

New York City Classical Guitar Society

January 11, 2024

I. Ben Verdery

I always wanted to play Leonard Bernstein and now I can

Ben Verdery will discuss his arrangement of the Bernstein Sonata for Clarinet and Piano, which he arranged for guitar and string quartet.

Hailed for his innovative and eclectic musical career, Benjamin Verdery tours regularly throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia, performing at major venues and festivals. As a recording artist, Verdery has released more than 17 albums, some featuring works composed especially for him, by Martin Bresnick, Roberto Sierra, Aaron Jay Kernis, Hannah Lash, Christopher Theofanidis, Ezra alderman, Bryce Dessner, Ingram Marshall and others. Verdery has recorded and performed with scores of diverse artists, including Andy Summers, Leo Kottke, Anthony Newman, Jessye Norman, Herman Prey, Paco Peña, John Williams, hip-hop artist Billy Dean Thomas, Jiji, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet.

A prolific, published composer, many of Verdery's compositions have been performed or recorded by artists that include John Williams, David Russell, the Assad Duo, Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, and Guitar Trek. He has been commissioned to compose works for solo guitar, duo, large ensembles, and film.

Since 1985, Verdery has been guitar professor at the Yale School of Music. From 2007 to 2019 he served as Artistic Director of 92NY's Art of the Guitar series, and has been producer of his Maui Summer Master Class since 1999.

II. Open Mic

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Lullaby for Suleiman Maria Linnemann (b. 1947)
Skerries Andrew York (b. 1958)

Harvey Freed

Gymnopédie No. I Erik Satie (1866–1925)
La Muerte Eduardo Sainz de le Maze (1903–1982)

William Simcoe

Milongueo del Ayer
A flor de llanto
Te Vas Milonga
Abel Fleury (1903–1958)

Olson/De Cari Duo

Gioia De Cari, soprano, and John Olson, guitar
Shenandoah

Traditional, arr. Frederic Hand