

The Classical Guitar Society of Western Australia, Inc.

# GUITAR WA

## NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2015



A “discussion” between the students of Carulli and Molino (apparently, on the issue of whether or not to use fingernals), from Charles de Marescot’s famous book, *La Guitaromanie* (1829). The title, meaning “guitar mania”, describes the passionate following of the guitar in early 19<sup>th</sup>-century Paris

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear guitar-lovers,

Welcome to another exciting year of the guitar. Our website already shows an exciting array of upcoming guitar concerts in Perth in 2015. This issue of the newsletter highlights some of the successful events from last year, as well as pointing towards upcoming events.

I'm pleased to announce that this year's guitar ensemble festival will feature Polish virtuoso Marcin Dylla as guest artist and adjudicator. Hailed as "among the most gifted guitarists on the planet", Dylla is a rare phenomenon in the recent history of the classical guitar. He is winner of an unparalleled 19 first prizes in international competitions, including the most prestigious Guitar Foundation of America competition in 2007.

In 2015, we are also launching a new series of concerts featuring young artists, kicking off with the concert of the very talented Stephanie Jones. Many of you may remember Stephanie as a talented young member of the orchestra (several years ago). She is now an accomplished performer, and recent graduate of the ANU School of Music. Her concert is on Easter Monday (see details below).

We recently held our AGM, and I'm pleased to welcome the new committee. Positions include Jonathan Paget (president), Jane Darcey (vice-president), David Beattie (treasurer), and Melissa Fitzgerald (secretary), and committee members John Darcey (membership), Renee Cappetta (publicity), John Ralph (newsletter), Deborah Banks, Jerome Toonen. I'd just like to also issue special thanks to Mathew and Rebecca Laurenson, who have given fantastic service to the guitar society over the last many years, in the roles of orchestra director, vice-president, and secretary.

I also welcome Jane Darcey as conductor of the orchestra in 2015. Jane is an experienced conductor, and has led the orchestra in the past to great success (including a CD recording). So the orchestra is in firm hands and we look forward to good things to come.

Kind regards  
Dr Jonathan Paget

## Featured Concert: Stephanie Jones in Recital



**6th April 2015 (Easter Monday) - 12pm**

### **STEPHANIE JONES (GUITAR) - IN RECITAL**

This recital will feature music from Spain, ranging from early vihuela music, up to late 19th century romantic classics.

**Venue:** North Perth Lesser Hall, View Street, North Perth.

Tickets available at door: \$15 adults / \$12 concession / \$10 for CGSWA members

Light refreshments will be served after the recital.

Stephanie Jones is one of Perth's most gifted and nationally-acclaimed young artists. A former member of the guitar society orchestra, and student of Murray Bishop and Alan Banks, she has recently graduated from the ANU School of Music, where she studied with Timothy Kain and achieved first-class honours. Winner of the *National Young Virtuosos Award* in 2014, Stephanie undergoes an Australian wide farewell tour in April. She will be performing in Perth, Margaret River, Mount Beauty Victoria, and Canberra. Following this tour she will be leaving for Europe to compete and perform in international competitions and festivals, and to pursue musical studies in Germany. Stephanie's concert will be the first of a series of 2015 "emerging artists" concerts for the guitar society.

### **Stephanie Jones: A Biography**

Stephanie Jones began learning classical guitar from the age of 11 when at Primary School in Wembley. She played many instruments, beginning first with the piano, and progressing to the violin, viola, saxophone and flute. However, the guitar's versatility and sound spectrum appealed to her.

Stephanie recently graduated from the Australian National University with First Class Honours in Classical Guitar Performance. Over the previous four years she has been mentored by the renowned Timothy Kain and Minh Le Hoang. Stephanie has completed her Diploma exam for the Associate Board of the Royal Schools of Music, her AMEB AMusA exam and LMusA Exam. She was then selected as winner of the "JB Vincent Memorial Award for Best Eligible LMusA Candidate in 2012".

In 2014, through the *Fine Music Network National Competition*, Stephanie was awarded the *Young Virtuoso of the Year*. In 2012, Stephanie competed in the prestigious Adelaide International Classical Guitar Competition and subsequently won second prize.

In 2010, Stephanie was awarded the Royal Schools Anniversary Scholarship and the Harmony Endowment Undergraduate Scholarship to study at the ANU. Furthermore, in 2013, Stephanie was presented with a John Wallis Scholarship on behalf of the Canberra/Versailles Association, and a Friends of the School of Music Travel Grant to study with exceptional teachers throughout Spain and France.

Stephanie has performed extensively around Australia and abroad. She has also completed her first classical guitar CD, *Bach the Fly* and the *Micro- phone* and is currently recording her next album featuring music from Spain.

## Concert Review: The Australian Guitar Duo

By Mel Fitzgerald



The Australian Guitar Duo (Rupert Boyd and Jacob Cordover) performed to a nearly full house in the Kalamunda Uniting Church on Monday Nov 24<sup>th</sup> 2014.

The Duo were engaging to listen to both as performers, and with their interesting stories about the pieces they were playing. The program was exciting and varied; featuring works by Australian composers Nigel Westlake, Phillip Houghton and Ross Edwards. Also included were some 19<sup>th</sup> Century pieces as well as works from Spain and America

Both Boyd and Cordover play Smallman Guitars and they had a clear and strong sound which filled the church and could easily be heard from the back row. Their musicianship was impressive and every piece was filled with expression and precision.

All in all it was a fantastic concert and we were so lucky to be able to have them make a brief stop to perform in Perth on their second national tour!

The Australian Guitar Duo CD can be purchased online by following the links on their website. [www.australianguitarduo.com](http://www.australianguitarduo.com).

## Concert Review: The Guitar Society Orchestra

By John Ralph



The Guitar Society Orchestra held its year end 'Easy Does It' concert at the North Perth Lesser Town Hall on 13 December. In keeping with the theme, named for one of the Alan Hirsh pieces on the program, the venue was relaxed, informal and complemented by the players' colourful shirts (as opposed to the traditional concert black).

An audience of about 40 was treated to a varied program starting with a traditional Peruvian folk song *El Condor Pasa* arranged for guitar orchestra by Alan Hirsh. Next was the three-movement *Six String Suite* by Leonard Weiss, followed by the title piece *Easy Does It*, a laid-back composition in blues style. The first half of the concert finished with the atmospheric and haunting *Game Of Thrones* theme song by Ramin Djawadi, arranged by Rebekah Laurenson, one of our first-guitar players.

After the break the concert resumed with Calum Hall, another of our first-guitars, playing two solo pieces from the *Scenes from the Wild West*, a suite by Gary Ryan: *Across the Plain* and *Rondo Rodeo*.

The orchestra resumed with another Alan Hirsh piece, the rhythmic and percussive *In The Clouds*, moved on to Franz Joseph Haydn's *London Trio* and finished the afternoon's entertainment with Richard Charlton's *Rhapsody*, whose fast and abrupt ending provided a fitting finale to the orchestra's year.

As this was conductor Mathew Laurenson's final appearance with the orchestra after three years at the helm, we'd all like him to know how much we appreciate the enormous effort he's put in - THANK YOU MATHEW.

## Upcoming Events

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**24th March 2015 (Tuesday) - 1:10pm (Lunchtime)**

### **THE ROMANTIC GUITAR: JONATHAN PAGET**

Jonathan Paget (guitar) performs 19th century guitar masterpieces on a period instrument, with special guest artist Stewart Smith on historic fortepiano.

**Venue:** Music Auditorium, WA Academy of Performing Arts (2 Bradford St Mt Lawley)

FREE ADMISSION

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**Monday, 30th March at 7:30pm (doors open 6:30pm)**

### **DUNCAN GARDINER CD LAUNCH**

Celebrate the launch of Duncan Gardiner's second album, *Incense & Arabia*. Gardiner (guitarist and composer) is hijacking North Street Music's immensely popular Chamber Jam concert series to showcase his atmospheric and heartfelt original music. Highlights from the album will be brought to life in the cool surrounds of the Ellington Jazz Club by a host of wonderful guest performers including Setsu Masuda (mimi duo), Mel Fitzgerald, Chris Kotchie, Dan Christoffersen (Perth Guitar Quartet), Susannah Williams, Sara Duhig, Grace Ah-quee, Catherine Tabi and Giovanni Vinci (Aria Quintet). Hosted by North Street Music and held at the Ellington Jazz Club, the evening promises to be truly unforgettable. The evening commences at 7:30pm but doors open at 6:30pm so you can enjoy the bar and food menu. CDs will be available for purchase on the night followed by signing.

**Venue:** Ellington Jazz Club (191 Beaufort St, Perth); **Tickets:** \$15/\$20 from [www.ellingtonjazz.com.au](http://www.ellingtonjazz.com.au); **More info:** [info@duncangardiner.com](mailto:info@duncangardiner.com)

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**31st March 2015 (Tuesday) - 7:30pm**

### **DOWLAND'S A MUSICAL BANQUET**

Musical Director: Jonathan Paget; Performed by: WAAPA guitar & vocal students

John Dowland, renowned English Renaissance lutenist, travelled widely on the continent and in 1610 published an anthology of 21 songs representing some of his choicest favourites of all the songs that he had encountered across Europe. It was playfully titled "A Musical Banquet: furnished with varietie of delicious Ayres, collected out of the best authors in English, French, Spanish, and Italian." For this concert, WAAPA guitarists and singers perform Dowland's beautifully scripted Jacobean program in newly completed arrangements for guitar and voice.

**Venue:** Chapel at John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School, Cnr Mirrabooka & Boyare Ave, Mirrabooka

FREE ADMISSION

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**6th April 2015 (Easter Monday) - 12pm**

### **STEPHANIE JONES (GUITAR) - IN RECITAL**

This recital will feature music from Spain, ranging from early vihuela music, up to late 19th century romantic classics.

**Venue:** North Perth Lesser Hall, View Street, North Perth.

Tickets available at door: \$15 adults / \$12 concession / \$10 for CGSWA members

Light refreshments will be served after the recital.

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**12th May 2015 (Tuesday) - 7:30pm**

### **"LA GUITAROMANIE" (19TH-CENTURY GUITAR MANIA)**

Musical Director: Jonathan Paget

Performed by: WAAPA students & staff

The guitar was fantastically popular in early 19th-century Europe, leaving an indelible impression on the fashionable salons of the rich and famous. "La Guitaromanie" was used by contemporaneous Parisian guitarist Charles de Marescot to describe this phenomenon, illustrated by a famous drawing showing fashionable dandies smashing their "Lacôte" guitars over one another in a heated discussion over guitar technique at a Parisian café. In a potpourri of guitar solos and chamber works, WAAPA students and staff explore the untouched riches of the early Romantic guitar.

**Venue:** Music Auditorium, WA Academy of Performing Arts (2 Bradford St Mt Lawley); **Tickets:** \$25 Full, \$20 Concession

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**21st May 2015 (Thursday) - 1:10pm**

### **UWA GUITAR ENSEMBLE**

**Venue:** Callaway Music Auditorium

FREE ADMISSION

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**2nd June 2015 (Tuesday) - 7:30pm**

### **WAAPA GUITAR SHOWCASE NO. 1**

A variety concert showcasing the performances of WAAPA guitar students

**Venue:** Spectrum Gallery, Building 3.191, WA Academy of Performing Arts (2 Bradford St Mt Lawley)

FREE ADMISSION

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**7th June 2015 (Sunday)**

### **PUBLIC FUND RAISING EVENT**

The Guitar Society Orchestra is running a public fund raising event/concert in aid of the World Organisation of Early Childhood Education. Put it in your diary. **Venue:** To be arranged.

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**21st June 2015 (Sunday)**

### **AN AFTERNOON OF CLASSICAL INDULGENCE**

Conducted by Jane Darcey and performed by the Classical Guitar Orchestra.

**Venue:** Maylands Yacht Club, East Street, Maylands.; Tickets at the door



**21st Aug 2015 (Friday) - 7:30pm**

### **THE GUITAR ARTISTRY OF MARCIN DYLLA**

Hailed as “among the most gifted guitarists on the planet”, Polish guitarist Marcin Dylla is a rare phenomenon in the recent history of the classical guitar. He is winner of an unparalleled 19 first prizes in international competitions, including the most prestigious Guitar Foundation of America competition in 2007. Much in international demand as a soloist, concerto artist, at festivals, and as an educator, Dylla is an elite among the younger generation of international guitar players. WAAPA is privileged to host Marcin Dylla for this very special and memorable solo recital. Marcin also travels to Perth as artist/adjudicator for the WA Classical Guitar Ensemble Festival, hosted by the WA Classical Guitar Society, Inc.



**Venue:** Music Auditorium, WA Academy of Performing Arts (2 Bradford St Mt Lawley); **Tickets:** \$25 Full, \$20 Concession

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**22nd - 23rd August 2015**

### **WA INTERNATIONAL CLASSICAL GUITAR ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL**

The annual guitar ensemble festival sees guitar ensembles from schools across the state converge to present wonderful music. **Venue:** Carine Senior High School Performing Arts Centre

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**27th August 2015 (Thursday) - 1:10pm**

### **UWA GUITAR ENSEMBLE**

**Venue:** Callaway Music Auditorium

FREE ADMISSION

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**22nd September 2015 (Tuesday) - 7:30pm**

### **THE SPANISH GUITAR**

Musical Director: Jonathan Paget; Performed by: WAAPA students & staff

Spain is the birthplace of the guitar; likewise, the guitar is at the heart of the Spanish musical soul. This concert traces this history of the guitar, from the delicate intabulations of 16th century vihuelistas, the rowdy songs and dances of the Spanish Baroque, the virtuosic masterpieces of its classical maestros, the passionate and folkloric works of the Romantics, as well as the soulful expressivity of its modern masters. WAAPA guitarists present this beautifully structured program of Spanish guitar music (including solo and chamber works), interwoven with insightful commentary by Dr Jonathan Paget.

**Venue:** Music Auditorium, WA Academy of Performing Arts (2 Bradford St Mt Lawley); **Tickets:** \$25 Full, \$20 Concession

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**22nd September 2015 (Tuesday) - 1:10pm**

### **CLASSICAL GUITAR SHOWCASE**

**Venue:** Music Auditorium, WA Academy of Performing Arts (2 Bradford St Mt Lawley)

FREE ADMISSION

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**20th October 2015 (Tuesday) - 7:30pm**

### **WAAPA GUITAR SHOWCASE NO. 2**

A variety concert showcasing the performances of WAAPA guitar students

**Venue:** Spectrum Gallery, Building 3.191, WA Academy of Performing Arts (2 Bradford St Mt Lawley)

FREE ADMISSION

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## A New Conductor for The Classical Guitar Society Orchestra

The Guitar Society Orchestra is the heart and soul of the society. It comprises players of all ages, ranging from school age to retirement and provides fun music-making in a relaxed and social environment. The orchestra performs a major set in the society's two major variety concerts, typically held in a major concert Venue.



[Above, Mathew Laurensen conducting the Guitar Society Orchestra]



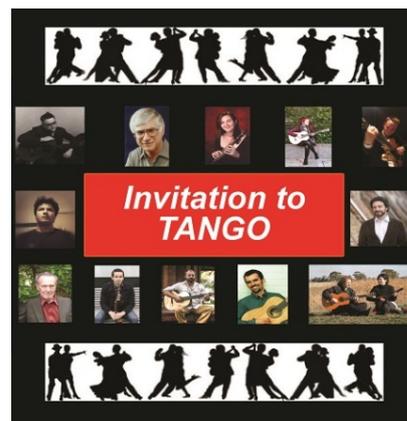
The Conductor for 2015 is Jane Darcey. Jane is an experienced player, composer, and teacher. She has produced two solo CD'S and when last conducting the Orchestra was instrumental in producing the CD *Blue Sapphires and Other Australian Gems*, which features the guitar society orchestra. For more information on Jane. See her website [www.janedarceyclassicalguitar.com.au](http://www.janedarceyclassicalguitar.com.au)

The orchestra rehearses most Fridays of the year from 7:00 to 9:00pm at North Perth Lesser Town Hall. .It is an excellent way to meet Like-minded people and participate in Orchestral guitar music. New season rehearsals have recently commenced, but there is still time to join! For more information contact [orchestra@guitarwa.com.au](mailto:orchestra@guitarwa.com.au).

## Recent CD Release: *Invitation to Tango*

Musical talent from right round Australia has been brought together on a CD of original compositions produced by one of WA Classic Guitar Society's veteran members. Local guitar maker Graham Hawkes has organized the creation of an album of 14 new Australian tangos with guitar and is quietly proud of its significance.

Tango is one of Graham's favourite styles of music and gets regular air time on *Plucked Strings*, the radio program he hosts on RTRFM 92.1 [[www.rtrfm.com.au/shows/pluckedstrings](http://www.rtrfm.com.au/shows/pluckedstrings)]. Graham's enthusiasm for this music has been constrained only by the limited amount of tango repertoire for guitar. So with quiet determination he went about commissioning an album of new tangos for the guitar.

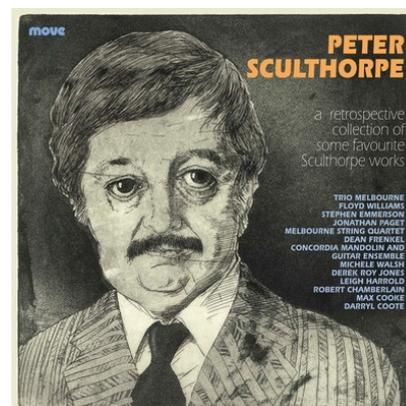


The Australian composers featured on the album are Alan Banks, Philip Bračanin, Rohan Jayasinghe, Krzysztof Piotrowicz, Ruth Roshan, Mardae Selepak, Owen Thomson and Mark Viggiani. Five of the composers perform their own tracks and some tracks add guitarists Tania Costantino and Stephanie Jones and clarinettist Catherine Cahill. This impressive list of contributors bring to the music a rich variety of technical flamboyance, improvisation, sunny warmth, meditation, and gorgeous guitar sounds throughout.

Invitation to TANGO is reviewed in the Feb 2015 edition of LIMELIGHT magazine [4 stars - p 71 under Chamber heading]. Invitation to TANGO can be sampled on the internet. Go to [members.iinet.net.au/~maggra/ghtangocd.htm](http://members.iinet.net.au/~maggra/ghtangocd.htm)

## Recent CD Release: *A Retrospective Collection of some Favourite Sculthorpe Works*

Peter Sculthorpe was one of Australia's most celebrated composers, and his sad recent passing was met by a tribute CD from Move Records (Melbourne). It features performances from leading Australia's performers, including Perth guitarist Jonathan Paget performing *From Kakadu* for solo guitar, as well as a Melbourne-based guitar and mandolin ensemble performing Michelle Nelson's arrangement of the *Little Suite for Strings*.



Text from the Move Records website is shown below:

Featured are several of Sculthorpe's best known works including 'Songs of sea and sky', 'Kakadu' and the String Quartet No. 9. The music is performed here by a variety of wonderful Australian players including Jonathan Paget (guitar), the Team of Pianists, Trio Melbourne, Floyd Williams (clarinet), Melbourne String Quartet, Derek Jones (flute), Dean Frenkel and Michelle Nelson's arrangement of 'Little Suite', done with his blessing and approval, are also heard here.

More information is available at [www.move.com.au/disc/peter-sculthorpe](http://www.move.com.au/disc/peter-sculthorpe)

## GUITAR SOCIETY ORCHESTRA

The Orchestra gives an opportunity for Guitarists of all ages and Skills to come together to make music and meet like-minded people. Come and experience the thrill of playing beautiful guitar music in an Orchestra.

It is not too late to Join!!!!!! Rehearsals take place on most **Fridays** from **7.00pm - 9.00pm** in the **North Perth Lesser Town Hall**.

For more information on joining the Orchestra,  
Please contact orchestra at [www.guitarwa.com.au](http://www.guitarwa.com.au)

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### WHO IS THIS?



It's our Guitarist of the Month, of course!

Head on over to the CGSWA website to read an exclusive interview with this month's featured Guitar Society Orchestra member! ...and while you're there, why not have a look at some of our other links? There are guitars for sale, links to some of WA's best luthiers, and plenty of other guitar resources!

<http://www.guitarwa.com.au>

### MEMBERSHIP

Are you a member of the CGSWA yet? Or is it getting time to renew your membership? Download your Membership renewal form from the CGSWA website today!

### CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Email:** [contactus@guitarwa.com.au](mailto:contactus@guitarwa.com.au)

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