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EUROPEAN GUITAR
FESTIVAL COLLABORATIVE



EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce

www.eurostrings.com

International Guitar Festival Rust 2020
International Guitar Competition ‘Alirio Díaz’
5–9 April 2020

in Seehof, Rust and Vienna in Austria

will feature *SIX* EuroStrings Artists:

www.eurostrings.com

Gala Concert at the Musikverein, Vienna

Thursday 9 April 2020

Dávid Fellegi, Hungary

Agustín Nazzetta, Argentina

Pablo Menéndez, Spain

Cassie Martin, France

Luis Alejandro García, Spain

with Gabriel Guillén

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Mettallener Saal, Musikverein, Vienna, 20.00

and

Mateusz Kowalski, Poland

winner of the

2019 Second EuroStrings Guitar Competition

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. *Classical Guitar Magazine* describes him as a ‘spectacular’ musician with ‘truly breathtaking’ interpretations. 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.

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EuroStrings Scholarship

EuroStrings offers the opportunity for a young guitarist of modest means to attend one of the **17 EuroStrings festivals**, where in addition to attending concerts, they participate in workshops, masterclasses and outreach activities. There will be one talented young guitarist attending the **International Guitar Festival Rust 2020** as part of the **EuroStrings Scholarship Programme**.

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 member guitar festivals. They are invited to take part in the year-long carefully curated EuroStrings Exchange Programme, which is delivered through the EuroStrings Curriculum.

Born in 1995 in Pécs, Hungary, **Dávid Fellegi** started studying the guitar at the age of eight. After winning a number of competitions, he studied at the High School of Arts of Pécs with Tamás Straub, where he also showed an interest in composition. In 2014, he commenced his studies at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music with András Csáki and József Eötvös, completing both his Bachelor's degree with honours and his Masters. Dávid's interests cover both classical and jazz music. As a composer, he won First Prize and the 'Special Prize for Best Composition' at the 2019 International Guitar Contest of Szeged. Dávid premiered his own *Sonata Fantasy* for solo guitar in November 2018; and the Venti Chiavi Guitar Trio premiered his *Mixations* in October 2016.

Luis Alejandro García, who was born in Tenerife in 1993, has won more than 20 national and international awards. He won First Prize at: the Concurso del XXIII Festival Internacional de Guitarra de Coria, Spain in 2019, 47th Concurso Internacional de Guitarra

Fernando Sor in Madrid in 2019 and the 'Miquel Llobet' Certamen Internacional de Guitarra in Barcelona in 2017, among many others. In 2018, he released his first CD, *Lazos sobre el Atlántico* (JSM Guitar Records). He is a member of Canary Guitar Quartet, who have also released their first recording, called *21*. In October 2019, he made his debut as a soloist at the Palau de la Música Catalana in Barcelona and will perform with the National Radio and Television Orchestra of Spain (ORTVE) at the Teatro Monumental, in April 2020. For 2020, he has concert tours in the USA, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and in Europe.

Cassie Martin started playing the guitar at the age of five. By the age of nine, she started to win prizes in competitions. More recently, she won First Prize at: the International Guitar Competition in Béarn, at the Roland Dyens-Révélation International Competition *Classical Guitar Magazine* in 2018, and at the International Competition in Carry-le-Rouet. Presently,

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she divides her time between the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse in Paris, where she studies with Olivier Chassain, and performing, which is her absolute pleasure, with repertoire ranging from early to contemporary music.

Pablo Menéndez was born in 1992 in Asturias, Spain and started playing guitar at the age of ten. He completed his Bachelor's degree with Marco Socías in San Sebastian, and obtained his Masters 'cum laude' after studying with Carlo Marchione at the Conservatorium Maastricht in the Netherlands. He also studies orchestral conducting. He has won prizes in several international music competitions and has given solo concerts in Spain, Germany, the Netherlands and Italy. He recorded a CD of nineteenth-century Spanish music with tenor Joaquín Pixán and pianist Mario Bernardo. Pablo combines his concert activity with

teaching at the Conservatorio Nacional Superior de Música in Córdoba, Spain.

Born in 1990 in Argentina, **Agustín Nazzetta**, obtained a Bachelor's degree in music from the National Arts University Institute (IUNA) Department of Musical Arts 'Carlos López Buchardo', studying with Javier Bravo. In 2012, he moved to Salzburg to pursue a Masters at the Universität Mozarteum with María Isabel Siewers. He currently studies in Basel, Switzerland with Pablo Márquez. He won First Prize at both the Incontri Chitarristici di Gargnano in Italy and the International Guitar Festival Rust 2019 in Austria. In addition to his career as a soloist, his interest in contemporary music has led him to work with young composers, ensembles and conductors.

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

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EuroStrings is proud to be a part of the International Guitar Festival Rust from 5–9 April 2020. 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**.

The featured artists at the **International Guitar Festival Rust 2020** are:

- **Inaugural Concert:** with soloists **Senio Diaz, Gabriel and Diana Guillén**, and the **IGR String Quartet and Oskar Marijan** (flute) (Sunday 5 April 2020, 19.30)
- **Christian Lavernier, Giovanni Grano and Simone Onnis** (Monday 6 April 2020, 19.30)
- **Carlo Marchione, Sun Xuan Xuan and Mateusz Kowalski** (Tuesday 7 April 2020, 19.30)
- Prizegiving for the **International Guitar Competition ‘Alirio Diaz’** with the Burgenland Guitar Orchestra lead by Hans-Peter Gatterer and conducted by Hans-Wilhelm Kaufmann, also featuring the flamenco guitarist **Juan Lorenzo** (Wednesday 8 April 2020, 19.30)

For the **complete programme**, please visit www.guitarfestivalrust.at/

About International Guitar Festival Rust and the International Guitar Competition ‘Alirio Diaz’

The International Guitar Festival Rust was founded by Gabriel Guillén in 1999. Since then, the festival has grown into one of the most important guitar festivals in Europe. Initially, the festival was dedicated to international composer, tutor and journalist John W. Duarte, who passed away in 2005. Now, the International Guitar Festival Rust is dedicated to the memory of the virtuoso Venezuelan guitarist Alirio Diaz, who died in 2016. Rust’s International Guitar Competition is judged by a panel of Austrian and international experts. In 2017, a composition competition for the promotion of classical guitar music was held for the first time. It was a great success with more than 40 contributions from composers from all over the world. The Artistic Directors are now Gabriel Guillén and Jovan Pesec with the son of Alirio Diaz, Senio Alirio Diaz, as its Honorary Artistic Director.

Contact



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International Guitar Festival Rust

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