



Grammy-winning Guitarist Jason Vieaux Makes Debut at Carmel Bach Festival

Performing Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* plus the World Premiere of Mark Mancina's Guitar Concerto

Friday, July 19, 2019 and Friday, July 26, 2019 at 7:30pm
Sunset Center Theater | San Carlos Street at 9th Avenue
Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA

Tickets (\$35 - \$68): www.bachfestival.org/guitar-hero

“perhaps the most precise and soulful classical
guitarist of his generation.” – NPR

Watch Vieaux perform Duke Ellington's *In a Sentimental Mood*

Jason Vieaux: www.jasonvieaux.com

Photo by Tyler Boye available in high
resolution at www.jensenartists.com

Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA – **On July 19 and 26, 2019 at 7:30pm**, Grammy-winning classical guitarist **Jason Vieaux** makes his debut at the **Carmel Bach Festival** performing **Joaquín Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*** and the world premiere performances of the Guitar Concerto “Suite in Three Movements,” a Festival commission by **Mark Mancina**. Both Friday night concerts take place at the **Sunset Center Theatre** (San Carlos Street at 9th Avenue) and include Rossini's William Tell Overture and Beethoven's Symphony No. 4, led by conductor and Artistic Director **Paul Goodwin**.

Mark Mancina, esteemed Hollywood film composer and Carmel resident, has long been a friend of the Bach Festival, attending many concerts over the years. Goodwin noticed that his scores from *Twister* and the Anime series *Blood+* had prominent guitar parts and, “seemed to me to make perfect second and third movements for a new guitar concerto.” The Festival commissioned Mancina to compose a completely new first movement for Jason Vieaux to complement the other movements. Goodwin notes, “This is an expansive opening movement that starts lyrically and then through the guitar writing develops into a rhythmic Spanish style allegro full of characteristic energy.”

Concierto de Aranjuez was one of Joaquín Rodrigo's first compositions and immediately established him as one of the most significant Spanish composers of the twentieth century. The piece was inspired by the Palacio Real de Aranjuez and Rodrigo described the concerto as capturing “the fragrance of magnolias, the singing of birds, and the gushing of fountains” in the gardens.

Of the piece, Vieaux says, “So many people are familiar with this wonderful work for guitar and orchestra, and there are many others who may not know it by name but certainly know the second movement tune. That theme has been in movies and commercials, interpreted by jazz musicians like Miles Davis and Chick Corea, and even featured during extended improvisations by Led Zeppelin during their 1977 tour. I've probably performed *Aranjuez* nearly 200 times at this point in my career, but the experience of performing it for a live audience only gets richer and more meaningful for me with each concert season.”

About Jason Vieaux: Grammy-winner Jason Vieaux, “among the elite of today's classical guitarists” (*Gramophone*), is the guitarist that goes beyond the classical. NPR describes Vieaux as, “perhaps the most precise and soulful classical guitarist of his generation.” Among his extensive discography is the 2015 Grammy Award winning album for Best Classical Instrumental Solo, *Play*. Vieaux has earned a reputation for putting his expressiveness and virtuosity at the service of a remarkably wide range of music, and his schedule of performing, and recording commitments is distinguished throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Jason Vieaux has performed as concerto soloist with over 100 orchestras, including Cleveland, Toronto, Houston, Nashville, San Diego, Buffalo, Auckland Philharmonia, and Orchestra of St. Luke's. Recent highlights include performances at Caramoor Festival as Artist-in-Residence, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Curtis Presents, Phillips Collection, National Gallery of Art, Buenos Aires' Teatro Colon, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, New York's 92Y, and Ravinia Festival. He has forged his reputation as a first-rate chamber musician and programmer through performances with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Bard Music Festival, Music@Menlo, San Francisco Performances, Cleveland Chamber Music Society, Strings Music Festival, Grand Teton, and many others.

Recent and upcoming chamber music collaborators include the Escher Quartet; Grammy-winning mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke; violinists Anne Akiko Meyers, Kristin Lee, and Tessa Lark; acclaimed harpist Yolanda Kondonassis; and accordion/bandoneon virtuoso Julien Labro. Vieaux's passion for new music has fostered premieres of works by Jonathan Leshnoff, Avner Dorman, Jeff Beal, Dan Visconti, David Ludwig, Vivian Fung, José Luis Merlin, and more. Jason recently premiered Visconti's “Living Language” Guitar Concerto with the California Symphony and recorded Leshnoff's Guitar Concerto live with the Nashville Symphony, released in May 2019 on Naxos.

Jason Vieaux has two upcoming releases on Azica Records: *Dance*, a new album with the Escher String Quartet (July 19, 2019), featuring works by Boccherini, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, and Aaron Jay Kernis; as well as a new solo Bach album. Recent recordings include Jeff Beal's “Six Sixteen” Guitar Concerto with the Norrköping Symphony Orchestra (BIS) and in addition to his Grammy-winning 2015 solo release *Play*, his previous albums include *Infusion* (Azica) with accordionist/bandoneonist Julien Labro; Ginastera's Guitar Sonata, on *Ginastera: One Hundred* (Oberlin Music) produced by harpist Yolanda Kondonassis; *Together* (Azica), a duo album with Kondonassis; a recording of Astor Piazzolla's music with Julien Labro and A Far Cry Chamber Orchestra; *Bach: Works for Lute, Vol. 1; Images of Metheny*; and *Sevilla: The Music of Isaac Albeniz*. Vieaux was the first classical musician to be featured on NPR's popular “Tiny Desk” series.

In 2012, the Jason Vieaux School of Classical Guitar was launched with ArtistWorks Inc., an unprecedented technological interface that provides one-on-one online study with Vieaux for guitar students around the world. In 2011, he co-founded the guitar department at the Curtis Institute of Music, and in 2015 was invited to inaugurate the guitar program at the Eastern Music Festival. Vieaux has taught at the Cleveland Institute of Music since 1997, heading the guitar department since 2001.

Vieaux is affiliated with Philadelphia's Astral Artists. In 1992 he was awarded the prestigious GFA International Guitar Competition First Prize, the event's youngest winner ever. He is also honored with a Naumburg Foundation top prize, a Cleveland Institute of Music Distinguished Alumni Award, and a Salon di Virtuosi Career Grant. In 1995, Vieaux was an Artistic Ambassador of the U.S. to Southeast Asia. His primary teachers were Jeremy Sparks and John Holmquist.

Jason Vieaux is represented by Jonathan Wentworth Associates, Ltd and plays a 2013 Gernot Wagner guitar with Augustine strings. For more information, visit www.jasonvieaux.com.

About the Carmel Bach Festival: The Carmel Bach Festival began in 1935 as a four-day series of concerts at the Sunset School Auditorium and the Carmel Mission Basilica. Over the years, it grew to a two-week celebration of concerts, recitals, master classes, lectures, and open rehearsals. The Festival's mission is to celebrate the works, inspiration and ongoing influence of Johann Sebastian Bach worldwide by immersing audiences in a festival experience integrating music, education and ideas. Under the leadership of Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Paul Goodwin and Executive Director Steve Friedlander, the organization offers innovative artistic programming. For more information, visit: www.BachFestival.org. The 82nd season takes place July 13-27, 2019.