

# **WA Classical Guitar Ensemble Festival 2025**



**16 - 17**

**August  
2025**

**Carine Senior High School  
Performing Arts Centre**



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Education**  
**Instrumental Music School Services**



# At A Glance

## Ensemble Schedule - Performing Arts Centre

### Saturday 16 August

Session 1 - 8:30am - 10:30am  
Session 2 - 10:50am - 1:10pm  
Session 3 - 1:45pm - 3:10pm  
Session 4 - 3:30pm - 4:45pm

### Sunday 17 August

Session 5 - 8:30am - 10:30am  
Session 6 - 10:50am - 1:30pm  
Session 7 - 2:05pm - 4:20pm

## Soloist Schedule - Lecture Theatre

### Saturday 16 August

Session 1S - 10:45am - 11:45am  
Session 2S - 12:00pm - 1:05pm  
Session 3S - 1:35pm - 2:50pm  
Session 4S - 3:20pm - 4:20pm

### Sunday 17 August

Session 5S - 11:00am - 11:45am  
Session 6S - 1:00pm - 1:45pm

# The Classical Guitar Society of Western Australia

The Classical Guitar Society of WA was founded in 1960 to provide a vehicle for professional development, forums and master classes, a platform for performances of local, interstate and overseas artists, and the general promotion of the classical guitar throughout Western Australia. [www.guitarwa.com.au](http://www.guitarwa.com.au)

### Acknowledgements

This festival is able to take place because of the dedication of many volunteers and support groups. Thank you to:

- Classical Guitar Society committee
- The Instrumental Music School Services - Guitar Staff, Administration and Allied Professionals
- WA Academy of Performing Arts, Edith Cowan University
- Zenith Music
- Principals, staff and parents from participating schools
- Carine SHS Music Department and Music Parents' Support Group



# Adjudicators

## Dr Paul Svoboda

### Ensemble Adjudicator

Australian guitarist Dr Paul Svoboda graduated with First Class Honours from the University of Queensland in 1989, receiving the University Medal and the prize for Most Outstanding Music Graduate. In 1994, he earned his Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland. He has lectured in classical guitar at the Kuopio Conservatorium of Music and Dance (Finland) and later at the University of Queensland.

A prolific composer, Paul aims to expand the classical guitar repertoire with engaging works that blend tradition with a modern touch. His music is performed internationally, features in the AMEB syllabus, and is regularly broadcast on ABC Classic FM. Based in Brisbane, he founded successful guitar programs at Loreto and Villanova Colleges, directing award-winning ensembles.

In 2007, Paul established the Aurora Guitar Ensemble, which has released two CDs and performed at the Adelaide International Guitar Festival, where he also conducts the Festival Orchestra. Aurora has been praised by Slava and Leonard Grigoryan as “one of the finest guitar ensembles we’ve heard anywhere.”

Paul is in demand as an ensemble specialist, guest clinician, and commissioned composer, with recent works including *Time Goes On*, *Trailblazing*, and *From Behind A Waterfall*.



## Ermanno Brignolo

### Ensemble Adjudicator

Italian-Australian guitarist and composer Ermanno Brignolo began playing guitar in childhood, graduating cum laude in 2003 from the Conservatorium of Novara. He studied with Angelo Gilardino and Christian Saggese, and attended masterclasses with leading international guitarists.

Ermanno has performed across Europe, Asia, and Australia, presenting both classic works and lesser-known repertoire, with a focus on 20th- and 21st-century music. He has appeared for prestigious organisations including the Sydney Classical Guitar Society, Classical Guitar Society of Victoria, Canberra Classical Guitar Society, and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura. Praised for his clarity and interpretative depth, Tim Kain described his playing as “one of the clearest renditions of polyphony I have heard.”

His discography includes *Impressions from Grace*, featuring music improvised for his newborn daughter; *The Andrés Segovia Archive* (7-CD box, Brilliant Classics), hailed as “a milestone of the guitar discography”; *Platero y yo* with Minie Minarelli; and *Cahier des chansons anciennes no. 2* by Alfredo Franco.

A dedicated educator, Ermanno has taught seminars and masterclasses at institutions in Italy and Australia, and since 2019 has been guest professor at the Conservatorium of Novara. He is also a former critic for *Seicorde* magazine and holds a Mechanical Engineering degree from Politecnico di Torino.



## Ruth Lenz

### Soloist Adjudicator

Ruth Lenz (née Ebdon) has been described as “a fine guitarist, well equipped both in terms of technical facility and musical awareness.” She began her higher studies at the University of Western Australia under influential teacher John Casey, performing in numerous concerts during and after her degree and building a strong reputation as both a soloist and chamber musician.

Awarded a Churchill Fellowship, Ruth undertook postgraduate studies in London with guitarist Richard Wright. Three years later, she returned to the United Kingdom to collaborate with musicians in Wales and study with John Mills at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. She also participated in summer schools and masterclasses with leading guitarists.

Together with her husband Richard, they have formed DuoLenz, becoming one of Australia’s foremost classical guitarist duos, performing internationally and at prestigious festivals and events. The duo has appeared on television, received extensive radio airplay, and maintained a demanding performance schedule.

Ruth continues to perform, teach, and adjudicate widely. She has served as an examiner for the Australian Music Examinations Board, the School Curriculum and Standards Authority, and the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, cementing her influence on the next generation of musicians.



# Saturday 16 August

## Session 1 8:30am - 10:30am

### 8:30am Chiselm Catholic College Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Don Candy

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Tanya's Tango - *J. & P. Compton*

The Americas - *Perry*

### 8:40am Morley Senior High School Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Louisa Burton

**Division:** Junior Secondary

La Llarona - *Tyers*

Birds Of a Feather - *arr. Burton*

### 8:50am Harrisdale Senior High School Intermediate Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Michelle McDougall

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Processional - *Susato arr. Charlton*

Wongaling - *Svoboda*

### 9:00am Armadale Senior High School Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Karl Hiller

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Mirrors - *Roberts*

Apache Dreaming - *Lenz*

Magic Carpet - *Roberts*

### 9:10am Governor Stirling Senior High School Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Tanya Chapman

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Cool Bossa - *Svoboda*

Processional - *Susato arr. Charlton*

Partial Eclipse - *Charlton*

### 9:25am Harrisdale Senior High School Junior Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Adrian Phillips

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Apache Dreaming - *Lenz*

Cancion Del Mariachi - *Lobos arr. Winata*

### 9:35am Applecross Senior High School Junior Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Paul Hines

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Rock Candy - *Gray*

Rickety Jig - *Cracknell*

Mondo Rondo - *Svoboda*

### 9:45am Duncraig Senior High School Silver Guitars

**Director:** Sabina Ibrahimbegovic

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Habanera - *Bizet*

First Class Stomp - *Hasted*

The Magic Carpet - *Roberts*

### 10:00am Aveley Secondary College Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Chris Kotchie

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Rain Dance - *Hasted*

Paco De Lucia - *Perry*

Camels - *Arenstein*

### 10:10am Wesley College Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Don Candy

**Division:** Senior Secondary

Pop - *York*

Agua e Vinho - *Gismonti arr. Vilarinho*

Clocks - *Coldplay*

### 10:20am Joseph Banks Secondary College Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Jesse Milianku

**Division:** Primary

Thing 1 - *Bonini*

Mini Ballad - *Schulz*

### 10:30am - Refreshment Break

## Session 2 10:50am - 1:10pm

### 10:50am Mount Lawley Senior High School Junior Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Karl Hiller

**Division:** Junior Secondary

The Last of Us - *Santaolalla*

Fantasie d Espagne - *Svoboda*

Eyes in the Sky - *Roberts*

### 11:05am Shenton College Junior Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Tanya Chapman

**Division:** Junior Secondary

The Circle Tram - *Compton*

Musette - *Bach arr. Groeber, Hoge & Sanchez*

Hasta La Vista - *Lenz*

### 11:15am Hale School Senior Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Daniel Mijat

**Division:** Senior Secondary

Music for a While - *di Giandomenico*

I. Sketch 1

II. Sketch 3

Onk Akimel Landscape - *Lévesque*

### 11:30am Applecross Senior High School Senior Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Paul Hines

**Division:** Senior Secondary

Wongaling - *Svoboda*

Raindrops On Bingil - *Svoboda*

Gliding Over Garner's Beach - *Svoboda*

### 11:45am St Stephen's School Duncraig Primary Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Don Candy

**Division:** Primary

Australian Wetlands - *Perry arr. East*

Tanya's Tango - *J. & P. Compton*

Blues - *Nuttall*

### 11:55am Duncraig Senior High School Golden Guitars

**Director:** Sabina Ibrahimbegovic

**Division:** Senior Secondary

Heavy Metal Blues - *Svoboda*

Bongil Bongil Blues - *Svoboda*



**12:10pm Ashdale Secondary College Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Chris Kotchie  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
 Livewire - *Charlton*  
 La Cumparsita - *Rodriguez*  
 The Pink Panther - *Mancini*

**12:25pm Mount Lawley Senior High School Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Karl Hiller  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Regge Suite - *Roberts*  
 The Metamorphosis of Mick Maguire - *Traditional arr. Svoboda*

**12:45pm UWA Coonowrin Quartet**

**Director:** Dr Melissa Fitzgerald  
**Division:** Tertiary  
 Coonowrin - *Davidson*

**1:00pm St Stephen's School Duncraig Middle Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Don Candy  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
 The America's - *Perry*  
 Djilba - *Perry*  
 Viva la Vida - *Coldplay*

**1:10pm Break**

## Session 3

### 1:45pm - 3:10pm

**1:45pm Bob Hawke College Junior Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Nick Kostourkov  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
 "La Primavera" from the 'Spring' Concerto - *Vivaldi arr. Charlton*  
 Palms - *Monchaux arr. Keane*  
 Cool Bossa - *Svoboda*

**1:55pm Shenton College Intermediate Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Tanya Chapman  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Tutu Tango - *Hasted*  
 Minuet from Sonata No. 18 - *Schubert arr. Charlton*  
 Cool Bossa - *Svoboda*

**2:10pm Kelmscott Senior High School Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Karl Hiller  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Techno - *Kindle*  
 Echoes of Rain Shadows - *Svoboda*  
 Beyond the Door - *Roberts*

**2:25pm Melville Senior High School Senior Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Paul Hines  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Wongaling - *Svoboda*  
 Raindrops On Bingil - *Svoboda*  
 Gliding Over Garner's Beach - *Svoboda*

**2:40pm St Stephen's School Duncraig Senior Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Don Candy  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Brajamazil - *York*  
 Happy - *Pharell arr. Grigorescu*  
 Wild Mountain Thyme - *Folk arr. Levesque*

**2:55pm Bob Hawke College Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Nick Kostourkov  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Concerto in D major TWV 40:202 - *Telemann arr. Aragon*  
 I. Adagio and Allegro  
 Merengue - *Charlton*  
 Techno - *Kindle*

**3:10pm – Refreshment Break**

## Session 4

### 3:30pm - 4:45pm

**3:30pm Shenton College Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Tanya Chapman  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Samba Quica - *Wusthoff*  
 Tango Estampie - *Levesque*  
 Bongil Bongil Blues - *Svoboda*

**3:50pm Kelmscott Senior High School Junior Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Karl Hiller  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
 Castles in the Sand - *Roberts*  
 Viva Juhuy - *Traditional Andean arr. Charlton*  
 Cool Bossa - *Svoboda*

**4:05pm Melville Senior High School Junior Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Paul Hines  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
 Rock Candy - *Gray*  
 Rickety Jig - *Cracknell*  
 Mondo Rondo - *Svoboda*

**4:15pm St Stephen's School Duncraig Senior Guitar Ensemble 2**

**Director:** Don Candy  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Twangology - *Houghton*  
 Agua e Vinho - *Gismonti arr. Vilarinho*  
 Let's Take the Flip Side - *Hartog*

**4:30pm Leeming Senior High School Senior Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Nick Kostourkov  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
 Concerto in D major TWV 40:202 - *Telemann arr. Aragon*  
 I. Adagio and Allegro  
 Merengue - *Charlton*  
 Techno - *Kindle*

**4:45pm – Day 1 End**

Great music for guitar and related instruments every Sunday from 6 to 7 pm on PLUCKED STRINGS, radio RTRFM 92.1 or [rtrfm.com.au/shows/pluckedstrings](http://rtrfm.com.au/shows/pluckedstrings) for live stream, re-stream of previous shows and playlists.

# Sunday 17 August

## Session 5 8:30am - 10:30am

### 8:30am Carine Senior High School Guitar Ensemble 2

**Director:** Michelle McDougall  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Beautiful Guitar Vibes - *Powell*  
Cool Bossa - *Svoboda*

### 8:40am Carine Senior High School Guitar Ensemble 1

**Director:** Michelle McDougall  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
Wongaling - *Svoboda*  
Raindrops On Bingle - *Svoboda*  
Gliding Over Garners - *Svoboda*

### 8:55am Christ Church Grammar School Preparatory Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Jozef Grech  
**Division:** Primary  
Capricho Catalan - *Albeniz arr. Grech*  
On The Edge of Dreams - *Muro*  
Asturiana - *Lenz*

### 9:05am Aquinas College Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Hayden Burke  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Basse Danse - *Hassan*  
Dances of the Exotic, No. 1 - *Andy Hassan*

### 9:15am John Forrest Secondary College Senior Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Graham Hall  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
Journeys & Voyages - *Charlton*  
I. Over Inland Seas  
II. On the Trade Winds  
III. Along the Spice Route

### 9:30am Balcatta Senior High School Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Amy Nordsvan  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Processional - *Charlton*  
Circle Tram - *Compton*  
El Vuelo de la Cisne - *Compton*

### 9:40am Wanneroo Secondary College Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Justin Low  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
Blinding Lights - *The Weekend arr. Low*  
The Scientist - *Coldplay arr. Brady*  
Moondance - *Morrison arr. Polacchini*

### 9:55am Eastern Hills Senior High School Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Justin Lynam  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
Dangerous Curves - *Charlton*  
Paysage Iberique - *Levesque*  
Gliding Over Garner's Beach - *Svoboda*

### 10:10am Willetton Senior High School Senior Ensemble

**Director:** Joe Bonini  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
Arctic Renaissance - *Svoboda*  
The Green Glens of Gweedor - *Svoboda*  
Fundango - *Hasted*

### 10:30am Refreshment Break

## Session 6 10:50am - 1:30pm

### 10:50am Churchlands Senior High School - Fretwork One

**Director:** Richard Lenz  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
El Tuno - *Keane*  
Pulsar - *Lévesque*  
Gliding Over Garner's Beach - *Svoboda*

### 11:05am Christ Church Grammar School Senior Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Brendan Biddiss  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
Merengue - *Charlton*  
Riverside - *Obel arr. Biddiss*  
Soleares - *Kindle*

### 11:15am Ocean Reef Senior High School Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Amy Nordsvan  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Processional - *Charlton*  
Sweden (from Minecraft) - *C418*  
Dinorwig - *Compton*

### 11:25am Greenwood College Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Katy Hadfield  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Meridian - *Charlton*  
Comets - *Charlton*  
Cancion Del Mariachi - *Rosas arr. Charlton*

### 11:40am Helena College Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Jane Darcey  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Rhythm Of Life - *Coleman arr. Svoboda*  
Crazy Little Thing Called Love - *Queen arr. Svoboda*

### 11:55am Christ Church Grammar School Senior Guitar Quartet

**Director:** Brendan Biddiss  
**Division:** Senior Secondary  
Milonga de Dolores - *Palacios arr. Burucua*  
Ave Maria, Op. 52 No.6 - *Schubert arr. Garcia*  
Nebulae - *Amelkina-Vera*

### 12:10pm Churchlands Senior High School - Fretwork Two

**Director:** Richard Lenz  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Fantasie L'Espagne - *Svoboda*  
The River Flows in You - *Yiruma arr. Jones*  
Livewire - *Charlton*

### 12:25pm Perth Modern School Junior Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Graham Hall  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Triptych in Blue - *Svoboda*

### 12:40pm Ballajura Community College Classical Guitar Ensemble

**Director:** Sabina Ibrahimbegovic  
**Division:** Junior Secondary  
Julio - *van der Staak*  
Snowflakes - *van der Staak*  
Meridian - *Charlton*

**12:55pm Ellenbrook Secondary College Junior Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Justin Low

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Partial Eclipse - *Charlton*

Blinding Lights - *The Weekend arr. Low*

Billie Jean - *Michael Jackson arr. Graves*

**1:10pm Woodvale Secondary College Presents: The Svoboda-lutely Strung-Out Seniors**

**Director:** Katy Hadfield

**Division:** Senior Secondary

Cancion Del Mariachi - *Rosas arr. Charlton*

Echoes of Rain Shadows - *Svoboda*

Green Glens of Gweedor - *Svoboda*

**1:30pm Break**

**Session 7**  
**2:05pm - 4:20pm**

**2:05pm Belridge Secondary College Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Kylie Walpole

**Division:** Junior Secondary

First Encounters - *Charlton*

Livewire - *Charlton*

Smells Like Teen Spirit - *Cobain, Novoselic & Grohl*

**2:20pm UWA Fille de Cuivre Quartet**

**Director:** Dr Jonathan Fitzgerald

**Division:** Tertiary

Fille de Cuivre - *Côté-Giguère*

**2:35pm Perth Modern School Senior Classical Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Graham Hall

**Division:** Senior Secondary

Indie - *Kindle*

Here, There and Everywhere - *McCartney arr. Kindle*

Dreams & Dances on Moreton Bay - *Charlton*

**2:50pm Dianella Secondary College Junior Ensemble**

**Director:** Katy Hadfield

**Division:** Junior Secondary

No Limits - *Svoboda*

Autumn Leaves - *Svoboda*

Summer Rock - *Svoboda*

**3:00pm UWA Opals Ensemble**

**Director:** Dr Melissa Fitzgerald

**Division:** Tertiary

Opals - *Houghton*

**3:15pm Ellenbrook Secondary College Senior Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Justin Low

**Division:** Senior Secondary

Sapphire Beach - *Svoboda*

Nothing Else Matters - *Metallica arr. Low*

I Feel Good - *James Brown arr. Langer*

**3:30pm Ridge View Secondary College Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Kylie Walpole

**Division:** Junior Secondary

Fiesta - *Lenz*

Slidin' Around - *Binsted*

Merengue - *Charlton*

**3:40pm WAAPA Plectra Guitar Ensemble**

**Director:** Jonathan Paget

**Division:** Tertiary

Nyinggulu! - *Skarratt*

Estudiantina - *Waldteufel arr. Gardiner*

Ballade du Fou - *Cottin*

**3:55pm UWA Gnattali Duo**

**Director:** Jonathan Fitzgerald

**Division:** Tertiary

Suite Retratos - *Gnattali*

IV. Chiquinha Gonzaga (Corta Jaca) - *Gnattali*

**4:05pm Classical Guitar Society Orchestra**

**Director:** Jane Darcey

**Division:** Community

Jubilation - *Laurenson*

Sheebeg & Sheemore - *Traditional arr. Perris*

Four Guitars Dancing - *Darcey*

Beams - *Preset arr. Grantham*

# Ensemble Photographs

*Pro Photo Booth* is photographing ensembles at the conclusion of each performance.

Galleries and ordering are available in person at the festival (Room L1.4) or online at:  
[www.prophotobooth.com.au](http://www.prophotobooth.com.au)

Follow the links and use the password **guitar25**  
[prophotoboothadam@gmail.com](mailto:prophotoboothadam@gmail.com)



**For Copyright and Privacy reasons, please do not film or photograph the performances.**

# Food and Refreshments

*Canteen Kings* are providing food and refreshments throughout the duration of the event. They will be open 30 minutes prior to the start of each session.

Please visit the Canteen next door. Card and Cash facilities available.

**A reminder that no food or drink is to be consumed in the auditorium.**



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