



I. René Izquierdo

Engaging the Mind and the Heart

Cuban-born René Izquierdo is a unique artist and passionate educator whose career has been dedicated to inspiring individuals and connecting communities. Whether performing on stage, devotedly mentoring his students, fundraising or leading community outreach, René's multi-faceted approach endeavors to continue creating experiences that enrich people's lives and add beauty to our world.

Through his "unforgettable versatility, sensitivity and sublime musicianship" (*Classical Guitar Magazine*), René has firmly established himself as one of the world's classical guitar virtuosos. He is celebrated for his ability to weave and unparalleled technical command of his instrument with his gift of storytelling, creating an intimate musical experience with his audience.

He has performed to critical acclaim in over seventy engagements per year as a solo performer, chamber musician or guest soloist with full orchestras throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia, including stages such as New York's Carnegie Hall, Manaus Opera House (Brazil) and National Recital Hall in Taiwan. Through his discography, René seeks to expand the guitar repertoire frequently performing new arrangements, lesser-known music of the 20th century as well as world premieres of concertos and new compositions.

As an educator, René is passionate about engaging the mind and the heart. Through his teachings worldwide he shares his belief that the greatest musicians not only have the technical mastery to communicate effectively but also are deeply curious, and equally adept at analytical and emotional thinking.

II. Open Mic

William Simcoe

Tropico

Manuel M. Ponce (1882–1948)

Kim Kramer

Minuet I and II from Cello Suite No. 1, BWV 1007

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Sosin Karer

Arroyos de la Alhambra

Ángel Barrios (1882–1964)

Suite Populaire Bresilienne: No. 1 Mazurka-Choro

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887–1959)

Elizabeth Coleman

Preludio No. 2, *Sencillo*, and *Pueblernino*

Raphael Landestoy (1925–2018)

What a Wonderful World

Bob Thiele (1922–1996) and George David Weiss (1921–2010)

(arr. Howard Heitmeyer)

Andrew Pearson

An Ambient Tale: A tone poem based on Gnossienne #1 by Erik Satie

Andrew Pearson

Melody for Three Fingers

Samantha Wells

Andante from Violin Sonata No. 2, BWV 1003

Johann Sebastian Bach

Michael Vascones

Sonata "Omaggio a Boccherini": I. Allegro con spirito

Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco (1895–1968)