



EUROPEAN GUITAR
FESTIVAL COLLABORATIVE



PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce

HARMONIA CORDIS INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL 2020

8–13 September 2020

The 15th Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Festival 2020 in the two cities of

Târgu-Mureş and in Odorheiu Secuiesc, Romania,

will feature **SIX EuroStrings Artists:**

Nino D’Amico, Italy
Jonas Egholm, Denmark
Cassie Martin, France
Flavio Nati, Italy

Radu Vâlcu, Romania
and
Mateusz Kowalski, Poland
*winner of the 2019 Second EuroStrings Guitar
Competition*

Concerts

Tuesday 8 September 2020

Mateusz Kowalski,

will play in the **Opening Concert** at medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureş, 19.00

Wednesday 9 September 2020

Radu Vâlcu performs the

Première of *Insomnia* by Andrei Petrace

First prize in the Harmonia Cordis National Composers Competition

EuroStrings Artist 2018/2019

Nino D’Amico and **Flavio Nati** at Little St. Teresa Roman Catholic Church, Odorheiu Secuiesc, 19.30

Friday 11 September 2020

Nino D’Amico and **Flavio Nati** at medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureş, 19.00

Cassie Martin and **Jonas Egholm** at Little St. Teresa Roman Catholic Church, Odorheiu Secuiesc, 19.30

Saturday 12 September 2020

Cassie Martin and **Jonas Egholm** at medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureş, 19.00

FINALS of the **Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Competition**
with **6 finalists** from **6 different countries**

Press Release 1/3



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

www.eurostrings.eu

PRESS RELEASE

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.

Nino D'Amico was born in Naples in 1997. He began studying classical guitar at the age of 12 with his father, and then with Marco Caiazza preparing for entry to the Conservatorio di San Pietro a Majella in Naples, where he studied with Vincenzo Amabile. Since 2014, he has been giving concerts and also winning prizes in national and international guitar competitions. In May 2019, Nino won First Prize in the International Guitar Competition and the Special Prize at the International Paganini Guitar Festival competition in Parma for the Best Interpretation of a piece by Paganini (in a category with no age limit).

As a ten-year old, **Jonas Egholm**'s first concert tour in Denmark and Germany, was part of the First Prize in the Danish National Symphony Orchestra's competition for young musicians. He is currently finishing his Masters in classical guitar at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen. Jonas has performed as a soloist with the South Denmark Philharmonic Orchestra, Vejle Symphony Orchestra and the Fredericia City Orchestra. He regularly performs in Denmark, China, Japan, Germany, Sweden and the Faroe Islands. In January 2020, he began the intensive Master in Classical Guitar Performance course at the University of Alicante, Spain.

As part of winning First Prize in the 2019 Second EuroStrings Guitar Competition, **Mateusz Kowalski** has been giving critically acclaimed concerts in Europe, America and Asia. 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. He teaches 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.

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, 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.

Flavio Nati graduated with honours from the Conservatorio Santa Cecilia in his hometown, Rome, where he studied with Arturo Tallini. He gained his Masters in classical guitar performance, with Carlo Marchione at the Conservatorium Maastricht, the Netherlands, a Masters in the Interpretation of Contemporary Music from the Conservatorio Santa Cecilia and in Guitar Performance from Conservatorio di Musica Arrigo Boito in Parma. He regularly gives concerts and since 2013, Flavio has been a member of the guitar octet Supernova, an ensemble, directed by Arturo Tallini. In 2018, he won the Respighi Prize offering him the opportunity to play as a soloist with the New York Chamber Orchestra in 2019/2020 season, in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall.

Radu Vâlcu began playing the violin but soon switched to the classical guitar, at the age of 12 at George Enescu High School, with professor Liviu Georgescu. He graduated from the National University of Music in Bucharest, with the composer Prof. Catalin Stefanescu-Patrascu and continued his master studies with him also. He has won over 30 awards for his playing, including First Prize at Volos International Guitar Festival and First Prize at Terra Siculorum International Guitar Festival.

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

Press Release 2/3



PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings, which is co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, is proud to be a part of the Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Festival and Competition 2020 from 8–13 September 2020. 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 this year's **Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Festival 2020** are:

- **Florian Babțan-Varga, Mateusz Kowalski and Yamandu Costa** (Tuesday 8 September, 19.00, medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureș)
- **Duo Celeste: Gliga Tudor and Dávid Orosz; Raphaël Feuillâtre;** and the **Radu Vâlcu Quartet:** Radu Vâlcu (guitar), Răzvan Florescu (percussion), Mihai Balabaș (violin) and Andrei Petrache (piano) (Wednesday 9 September, 19.00, medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureș)
- **Rudolf Forgács and Ioan Antonio Adrian Josan** (Wednesday 9 September, 19.30, Little St. Teresa Roman Catholic Church, Odorheiu Secuiesc)
- **Cosmin Mariciuc, István Ferenc Beke and Antal Pusztai jazz band** (Thursday 10 September, 19.00, medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureș)
- **Beáta Vajda, Ana Maria Bibescu, Duo Celeste: Gliga Tudor and Dávid Orosz** (Thursday 10 September, 19.30, Little St. Teresa Roman Catholic Church, Odorheiu Secuiesc)
- **Anton Baranov** (Friday 11 September, 19.00, medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureș)
- **Beáta Vajda and Rudolf Forgács and Réka Prózsa** (Friday 11 September, 19.30, Little St. Teresa Roman Catholic Church, Odorheiu Secuiesc)
- **Rovshan Mamedkuliev** (Saturday 12 September, 19.00, medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureș)
- **Zétény Filep, Cosmin Mariciuc, and Samuelito** (flamenco) and (Saturday 12 September, 19.30, Little St. Teresa Roman Catholic Church, Odorheiu Secuiesc)
- **Samuelito** (flamenco) and **Jon Gomm** (fingerstyle) (Sunday 13 September, 19.00, medieval fortress of Târgu-Mureș)

For the **complete programme**, please visit www.harmoniaccordis.org

About Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Festival and Competition

The Harmonia Cordis Association was established in 2007 in order to organise cultural events involving music. In that same year, it held its first Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Festival in Târgu Mureș, Romania, which was so successful it has become an annual festival each August. The Harmonia Cordis Association organises two other guitar festivals in Romania during the year, and broadcasts its most important events live (see <http://harmoniaccordis.org/live>).

Contact

Harmonia Cordis International Guitar Festival

website: www.harmoniaccordis.org

HC radio: www.harmoniaccordis.org/radio

István Ferenc Beke, Chairman of the Harmonia Cordis Association

Tel. +40 744 519 678

email: harmoniaccordis@harmoniaccordis.org

EuroStrings

Artistic Director: Mak Grgić
mak@eurostrings.eu

PR Queries: Larisa Lieberman, email:

internationalpr@eurostrings.eu

Comms Queries, email:

communication@eurostrings.eu

Website: <https://eurostrings.eu>

For more information and photographs, please contact: **Larisa Lieberman** email: internationalpr@eurostrings.eu

Press Release 3/3

