



## I. Brian Itzkin, Luthier

*Spanish Guitar-Making in Keeping with the Granada School*

**Long Island–based luthier Brian Itzkin will discuss the legacy of Spanish guitar construction in the style of the Granada school. Brian will discuss his first-hand experience studying traditional building methods while training and working as a luthier in Andalusia.**

Itzkin began his adventure in lutherie as a young teenager in Long Island, New York. Starting guitar lessons at age 8 and inspired by his father’s woodshop, he crafted his first acoustic guitar from a C.F. Martin & Co. kit at age 13. After two years of college (where he momentarily pursued an English degree), he studied lutherie under Stephen Hill in Granada, Spain. This experience ignited his passion for the classical guitar. Brian has now been building guitars full-time for two years.

Brian has been profoundly influenced by legendary Spanish maker Antonio de Torres and the lesser-known Vicente Arias. “I tend to blend a 19th-century aesthetic with a modern tonal range,” he said. “I want my guitars to present a unified appearance where each detail complements the whole, and I believe they sound quite good as well.”

Brian’s work is rooted in traditional techniques but isn’t limited to them. For example, he has been designing a double-top guitar that incorporates cutting-edge materials like Italian Alpine spruce and aerospace-grade composite honeycomb. Furthermore, Itzkin prioritizes ethically sourced and often recycled woods, like repurposed furniture. “Alternative materials also tend to be more affordable, which benefits the client,” he says.

## II. Open Mic

### **Matt Kaplan**

Two Barcarolles, Op. 60  
*El dialogo eterno* (in memoriam Jacques Derrida)  
from *Trois Nouvelles Études*

Francis Kleynjans (b. 1951)  
Leo Brouwer (b. 1939)

### **John Merrill**

Minuetto in A major, Op. 11, No. 6

Fernando Sor (1778–1839)

### **Xavier Chavarro**

*Gymnopédie No. 1*

Erik Satie (1866–1925)

### **Duo Bona Fide**

Lazara Luisa Diaz and Carlos Vazquez, guitars  
*Varieties of Scotch*

John W. Duarte (1919–2004)