



NEWS RELEASE – CLASSICAL GUITAR CONCERT SERIES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 8, 2014

WHO: Scott Sanchez

WHAT: New Classical Guitar Concert and Workshop Series

WHEN: Concert: Saturday, November 8, 7 pm.

Workshop: Sunday, November 9, from 9:30 - 11:30 am

WHERE: The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, 125 West Bay Road, Amherst, MA

TICKETS: \$15 General Admission for Saturday's concert

\$25 for Sunday's workshop participation, \$12 for workshop observing audience

Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to

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

IMAGES: To download images relating to this press release please go online to

<https://fac.umass.edu/Online/Pressimages>

NEW CLASSICAL GUITAR SERIES INTRODUCED BY UMASS FINE ARTS CENTER

The first installment of the Classical Guitar Concert and Workshop Series features guitarist Scott Sanchez. Sanchez is a talented and acclaimed classical guitarist, "possessed of fast and fluent fingers," and "a great sense of infectious enthusiasm for music," according to Classical Guitar Magazine. His three recorded albums span a vast repertoire from Baroque to modern day music, and showcase not only his interpretive skill but also his masterful skill at transcribing and arranging music for guitar. Sanchez will be performing a concert on Saturday, November 8 at 7 p.m. at the Eric Carle Museum in Amherst. Sunday he will lead a workshop on Technique and Sound Production on the Nylon Stringed Guitar, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

According to Fine Arts Center Director of Education & Engagement Yvonne Mendez, "in this series, our mission is to bring the rich harmonic beauty of the classical guitar's sound to a broader audience who may be unfamiliar with the command of the tonal palette and expressiveness that is the hallmark of this generation of classically trained guitarists. The series intends to showcase some of the very talented artists living here in our region whose interpretive skills will delight in concert, and who are very articulate in a teaching environment."

Reviews of Sanchez's performances include:

"Sanchez retains the elegant ornamentation, expressive vibrato and broad, warm tone of the Spanish masters." – *Springfield Union News*

American born guitarist Scott Sanchez is often praised for his virtuosic and musically passionate performances. Referring to his British debut, Classical Guitar Magazine (London, UK) said, "Sanchez drew the audience into his playing with his excellent performance...a performance which at times was introspective and at others extrovert." David Leisner, world renowned classical guitarist and chair of the classical guitar program at the Manhattan School of Music called his playing "Very engaging, virtuosic and spirited." Some of the highlights of Mr. Sanchez's past concert seasons have included recitals and masterclasses for the New York City Classical Guitar Society; St. Bride's Church in London, England; Bournemouth University in Dorset, England; King's Chapel in Boston, Massachusetts; University of Kentucky in Lexington, Kentucky; and Ventura Classical Guitar Society in Camarillo, California.

Sanchez's three CDs on Intraspect Productions cover a vast repertoire spanning the music of the Baroque era to modern day masterpieces. He recently recorded two concert etudes by Ricardo Iznaola, for the Contemporary Anthology of Solo Guitar Music for Five Fingers of the Right Hand, published by Mel Bay Publications. In a review of his most recent CD, entitled Lattice Work, Classical Guitar Magazine stated: "It must be said that throughout this hour's worth of music, Scott Sanchez shows himself in a very good light: he has the finesse and the musicianship to bring out the best in his chosen programme: his rich-toned phrasing and 'colouring' is very expressive and finely calculated yet having a naturalness to it. The disc is superbly recorded and the playing throughout is exemplary with Sanchez taking great care with details such as tone and phrasing and he has a charming way of fashioning the melodic lines from his guitar." In addition to his solo concerts, Sanchez has also frequently performed with chamber musicians, choral groups, and as a soloist with an orchestra. Scott Sanchez is also active as a writer on music and his articles have frequently been published in international periodicals such as Soundboard Magazine (USA) and Classical Guitar Magazine (UK).

He has taught at Wesleyan University, Trinity College, UMass Amherst, and Springfield College. He is currently on the faculty at Franklin Pierce University in New Hampshire. He earned his Bachelor's of Music at the University of Denver as a student of the Cuban classical guitarist, Ricardo Iznaola, and graduated with a Master's of Music from Yale University, where he was a student of the American classical guitarist Benjamin Verdery. As a student, he also performed in masterclasses for renowned guitarists such as Eliot Fisk, David Russell and Pepe Romero, among others.

Details of the educational workshop can be found below:

**Technique and Sound Production on the Nylon Stringed Guitar
An Interactive Workshop with Scott Sanchez**

Sunday, November 9, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Eric Carle Museum, Amherst

Have you wondered how classical guitar players create the varied textures and produce as much sound as they do from a guitar that is not electrically amplified? While many of the techniques used in steel string guitar and electric are the same, some of the techniques used in playing a nylon string guitar differ. In this workshop, we will learn from a seasoned concert performer how to acoustically fill a hall with beautiful sound. You may bring your nylon stringed guitar and try some of these techniques and, with the help of Scott's coaching, refine your sound. In the first part, anyone with a nylon stringed guitar may participate, and in the second part, there will be several spaces for a masterclass-type encounter where more experienced players take direction from Scott and the audience learns by watching the session and witnessing the difference in sound and tone production.

For more information or to register for the workshop, contact Yvonne Mendez at 413-545-4161 or at yvonne@admin.umass.edu. General admission tickets for Saturday's performance are \$15; to purchase call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at fineartscenter.com.

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