



Grammy-winning Guitarist Jason Vieaux

Makes Kentucky Symphony Orchestra Debut Performing Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*

Saturday, November 9, 2019 at 7:30pm
Frances K. Carlisle Performing Arts Center
1699 Hilton Dr. | Park Hills, KY

Tickets and information: www.kyso.org

“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

Park Hills, KY – On Saturday, November 9, 2019 at 7:30pm, Grammy-winning classical guitarist **Jason Vieaux** makes his debut with the **Kentucky Symphony Orchestra** performing **Joaquín Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*** at the **Frances K. Carlisle Performing Arts Center** (1699 Hilton Drive). Music Director **James R. Cassidy** leads the KYSO in this program featuring composers through the ages who have overcome grave physical challenges to pen great works. Swedish composer and violist Allan Pettersson suffered from crippling rheumatoid arthritis in the last 30 years of his life; a diphtheria epidemic left Joaquín Rodrigo blind at age three; and Ludwig van Beethoven lost most of his hearing by age 26 and was completely deaf by 46, ten years before his death. The other two works on the program are Pettersson's Symphonic Movement and Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral."

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 – sensations captured beyond his ability to see.

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. I look forward to making my debut with the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra and working with Maestro Cassidy in sharing this great music."

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 and upcoming 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, San Francisco's Herbst Theatre, Buenos Aires' Teatro Colon, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, New York's 92Y, Domaine Forget International Festival, and Carmel Bach Festival, 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. 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, Mark Mancina, 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.

Vieaux's latest CD release, *Dance* (Azica) with the Escher Quartet, includes works by Boccherini, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, and Aaron Jay Kernis. Later this season, he will release a new solo Bach album on Azica. In addition to his Grammy-winning solo release *Play*, his previous albums include Jeff Beal's "Six Sixteen" Guitar Concerto with the Norrköping Symphony Orchestra (BIS); *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.

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