

PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce its

Annual EuroStrings Conference

hosted this year by Uppsala International Guitar Festival

14–15 November 2020

featuring

two performances and two lectures which offer both information and an opportunity to reflect on the experiences of the member festivals during the international Covid-19 pandemic

Saturday 14 November 2020

Official Welcome by Klaus Pontvik,

Executive Director of Uppsala International Guitar Festival

and an opportunity for Partners (only) to have a ‘**virtual**’ **hangout via Zoom** at 11.00

Lectures

‘Creative Tools for Music Teachers in a Community Perspective’

– A practical and theoretical approach by **Matthias Zloto**, Buenos Aires, at 11.30–12.30

‘Covid Performance and Quality Control’

– Italy vs Sweden: different approaches to performances during COVID-19 pandemic by

Michele Libraro and Klaus Pontvik, at 12.30–13.30

Performances

HOMAGE TO SERGIO ASSAD

Orchestra: EuroStrings Artists and guitarist from Malmo Academy of Music

Conducted by **Christian Karlsen**, on **Saturday 14 November 2020**, at 13.45–14.45

winner of the 2019 Second EuroStrings Guitar Competition

Mateusz Kowalski, on **Sunday 15 November 2020**, 15.00–17.00

events open to the public will be **streamed via Facebook and YouTube**

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Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union

www.eurostrings.eu

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As part of winning First Prize, **Mateusz Kowalski** has since embarked on an international concert tour in Europe, America and Asia, where he is being received with critical acclaim. Mateusz Kowalski has been winning prizes in international guitar competitions over the past few years and is now emerging as a star on the international concert platform.

Born in Koszalin, Poland in 1995, Mateusz started learning guitar at the age of seven. He went on to study with Ryszard Bałauszko at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, where he graduated with honours. Since October 2019, he has been teaching at The Frederic Chopin University of Music in Warsaw. He was awarded a scholarship winner by the Polish KFnRD and Ministry of Culture and National Heritage programme 'Young Poland'. Mateusz recorded his debut CD, *Mateusz Kowalski Classical Guitarist*, in 2018 with the Polish label CD Accord, distributed by NAXOS.

About the EuroStrings Artists

The EuroStrings Artists are a selected group of young professionals, winners of international competitions of the festivals that are members of the EuroStrings Platform. These Artists are awarded a year-long touring programme, focusing on festival visits within Europe, following a carefully curated programme, including the creation of audience development opportunities – the EuroStrings Curriculum.

For full **EuroStrings Artists profiles**, visit: <https://eurostrings.eu/young-stars/eurostrings-artists-of-2019-2020/>

The **Partners' meeting** is on **Sunday 15 November 2020**, 15.00–17.00

(This is closed to the public)

EuroStrings is a **platform of European guitar festivals**, led by Zagreb Guitar Festival. As the **first such platform** to be established, it is ever expanding: having started with an initial 14 member festivals in 2018, it now has **17 member festivals in 2020**. The project is co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union and is the first guitar project ever to receive such funding. EuroStrings also has **partners in America and China**, making it a truly **global project**.

Contact

EuroStrings

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