

UMassAmherst | Fine Arts Center

¡Guitarra!

Berta Rojas

Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art



Saturday, March 5, 2022 8 p.m.

Berta Rojas Master Class Sunday, March 6, 2022 10:00 a.m. ET Eric Carle Museum
¡GUITARRA! is a program of the UMass Fine Arts Center, designed to engage audiences with the rich harmonic beauty of the classical guitar.

Program underwritten by Ronna Erickson

Daily Hampshire Gazette

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University of Massachusetts Land Acknowledgement

In a year-long consultative and deeply collaborative process with respected advisors from local Tribal Nations, the UMass Native Advisory Council co-developed this campus Land Acknowledgement. This Acknowledgement affirms our campus connection and relationship to the land the campus is built upon and our continued connection to the Nations who were the original inhabitants and caretakers of this land. The University of Massachusetts Amherst acknowledges that it was founded and built on the unceded homelands of the Pocumtuc Nation on the land of the Norrwutuck community.

We begin with gratitude for nearby waters and lands, including the Kwinitewk -- the southern portion of what's now called the Connecticut River. We recognize these lands and waters as important Relations with which we are all interconnected and depend on to sustain life and wellbeing.

The Norrwutuck community was one of many Pocumtuc Indian towns, including the Tribal seat at Pocumtuc (in present day Deerfield), Agawam (Springfield), and Woronoco (Westfield) to name just a few. The Pocumtuc, who had connections with these lands for millennia, are part of a vast expanse of Algonquian relations. Over 400 years of colonization, Pocumtuc Peoples were displaced. Many joined their Algonquian relatives to the east, south, west and north— extant communities of Wampanoag, including Aquinnah, Herring Pond, and Mashpee, Massachusetts; the Nipmuc with a reservation at Grafton/Hassanamisco, Massachusetts; the Narragansett in Kingstown, Rhode Island; Schaghticoke, Mohegan and Pequot Peoples in Connecticut; the Abenaki and other Nations of the Wabanaki Confederacy extending northward into Canada; and the Stockbridge Munsee Mohican of New York and Massachusetts, who were removed to Wisconsin in the 19th century. Over hundreds of years of removal, members of Southern New England Tribes would make the journey home to tend important places and renew their connections to their ancestral lands. Such care and connection to land and waters continues to the present day.

Today, Indigenous Nations in southern New England continue to employ diverse strategies to resist ongoing colonization, genocide, and erasure begun by the English, French, Dutch, Portuguese and other European Nations, and that continued when Tribal homelands became part of the United States. Native Americans from Tribal Nations across the U.S. and Indigenous peoples from around the world also travel into these Pocumtuc homelands to live and work. This land has always been and always will be, Native Land.

We also acknowledge that the University of Massachusetts Amherst is a Land Grant University. As part of the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862, Tribal lands from 84 Native Nations west of the Mississippi were sold to provide the resources to found and build this university.

This Land Acknowledgement is the first step in the university's commitment to practice intellectual humility whilst working with Tribal Nations toward a better shared future on Turtle Island. We aim to foster understanding, deep respect, and honor for sovereign Tribal Nations; to develop relationships of reciprocity; and to be inclusive of Native perspectives and thriving Native Nations far into the future. Members of Massachusetts-based Tribal Nations who are kin to the historic Pocumtuc contributed their insights in composing this acknowledgement -- namely Tribal representatives from Mashpee, Aquinnah, and Stockbridge Munsee. As an active first step toward decolonization, we encourage you to learn more about the Indigenous peoples on whose homelands UMass Amherst now resides on and the Indigenous homelands on which you live and work.

Berta Rojas

Praised as “guitarist extraordinaire” (Washington Post) and “ambassador of the classical guitar” (Classical Guitar Magazine) and nominated for three Latin Grammy Awards, **Berta Rojas** brings her world-class artistry to a special solo recital this spring.

Berta’s acknowledged warmth and musicality have earned her the admiration of audiences at major venues worldwide including: the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and the Frederick P. Rose Hall of Jazz at the Lincoln Center, in New York, London’s South Bank Centre, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. At the National Concert Hall in Dublin, Rojas performed as a soloist with the Irish Radio and Television Orchestra, and in Brussels she performed with the Brussels Philharmonic Orchestra for Belgian National Television.

Berta takes her audience on a colorful journey of sound, embracing new works by composers in diverse genres. The journey is echoed in recordings such as *Cielo Abierto* (2006) and *Terruño* (2009), as well as the duo with Carlos Barbosa-Lima on *Alma y Corazón* (2007) and the celebrated *Intimate Barrios* (2008) featuring works by the great Paraguayan composer and guitarist. On her latest recording, *Felicidade* (2017), she pays tribute to Brazilian music, with guest artists including Gilberto Gil, Toquinho and Ivan Lins.

In addition to continually enriching her own career through international tours and master classes, Berta Rojas is firmly committed to furthering and disseminating the classical guitar. A particular focus is on promoting the music of her country, Paraguay, as well as Latin American music more widely, and her ongoing support for the careers of young, upcoming guitarists.

<https://www.bertarojas.com/en/>

Upcoming Event:



For more information on all Fine Arts Center events and for tickets please visit:

fineartscenter.com

[Danú: St. Patrick’s Day Celebration](#)
[Friday, March 11, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.](#)
[Bowker Auditorium](#)

