

International Guitar Festival José Tomás



EUROPEAN GUITAR
FESTIVAL COLLABORATIVE



PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce

INTERNATIONAL GUITAR FESTIVAL JOSÉ TOMÁS

– VILLA DE PETRER

6–20 July 2019

The International Guitar Festival José Tomás – Villa de Petrer 2019 in **Spain**, will feature **SEVEN EuroStrings Artists**:

George Dimitrov, Bulgaria

Peter Graneis, Germany

Gábor Hart, Hungary

Tomasz Radziszewski, Poland

Katarzyna Smolarek, Poland

Emmanuel Sowicz, United Kingdom/Chile

Zuzanna Wężyk, Poland



Concerts

Saturday 6 July 2019 Teatro Municipal Cervantes, Petrer, 20.30

EuroStrings Artist Quartet – Zuzanna Wężyk, Tomasz Radziszewski, George Dimitrov and Gábor Hart –

will perform the *Concerto Andaluz* by Joaquín Rodrigo

with the **ADDA Simfónica Orchestra**, conducted by **Josep Vicent**

Cecilia Rodrigo, the daughter of Joaquín Rodrigo, will attend the performance.

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Co-funded by the
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Friday 12 July 2019 A chamber music concert at Espai Blanc de Cultura, Petrer, 17.00

Katarzyna Smolarek, Emmanuel Sowicz and Peter Graneis

With EuroStrings Ambassador David Russell



About the EuroStrings Artists

The EuroStrings Artists are a selected group of young professionals, who are winners of international competitions which took place at the various EuroStrings Platform member festivals. 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.

George Dimitrov received high recognition as a young musician in Bulgaria in 2017 winning the Olga Kamburova Award at the Bulgarian Annual Ceremony “Musician of the Year”, of Bulgarian National Radio, and gave his solo concert debut with the Sofia Soloists Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Plamen Djuroff.

Peter Graneis has completed a Masters degree at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague. He performs as part of Yehudi Menuhin’s Live Music Now scheme and recorded his first CD, *Portraits* in 2017.

Gábor Hart has been working at the Szeged National Theatre since 2016, playing not only classical guitar but also electric guitar and sometimes even banjo. This varied background brings him success at international classical guitar competitions.

Not only is **Tomasz Radziszewski** an awarding winning guitarist but he also performs as a tenor and has composed chamber music for guitar, string quartets, and an opera to be premièred this year in Wrocław, Poland.

After her initial studies in Poland **Katarzyna Smolarek** received her Bachelor’s degree from the Mozarteum University in Salzburg, winning prizes in competitions across the globe from Austria to Australia.

Radio Beethoven FM in Chile described **Emmanuel Sowicz** as “the next star of the guitar” and he is proving that prediction to be accurate with his increasingly prestigious performances as a soloist and with orchestra at London’s Barbican and Kings Place, and Canterbury Festival.

Zuzanna Węzyk was born in Gdańsk in Poland where she started playing guitar at the age of 7. In June 2018, she completed her Bachelor of Arts degree, studying with the Marco Diaz-Tamayo at Mozarteum University Salzburg in Austria. She is currently based in London, where she is working on her Master’s degree in Composing For Film and TV at Kingston University in London.

For full EuroStrings Artists profiles, visit: <https://eurostrings.eu/young-stars/eurostrings-artists-of-2018-2019/>

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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. The **EuroStrings Scholarship** to attend the **José Tomás Villa de Petrer International Guitar Festival 2019** has been awarded to the young guitarist **Milica Ristić**.

About International Guitar Festival José Tomás – Villa de Petrer 2019

The Orquesta Efímera de Guitarras José Tomás perform for the Argentinian guitarist and composer **Jorge Cardoso**, who is being honoured this year and awarded the **José Tomás Prize**: 'In memory of the Alicante teacher'. Other legendary performers include **David Russell** (Teatro Cervantes, 13 July, 20.30); **Berta Rojas**; and the **flamenco guitarist Tomatito** and **flamenco singer José Mercé** (Teatro Cervantes, 20 July, 20.30).

Jorge Orozco will give a lecture on "Controlling Stage Fright". Mirta Álvarez will give a seminar on performing **tango** on guitar and Tanausú Luis on **fingerstyle** guitar. **Masterclasses in classical guitar** will be given by David Russell, Hopkinson Smith, Berta Rojas, Zoran Dukic, Margarita Escarpa, Aniello Desiderio, Judicaël Perroy, Alex Garrobé, Carlo Marchione and Marco Smaili. The **Guitar Fair**, now in its 7th year, will feature the instruments of 20 luthiers from across Europe and America.

For the **complete programme** of the www.guitarrapetrer.com/conciertos/

EuroStrings, which is co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, is proud to be a part of the International Guitar Festival José Tomás – Villa de Petrer 2019 from 6–20 July 2019. EuroStrings is the **first global collaborative platform of Classical Guitar Festivals**, focusing on fostering European musical excellence. It is an ever-expanding collaboration of **17 European Festival partners** with **global partners in the USA and Asia**. EuroStrings fosters excellence in musicianship, outreach work within the community, the creation of audience development opportunities, networking and, last but not least, world-class education for emerging young guitarists.

About International Guitar Festival José Tomás – Villa de Petrer

Starting out as a "Guitar Week" in 1998, this annual festival in Petrer, on the east coast of Spain, has grown into a 15-day celebration offering courses, concerts, conferences, an international competition, exhibitions, an international Guitar Fair ... and the Orquesta Efímera de Guitarras José Tomás project, where more than 30 young guitarists come together to rehearse and participate in a concert. This July 2019 marks the **22nd edition** of the International Guitar Festival José Tomás – Villa de Petrer, and the **18th year** of the international guitar competition.

For more details about the Competition, see www.guitarrapetrer.com/en/concurso/

Contact

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