

PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce the

18th UPPSALA INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL 2021

14–16 October 2021

and featuring **FOUR 2020/2021 EuroStrings Artists:**

Cristina Galletto, Italy

Jack Hancher, UK

Filip Mišković, Croatia

Álvaro Toscano, Spain

and

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

Lovro Peretić ([14 October 2021, 12.00](#))

Cristina Galletto ([15 October 2021, 12.00](#))

Stefan Löfvenius's ensemble with EuroStrings Artists ([16 October 2021, 12.00](#))

Masterclasses and Workshops

with **Roberto Aussel** ([14 October 2021, 10.15am](#))

with **Roger Tallroth** ([14 October 2021, 1pm](#))

with **Jacob Kellermann** ([15 October 2021, 10.15am](#))

Roberto Aussel: 'My Collaboration with Astor Piazzolla' ([16 October 2021, 1pm](#))

EuroStrings Artists' Outreach Work

Workshop with by **Matias Zloto**: Tools for Outreach work in schools ([10 October 2021](#))

Outreach work in schools together with **Matias Zloto** ([11–13 October 2021](#))

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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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.

Jack Hancher is an award-winning classical guitarist. He completed his Master in Performance at the Royal College of Music (RCM), London in 2018 where he studied with Gary Ryan and Chris Stell and won the RCM Guitar Award 2014 while still in his second year as an undergraduate. In 2020, Jack Hancher won First Prize at both the Zagreb Guitar Festival Competition and the Plovdiv GuitArt Festival Competition. He was also awarded Fourth Prize at the Changsha International Guitar Competition 2020. In 2015, in duo with the guitarist Haydn Bateman, he performed for the IGF Aspire Stage Concert at Kings Place, and later that year as a soloist at Proms at St Jude’s performing music by Rodrigo, Piazzolla and Houghton. In 2017, he was accepted onto the International Guitar Foundation (IGF) Young Artists Platform, and performed at the IGF London Guitar Festival at Kings Place in October that year. Jack Hancher made his debut at Wigmore Hall, London, in July 2018, performing his arrangements of Albeniz’s piano music and at the Cheltenham Contemporary Arts Festival with music by Arnold, Britten and Dowland. He has performed in European venues such as the Großer Ehrbar Saal, Vienna and the Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi, Turin.

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** has 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 Internacional 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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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 Uppsala International Guitar Festival 2021

The Uppsala International Guitar Festival 2021 presents Swedish artists, Swedish music and Swedish-built instruments – a manifestation of Swedish musicians and Swedish music. It feels especially important to highlight and support the Swedish artists this year. Although we are only allowed to gather 50 people per concert, the good (and big) news is that we are making a big investment in a live broadcast, which makes the festival accessible to many more at:

<https://www.dramatix.tv/uppsalagitarrfestival>

‘We need the inspiration and energy of each other, more than ever. And we need to meet! Uppsala International Guitar Festival has for the past 17 years been an important meeting place for people and music. Even if we make it in a limited form, culture must be allowed to take place, be heard and seen in the public space.’

Klaus Pontvik, *Festival Director*

About Uppsala International Guitar Festival

Uppsala International Guitar Festival is the most influential guitar event in Scandinavia. A meeting place for music celebration and learning, international artists such as John Williams, Paco de Lucia, LAGQ, Anabel Montesinos, Anoushka Shankar, David Russell, Duo Assad, Manuel Barrueco, Leo Brouwer and Vicente Amigo are all part of its story. The Festival, which organises an annual International Young Talent Competition, masterclasses and workshops, as well as open forums and a guitar fair, was founded by Executive Director Klaus Pontvik in 2003.

Contact

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