



Western Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

FRIDAYS @ 12:30 SERIES

Friday, October 26, 2018
12:30 p.m., von Kuster Hall
Johannes Möller, *guitar*
Laura Fraticelli, *guitar*

Ich denke dein
Unruhe
Ständchen

Johann Kaspar Mertz
(1806-1856)

Milonga Argentina

Justo Tomás Morales
(1877-1953)

A ti solita! (Habanera)

Federico Spreafico
(1871-1958)

ZhengAn "The City of Guitar"
from Five Chinese Impressions

Johannes Möller
(b. 1981)

落英缤纷 "Flower petals perpetually moving in the air"

昙花一现 "The nocturnally blossoming desert flower"

五谷丰登 "Grains at harvest is the farmer's joy"

Eternal Joy

Shenandoah-Fantasy

THE ARTISTS

Johannes Möller is since September this year the Ambassador of ZhengAn Guitar in China, which is the largest investment of its kind in Guitar history. ZhengAn is a city in Guizhou which have made guitar manufacturing and guitar culture its main priority. The city has encouraged hundreds of guitar manufacturing companies to set up their production there. Currently about five million guitars are produced there every year. At this moment a concert hall dedicated to guitar as well as a guitar museum and a 99 meter guitar tower is under construction as a contribution to the culture of guitar.

In 2010 Johannes was awarded the first prize in the Concert Artist Competition Guitar Foundation of America (GFA), considered by many to be the most prestigious classical guitar competition in the world. Today Johannes performs close to a hundred concerts per year and have a large following in China, Europe, Australia, North & South America. An engraving of his name can be found on the walls of the Concertgebouw concert hall in Amsterdam (as a recognition of excellence given by the Vriendenkrans Concours). All these things are indicative of the musical calibre we have come to expect from international concert players, yet Johannes is known primarily for things other than his performing excellence.

Acquiring his skills in both performance and composition at an early age and in a free setting provided Johannes with the highly characterised and idiosyncratic voice that many listeners around the world have come to admire. It seems clear that it was an instinctive urge to create that drove this course, and with these beginnings Johannes was set to become an icon of 21st century music-making.

Being born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, **Laura Fraticelli** studied with Walter Ujaldón and Eduardo Fernández. The love for music gave her the courage to emigrate to Europe where she continued her studies at the Royal College of Music in London and then later at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague where she was accepted in the class of the rename guitarist Zoran Dukic. She has been praised for her beautiful tone and passionate interpretations. "When Laura plays the guitar it sounds as if the strings are made of velvet. Exquisite and sensitive, yet distinct" (Vimmerby Tidning, Sweden)

DUO MÖLLER-FRATICELLI

Duo Möller-Fraticelli performed throughout Europe, North and South America as well as on radio and TV. The Duo have released a recording with the works of Johann Kaspar Mertz (1806-1856) for the Naxos label. Commented on the duo's new album:

Kenneth Keaton from the American Record Guide commented on the duo's album:

"...simply the finest Mertz I've ever heard. This is tastefully played, often with heartrending beauty."

And Rick Anderson from CD HotList:

"The playing of Johannes Möller and Laura Fraticelli is exquisite throughout. This is one of the loveliest albums I've heard in 2014, in any genre."

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