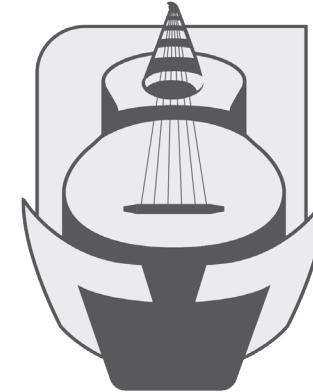
Cuban-born René Izquierdo is a celebrated classical guitarist and passionate educator known for his expressive performances and dedication to community engagement. Hailed for his “unforgettable versatility, sensitivity, and sublime musicianship” (Classical Guitar Magazine), he seamlessly blends technical mastery with emotional depth to create intimate musical experiences.

René performs over 70 concerts annually, appearing as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral guest across the Americas, Europe, and Asia. His appearances include prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Manaus Opera House, and Taiwan’s National Recital Hall.

A committed lifelong learner, René’s diverse recordings highlight underrepresented works and new compositions. As a teacher, he inspires students worldwide to engage both analytically and emotionally with music.

Website: reneizquierdoguitar.com

Concert Program: René Izquierdo



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INTERNATIONAL
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Program will be announced during concert:
Sunday, January 18, 2026

Thank you for your support of the
Guitar Studio International Festival & Competition.
We hope you enjoy the show.



Supporting aspiring musicians with access to quality education, instruments, and opportunities to develop their talents.

Our Mission:

The Guitar Studio Foundation, a 501©(3), is dedicated to supporting aspiring musicians by providing scholarships, grants, and outreach programs.



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STEVE GOSS

Guest Lecturer/Juror

Stephen Goss's music receives hundreds of performances worldwide each year. It has been recorded on over a hundred albums by more than a dozen record labels, including EMI, Decca, Virgin Classics, Naxos, and Deutsche Grammophon. His output embraces multiple genres: orchestral and choral works, chamber music, and solo pieces.

Goss's work is marked by a fascination with time and place – both immediate and remote – and the musical styles that evoke them. In many of his compositions, contrasting styles are juxtaposed through abrupt changes of gear. His compositional voice is shaped by his parallel career as a guitarist – that is to say, as a performer, transcriber, arranger, improviser and collaborator with other composers and performers. Not surprisingly, his music often tests the boundaries between all these activities and original composition.

Several of Goss's recent projects have involved the legendary guitarist John Williams, including his Guitar Concerto, which Williams recorded and played on tour with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Some of the world's leading orchestras to have performed his works include the Russian National Orchestra, the Oregon Symphony Orchestra, the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Colombia, BBC NOW, the China National Symphony Orchestra, The Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and The Barcelona Symphony Orchestra.

Commissions have come from percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie, cellist Natalie Clein, flautist William Bennett, lutenist Nigel North, and tenor Ian Bostridge; as well as guitarists David Russell, Xuefei Yang, Zoran Dukić, Miloš Karadaglić, Aniello Desiderio, Artyom Dervoed, and Łukasz Kuropaczewski. Goss's eclectic approach has led to collaborations with artists as diverse as Alt-J, Avi Avital, and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

As a guitarist, Steve has worked with Tōru Takemitsu, Hans Werner Henze, Peter Maxwell Davies and Elliott Carter, and toured and recorded extensively with the TETRA Guitar Quartet.

Stephen Goss is Chair of Composition at the University of Surrey (UK), Director of the International Guitar Research Centre, and a Professor of Guitar at the Royal Academy of Music in London. In 2018 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, an honour limited to 300 living people. He was born in Wales on 2nd February 1964.

The
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INTERNATIONAL
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Concert for Professional Competitors
Sunday, January 18

First Place:

- \$15,000 Cash
- Altamira Guitar
- Concert performance at the Altamira guitar concert at next year's festival, as well as an international performance in Melbourne or China

Second Place: \$5,000 Cash

Third Place: \$2,000 Cash

Michael Dailey Award: For the best interpretation of Segovia Canon piece.* \$500

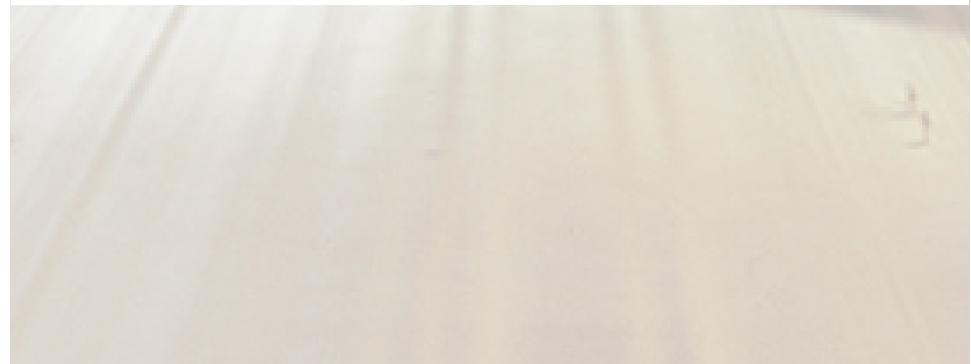
Audience Award: \$500 Cash



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Our Mission

The Guitar Studio Foundation (a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization) provides financial assistance to aspiring musicians, helping them access quality education, instruments, and opportunities to develop their talents. Through scholarships, grants, and outreach programs, we aim to foster musical growth and bring musicians closer to the community.

Volunteer + Join Our Team

Join our team of dedicated volunteers and be a part of fostering musical growth. Your commitment will help us create a vibrant music community and provide valuable resources to aspiring artists.

Support Music Education

Support the Guitar Studio Foundation's mission to bring music education to those in need. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, your generous donation is tax-deductible and directly supports our programs, from providing instruments and instructional resources to funding community outreach. Every contribution helps us make a difference!



theguitarstudionfoundation.org