

PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce

17th London Guitar Festival

21–24 October 2021

featuring

Ana Vidović and Sean Shibe

and

FOUR 2020/2021 EuroStrings Artists:

François-Xavier Dangremont, France

Filip Mišković, Croatia

Cristina Galletto, Italy

Álvaro Toscano, Spain

as well as

Lovro Peretić, Croatia

– Winner of the Third EuroStrings Guitar Competition

Lovro Peretić was born in Zagreb in 1995 and began his guitar studies with Xhevdet Sahatxhija. Later, he graduated from the Academy of Music in Zagreb, where he studied with Darko Petrinjak. He has been successful in many national and international competitions. He has represented Croatia in many important festivals such as the Vladimir Spivakov International Foundation's festival in Moscow and the European Union of Music Competitions for Youth's Young Hearts for Music in Austria and Germany. He also regularly performs in his duo with violinist Katarina Kutnar and in the guitar trio Evocación. He has performed as a soloist with the Croatian Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra, Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra, and Zagreb Soloists, among others. Lovro was awarded the Dean's and Rector's prizes of the University of Zagreb.

Concerts

Thursday, 21 October 2021

Cristina Galletto and François-Xavier Dangremont – Kings Place, St Pancras Room, 13.00

Lovro Peretić – Kings Place, Hall Two, 19.30

Friday, 22 October 2021

Álvaro Toscano and Filip Mišković – Kings Place, St Pancras Room, 13.00

Sunday 24 October 2021

Outreach Session with schoolchildren from Haringey Music Service with **EuroStrings Artists**, 12.30–15.30

Masterclasses

Sunday 24 October 2021

Ana Vidović in masterclasses with **EuroStrings Artists** – Kings Place, St Pancras Room, 9.30–12.30

About the EuroStrings Artists

EuroStrings Artists are a group of young professional guitarists, who are the laureates of the international competitions organised by the 17 EuroStrings platform members' guitar festivals. They are invited to take part in the EuroStrings Exchange Programme, which is delivered through the EuroStrings Curriculum. The EuroStrings Exchange Programme was created for EuroStrings Artists to help them to develop professional careers as classical guitarists.

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François-Xavier Dangremont began playing guitar at the Le Mans Conservatory in Brigitte Palisson's class, with whom he obtained his Diplôme d'étude musicale (DEM). After having followed a specialised course with Tania Chagnot at Hay-les-Roses, he entered Judicaël Perroy's class at the Pôle d'enseignement supérieur de Lille (ESMD). In 2017, he obtained his diplomas in musicology, performance (DNSPM) and pedagogy (DE). Eager to develop as an interpreter, he participated in several international competitions, winning First Prize at: the Concours International de Carry-le-Rouet in 2017, in France; Concurso Internacional de Guitarra 'Ciudad de Coria', in Spain in 2018; and at Kutna Hora International Biennial Guitar Competition, in Czechia in 2019; and Second Prize at: the Amarante International Guitar Competition, in 2018, in Portugal, the Alberto Ponce International Competition, in France, and the Forum Gitarre Wien International Competition, in Austria; as well as Third Prize at the Koblenz International Guitar Competition, in Germany. In 2020, he began teaching at the Conservatoire de Grenoble and also organises a guitar workshop at the Carlton Hotel in Lille, with Raphaël Feuillâtre and Antoine Fougeray.

Cristina Galletto is a 20-year-old classical guitarist from Naples in Italy, whose guitar playing has taken her to many countries in Europe, where she has given concerts, participated in masterclasses with artists such as Aniello Desiderio and Carlo Marchione. Among the numerous international competitions that she has won, the highlights include winning First Prizes at: Rago International Guitar Competition in Stuttgart, International Competition for Young Guitarists 'Andrés Segovia' in Monheim am Rhein and the Uppsala International Guitar Festival competition in Sweden. She began her musical studies at the age of seven with his father, a guitar teacher and then attended the Music High School 'Margherita di Savoia' in Naples studying with Enzo Amat. She completed her studies at the Conservatory of Music 'San Pietro a Majella' of Naples and the Conservatory of Music 'Domenico Cimarosa' in Avellino in the class of Lucio Matarazzo with honours and a special mention and is currently studying with Paolo Pegoraro and Lukasz Kuropaczewski at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst, in Graz.

Filip Mišković was born in Split, Croatia, in 2002. At the age of nine, he started his guitar studies at the Music School 'Josip Hatze', Kaštela with Vicko Novak and, in 2013, he continued with Maroje Brčić. At 17, two years

earlier than usual, he began studying at the Academy of Music, University of Zagreb, where is now in his second year, studying with Darko Petrinjak. Filip Mišković has won First Prize in more than 40 guitar competitions, including Anna Amalia Competition for Young Guitarists in Weimar, Rago International Guitar Competition in Stuttgart and the International Guitar Competition for Young Guitarists 'Andres Segovia' in Monheim am Rhein; he won Second Prize in the Senior Division of the GFA Annual International Youth Competition in Miami 2019. In the open age category, he won First Prize at the Poreč Fest Competition and Second Prize in the Zagreb Guitar Festival Competition. As a soloist, Filip Mišković has performed a Vivaldi *Concerto* with 'I Giovani Solisti' from the USA, conducted by Emmet Drake, and Castelnuovo-Tedesco's *Guitar Concerto* with Croatian National Theatre Orchestra in Split, conducted by Gianna Fratta. The Ministry of Science, Education and Sports awarded him five 'Oscars of Knowledge'. In 2019, he was given the title 'Splitski pupoljak' as a rising star in Split and, in 2020, he received the Rector's Prize from the University of Zagreb.

The musical qualities of the classical guitarist **Álvaro Toscano** have been endorsed by his winning of more than 15 international awards, among which are First Prize at: 96th Concurso Permanente de Juventudes Musicales of Spain and Festival International de Guitarra de Guimarães in Portugal. He is also proud to have won several 'Audience' prizes that reflect his immense communication skills as a musician. Apart from his solo work, Álvaro Toscano was the soloist with the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra performing music by Enrique Baños. In ensemble, he has also performed with the F.I.P Guadalquivir Ensemble and the Leonor Quartet, among others, and premièred *Proserpina* and *Brumas del Guadalquivir* by Antonio Blanco Tejero at the Teatro Góngora in Cordoba. Álvaro Toscano has offered more than 70 recitals throughout Europe, highlights include his participation in the Szeged International Guitar Festival in Hungary, International Festival of Guitar José Tomás Villa de Petrer, Lope de Vega Theatre in Seville and International Guitar Festival 'Ciudad de Coria', in Cáceres. He also offers recitals in unusual venues such as 'Sofar Sounds', trying to bring classical music closer to all kinds of public. His 2021 programme, titled 'The Cosmic Guitar', comprises music based on ethereal, spatial and natural themes by Frederic Mompou, Antonio Blanco Tejero, Vicente Asencio and Marco Smaili.

For full EuroStrings Artists profiles, visit: <https://eurostrings.eu/young-stars/eurostrings-artists-of-2020-2021/>

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EuroStrings Scholarship

To help young people of modest means study the guitar in an international context, EuroStrings has developed an annual scholarship programme for young guitar students. Every EuroStrings platform festival gives one scholarship. The scholarship includes entry to all festival concerts, lectures and masterclasses as well as participation in the festival's international competition. The **EuroStrings Scholarship** to attend the **17th London Guitar Festival** has been awarded to the young British guitarist **Tom O'Neil**.

Tom O'Neil is a second-year music student studying classical guitar at Trinity Laban Conservatoire. He is originally from Cumbria, where he began playing the guitar from the age of 9. After only five years, he achieved his Grade 8 guitar, and then gained a further three diplomas (ARSM and ATCL, 2019) and then (LTCL in, 2020).

For more details on of **EuroStrings Scholarships**, see: <https://eurostrings.eu/eurostrings-scholarships/>

About EuroStrings

EuroStrings is the first platform of European guitar festivals, led by Zagreb Guitar Festival and ever expanding with an initial 14 member festivals in 2018 and reaching 17 member festivals in 2021; with three Associate Festivals also added in 2021 as well as Affiliate Partners around the world, including the Americas and China, making it a truly global project. 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. Each member festival also stages an international guitar competition.

EuroStrings website: <https://eurostrings.eu>

About the London Guitar Festival

The London Guitar Festival is one of four or five annual festivals, which the International Guitar Foundation (IGF) presents in the UK, alongside concert series, summer schools and outreach projects in the community. IGF is a charitable organisation (non-profit) founded in May 1994. Its work is defined by the LISTEN.PLAY.CREATE programme, which features the guitar as the ideal vehicle for diverse and accessible concert and festival programming (Listen), participatory music making (Play) and an extensive new music commissioning programme (Create).

IGF stages a range of events nationwide including festivals in London, the North East (Newcastle and Gateshead) and South East. IGF commissions and commissions mainstream composers including Terry Riley, Max Richter, Kevin Volans, Léo Brouwer, Sérgio Assad, Paolo Bellinati, Howard Shore and others. IGF programmes include the Young Artist and Aspire Platforms, which offer performance opportunities to young guitarists as well as to established artists such as Cook and Daniela Rossi.

- **Tom Kerstens' G Plus Ensemble** – Kings Place, Hall Two (Thursday, 21 October 2021, 19.30)
- **Sean Shibe** – Kings Place, Hall One (Friday, 22 October 2021, 19.30)
- **Flamenco Pasión: Dani de Morón and Patricia Guerrero** – Kings Place, Hall Two (Friday, 22 October 2021, 19.30)
- Young Artist Platform: **Emanuele Addis, Bradley Johnson and Sergiu Hudrea** – Kings Place, St Pancras Room (Saturday, 23 October 2021, 12.00)
- Young Artist Platform: **Marco Carta and Alexander Hart** – Kings Place, St Pancras Room (Saturday, 23 October 2021, 14.00)
- **Kevin Loh** – Kings Place, Hall One (Saturday, 23 October 2021, 18.30)
- **Ana Vidović** – Kings Place, Hall One (Saturday, 23 October 2021, 19.30)
- **Final** of London International Guitar Competition 2021 (Saturday, 23 October 2021, 17.00)
- **La Leona: Women and the Guitar: Katalin Koltai, Shannon-Latoyah Simon and Clark-Hudrea Duo** – Kings Place, St Pancras Room (Sunday, 24 October 2021, 15.30)
- **La Leona: Women and the Guitar: Panel Discussion** with composers and guitarists, led by Thérèse Wassily Saba – Kings Place, St Pancras Room (Sunday, 24 October 2021, 13.30)

For the **complete London Guitar Festival 2021 programme**, please visit www.igf.org.uk

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