

PRESS RELEASE

EuroStrings – the European Guitar Festival Collaborative

is pleased to announce

GUITART FESTIVAL PLOVDIV 2021

4–7 November 2021

featuring

Pavel Steidl and Darko Bageski

THREE 2020/2021 EuroStrings Artists:

Jack Hancher, UK
Filip Mišković, Croatia

Eleonora Perretta, Italy

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 4 November 2021

Jack Hancher, Filip Mišković and Eleonora Perretta – Studio 1, Radio Plovdiv, 17.00

Lovro Peretić – Studio 1, Radio Plovdiv, 19.00

Masterclasses

Friday 5 November 2021

Masterclasses given by **Pavel Steidl** for the **EuroStrings Artists**, – Ivan Chernozemski House, 10.00

Saturday 6 November 2021

Masterclasses given by **EuroStrings Artists for young Bulgarian guitarists**

– Blue School, AMDFA, Plovdiv, 10.00

EuroStrings Artists Showcase for Children – 'Divizi' Music Centre for Children, Plovdiv, 16.00

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.

Third Annual EuroStrings Conference

will be hosted by **GuitArt Festival Plovdiv**

4–6 November 2021

events open to the public will be **streamed** via the **EuroStrings Facebook** page

Press Release 1/3



PRESS RELEASE

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.

Eleonora Perretta was born in Naples, in 1995, and began studying the guitar at the age of six. As early as 14, she won First Prize at the International Guitar Competition 'Luigi Denza' in 2010 and has continued to win prizes in national and international guitar competitions. She won First Prize at 'Eduguitar' International Guitar Festival in 2016. In 2018, she graduated summa cum laude from the Conservatory of Music 'San Pietro a Majella', Naples, where she studied with Vincenzo Amabile. She also studied with Aniello Desiderio at 'Stefano Strata' Academy in Pisa. In 2020, Eleonora Perretta won the 'Special Edition Prize' at Koblenz International Guitar Competition and First Prize at Mottola Festival International Competition. She is currently studying with Aniello Desiderio for a Masters at the Conservatorio di Musica 'Domenico Cimarosa' in Avellino, and with Paolo Pegoraro at Segovia Guitar Academy in Pordenone, Italy. Eleonora Perretta has several recording projects for *DotGuitar* records: as soloist, she is recording a collection of guitar sonatas, as well as an album dedicated to J.S. Bach; in duo, with Lucio Matarazzo, a première recording of music by Ida Presti for two guitars. They are also working on Perretta-Matarazzo Collection of original music and transcriptions for two guitars for the publisher Ut Orpheus; the first volume is of Scarlatti's *Sonatas*.

Cheng Shi was born in Liaoning Province, China in 1991. She began learning the guitar with Professor Guangxu Jiang in Shenyang in 2006. After graduating with a Bachelor's degree from Shenyang Conservatorium in 2010, she left for Germany in 2014. There, she completed a one-year professional performance course (Zertifikat) with Reinbert Evers at the Musikhochschule Münster, where she completed her Masters summa cum laude in 2018. In 2020, she graduated from Musikhochschule Münster again with summa cum laude for the Konzertexamen. Early on in her studies, Cheng Shi began winning prizes, such as First Prize at the Longshan CUP in Heilongjiang in 2006, at the Internationalen Vladivostok Competition for Classical Guitar in Russia, in 2009 and First Prize at the Liaoning International Guitar Competition in 2011. Since 2016, Cheng Shi has been performing with the Korean guitarist KyungHeon Yoo, in a guitar duo called 'Le Due'; they both are also members of the Polaris Guitar Quartet with the German guitarists Andreas Maria Marcus and Peter Kersting. Cheng Shi has been invited to perform as a soloist in recital and with orchestra in Germany, Italy, China and South Korea.

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

Press Release 2/3



PRESS RELEASE

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>

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 **GuitArt Festival Plovdiv** has been awarded to the young guitarist **Bojidara Petrova Troharova**.

About GuitArt Festival Plovdiv

The GuitArt Festival is an event driven by the passion of the local musical community for the guitar and its ability to unite professional musicians and amateurs from diverse cultural backgrounds. As one of the most popular and widely played musical instruments, the guitar is celebrated in all its facets.

The festival aims to be an educational and social platform for the development of Bulgarian musical talent, and to underscore the place of the guitar in the history and development of modern music across the globe. By organising workshops with local and world-renowned guitarists and educators, panel discussions with popular local musicians, an expo of Bulgarian guitar manufacturers and musical instrument importers, free lessons, showcases, film screenings and children's activities, the festival immerses its visitors in the world of the guitar in all its colours.

- Concert: **Pop & Rock Meets Jazz** – (Thursday, 4 November 2021, 22.00)
- Concert: **Darko Bageski** – Studio 1, Radio Plovdiv (Friday, 5 November 2021, 19.00)
- Concert: **Cinga Manga Funk** – Bee Bop Café (Friday, 5 November 2021, 22.00)
- Concert: **Pavel Steidl** – Studio 1, Radio Plovdiv (Saturday, 6 November 2021, 18.30)
- Concert: **Real ... mente Napoli** – Muppet Theater, Plovdiv (Saturday, 6 November 2021, 20.00)
- Concert: **Alexander Lekov Trio** – Bee Bop Café (Saturday, 6 November 2021, 22.00)
- Concert: **Vlatko Stefanovski** and announcement of the Winners of the Competition – House of Culture 'Brous Hristov' (Sunday, 7 November 2021, 19.00)

For the **complete programme**, please visit <https://www.guitart.bg>

About International Classical Guitar Competition 'GuitART' Plovdiv 2021

The Competition Final will be held on Sunday, 7 November 2021 from 10.00–12.00, streamed on Facebook and guitart.bg. The competition is open for guitarist from all over the world from 18–35 years of age on the 31 December 2021.

Contact

For more information about **GuitArt Festival Plovdiv**
website: www.guitart.bg

Interviews

Hristo Kolikov, Artistic Director
Tel. +359 889 000 405
email: info@guitart.bg

EuroStrings
Executive Director: **Ružica Gelo Ciglenečki**
Comms Queries: **Dunja Stanković:**
communication@eurostrings.eu
PR Queries: **Larisa Lieberman:**
internationalpr@eurostrings.eu
EuroStrings Contact: **info@eurostrings.eu**
Website: <https://eurostrings.eu>

Press Release 3/3

