

Washington Guitar Society

No. 40

September/October 1998

John E. Marlow Guitar Series Begins Season with JOHN WILLIAMS - Oct. 10

The John E. Marlow Guitar Recital Series has been picking up steam season by season. This year is no exception as they are bringing **John Williams** to start the season. It has been years since Washington has seen Williams in concert and our heartfelt thanks goes out to the organizers of the Marlow Series for bringing him back.

The season isn't over after John Williams plays. The rest of the season promises to deliver top rate performances as well. On Nov. 6 the series will present "Two Lutes la Trek" featuring lutenists **Howard Bass** and **Ronn McFarlane**. **Aldo Lagrutta** will return to perform on Jan. 29. **Roland Dyens** (my personal favorite) returns for the third year in a row on Feb. 19. **Elena Papandreou** performs on March 12 and the season finale features the **Charlie Byrd Trio** in "Cabaret Style".

This year the series will take place in several locations, so please be sure to pay special attention to where the concerts will be. These concerts and their information are listed in the calendar of events on page 5.

This year the series is offering reserved seating for the first time. Furthermore, this year, only subscribers to the series are invited to attend the receptions for free. Individual ticket holders who wish to attend receptions will be expected to make a contribution of \$5. As you can see, subscribing to the series not only enables you to see all of these great performances, but it has a few perks to top it off. I am very excited about this season and I'm sure you will be too.

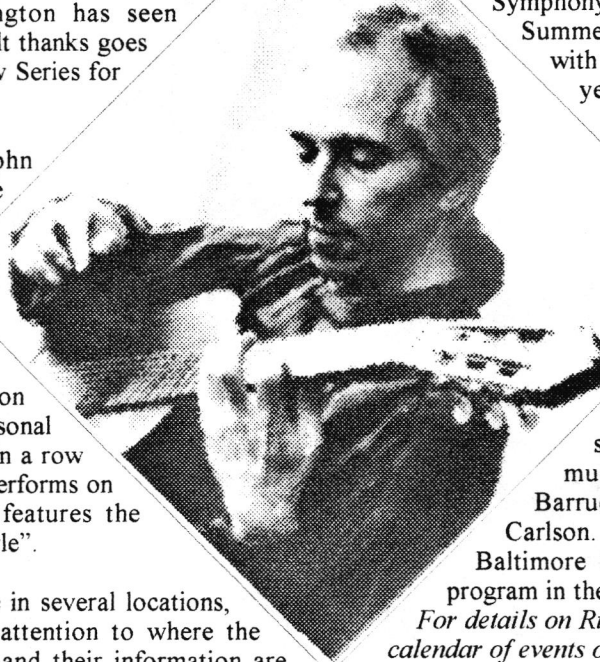
Kevin Vigil

Risa Carlson Performs for WGS Friday, September 25

Risa Carlson is a very active guitarist. She has performed at Coolidge Auditorium (Library of Congress), Columbia Artist Management Hall (NYC), the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall (Baltimore), The National Guitar Summer Workshop (New Milford, CT), and with the Miami Classical Guitar Society. Last year, she performed for President and Hillary Clinton. Ms. Carlson gave the premiere of *I Loved Lucy* by renown composer Michael Daugherty. She won first prize of the 1997 Baltimore Chamber Music Award and the 1995 National Guitar Summer Workshop Chamber Music Competition.

Ms. Carlson completed her MM and BM at Peabody Conservatory, where she was recognized for excellence in music. She has studied with Manuel Barrueco, Ray Chester, and her father, Bill Carlson. Risa was recently selected to join the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in their outreach program in the Baltimore school system.

For details on Risa Carlson's performance, please see the calendar of events on page 4.



From the President

We are experimenting with new meeting locations. Our September and October meetings will be held at The Chevy Chase Community Center which is a great facility that's easy to find, has plenty of free parking, and a friendly, helpful staff. Many thanks to Mr. Scott of the D.C. Department of Recreation for making it available to us. We don't know yet how often we'll meet there as the building may be closed for remodeling sometime next year. We might try some other locations too, and we may just return to the Washington Conservatory. We'll keep you informed.

A number of very fine players have offered to do programs for us this coming season. I would also like to have frequent members recitals and youth recitals as these have brought really good attendance from both performers and listeners. These next few months I'll be busy sorting out a schedule and locations for our meetings. Don't hesitate to call me with your requests and suggestions. Also, please come to our newsletter folding, stapling, and stamping sessions. This is not hard work, and it is a good opportunity to visit and hear your ideas. I hope to see you soon.

John Rodgers



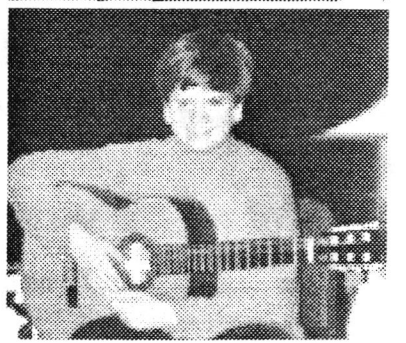
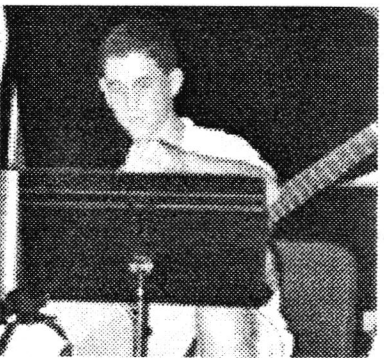
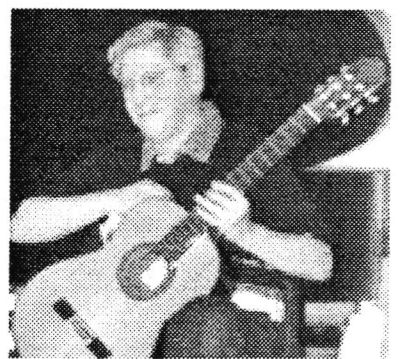
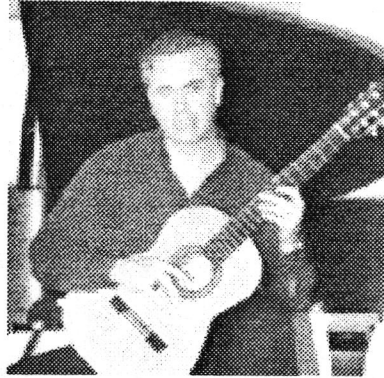
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WGS PHOTO ALBUM

MEMBERS AT PLAY

JUNE 19, 1998

PHOTOS BY KIRK CLARKE



**Duo Con Brio (flute/guitar)
Performs for WGS, Friday, October 23**

Duo Con Brio (Barbara and Kevin Vigil) is a husband and wife duo that began performing together in 1989. They have been based in the Washington, DC area since 1990 when Barbara Vigil was selected to be a member of The United States Army Band ("Pershing's Own"). Since that time, the duo has been very active performing for recitals and important occasions including a dinner for President Clinton and Yitzak Rabin. They have performed in Connecticut, Colorado, Louisiana, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Washington, D.C.



During the 1997-98 season, the duo in performed for the The Flute Society of Washington, DC, the Brucker Hall Recital Series (Ft. Myer), The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (three times), Western Connecticut State University, Yale University and others. As winners of the Montpelier Cultural Arts Center Competition the duo will be performing on their 1998-99 season.

Their program for the WGS performance will include works by Bach, Rachmaninoff, Dolan, Vigil and others.

For details on Duo Con Brio's performance, please see the calendar of events on page 5.

**The Classical Mandolin Society of America's
National Convention, Nov. 5-9**

The Classical Mandolin Society of America's (CMSA) National Convention will run from noon on Thursday, November 5th, through noon on Monday, November 9th at the Ramada Plaza Hotel - Old Town in Alexandria, VA. Public concerts will be presented on Friday evening at the George Washington Memorial Masonic Temple in Alexandria, and on Sunday evening at the Ramada Plaza Hotel. The convention registration fee includes tickets to each of those concerts.

In addition, a 'CD Release Concert' will be presented on Wednesday evening by Norman Levine and Plucked String, Inc. to celebrate the release of a new CD featuring the varied mandolin styles of Neil Gladd, Barry Mitterhof, Charley Rappaport and Terry Pinder. All four artists will perform that evening. Tickets for that concert are \$10.

Guest artists who have been confirmed for the Convention and its concerts include The Duetto Giocondo (Caterina Lichtenberg and Mirko Schrader, from Germany); the Mair-Davis Duo and World Cafe Consort (Providence, RI); Butch Baldassari Trio (Nashville, TN); Tony Williamson (Siler City, NC); Charley Rappaport Duo (Atlanta, GA); Tom Espinola and Lorraine Duisit

(Washington, VA); Tamara Volskaya and Mayya Kalikhman (Brooklyn, NY) and Neil Gladd Trio (Washington, DC).

The now-traditional Mandocello Choir will be directed by Jeff Dearing, and the Mandola Choir by Marilyn Mair. A new feature this year will be the Second Mandolin Choir under the direction of Russell Foster. The CMSA En Masse Orchestra will be directed by Keith Harris.

Workshop topics will include instruction on all mando-family instruments plus guitar, instrument setup and maintenance, a history of the early mandolin orchestras and their instruments (with a mandolin and guitar 'petting zoo'), Brazilian 'choro' music, bluegrass workshop, old time music, music counting and basic theory as well as a dozen or so other relevant subjects (and some not so relevant). There'll be a Yoga practitioner to talk about how to relax and enjoy music -- that's relevant.

In keeping with this year's theme, "Mandolin in America", we have invited U.S. and Canadian mandolin/guitar orchestras and ensembles to attend and present 'showcase' concerts during the week. We've had responses from several groups and expect more as we receive the registrations from attendees.

Luthiers and vendors of musical materials and supplies are encouraged to attend as well. There were over 200 attendees at last year's event in Louisville and we expect an equally large turnout this year, so there is a ready market for quality products. If you fall into this category and want a registration package to review, let me know.

The annual Wine and Cheese party (which may possibly feature neither wine or cheese, depending on the vagaries of the final schedule) will once again offer individuals and groups an open mike and friendly audience to present one of their favorite musical numbers.

The Convention host orchestra, The Takoma Mandoleers, will host a 75th Birthday Party reception on Thursday evening complete with birthday cake and a mini-concert by one of our guest groups. The Convention Banquet on Saturday night will be at historic Hogate's Restaurant on Washington's waterfront. Buses will be available to take conventioners to and from the dinner, and an optional after-dinner "Monumental Moonlight Tour" will highlight some of our city's favorite landmarks. The banquet program will also feature our Auction (bring along or send ahead your no-longer-needed treasures) and Raffle, which benefit the CMSA Scholarship Fund, as well as entertainment and good food.

The CMSA Convention is a great venue at which to learn, share, network, schmooze, jam, buy and sell instruments, meet new friends and greet old ones, and play and hear a lot of great music. If you've been to one or more, you already know all of this, but if you haven't, why not consider making this your first one?

A lot of this info will be on on the CMSA website at Mandolin Cafe (<http://www.mandolincafe.com>). Our registration materials will be mailed out this coming week to CMSA members plus those of you who have requested packages. If you are not a CMSA member and would like to receive a registration package, please let me know at 703-893-5545 or email to maxwellm@aol.com.

Announcements

Guitar Classes at the Levine School of Music - Northern VA
5010 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA 22207 (703) 237-5655.
The following three classes as well as private instruction are being offered this Fall.

Guitar Pedagogy Forum - Do you want to be a more effective guitar instructor? This forum is designed to raise the standards of guitar instruction by discussing methods and teaching techniques in an objective and down to earth manner. The framework of a forum allows for the exchange of ideas among the participants. Topics include "Interviewing Students", "Training a Brain", "Explaining Technique", "Teaching Note Reading", "Teaching Positions", "The Student/Teacher Relationship" and others. *Mondays from 12:30-2 pm, Tuition: \$175 for 8 weeks, Class begins on Sept. 14. Instructor: Kevin Vigil*

Sight Reading for Guitar - Q: *How do you get a guitarist to play quietly? A: Put music in front of him/her.*

Unfortunately this joke has truth behind it. This class is designed for people who already play guitar but cannot read or are not very proficient at reading music at sight. This includes all styles including classical players with "first-positionitis". *Tuesdays from 7-8 pm, Tuition: \$160 per semester (14 weeks) for Levine students in private instruction; \$225 for others. Class begins on Sept. 15. Instructor: Kevin Vigil*

Guitar Ensemble (ages 14-adult) Intermediate to advanced level guitarists can experience the fun and musical satisfaction of playing with other guitarists in duos, trios, quartets and large ensemble situations. Admission is by audition only. *Times to be arranged by group. Tuition: \$160 per 14 week semester for Levine students in private instruction; \$225 for others. Instructor: Kevin Vigil*

Call for Volunteers

Like any volunteer organization, the Washington Guitar Society is in need of volunteers. If you are interested in helping in any fashion, we can more than likely use you. If you are interested in volunteering, please call John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

Newsletter Folding Session. On the last Sunday of every other month, there will be a newsletter folding, stapling, labeling and stamping session. It should be quick, easy and fun for anyone who participates. The next scheduled session is for October 25. If you are interested in joining the team, please call John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

Lawyer Wanted. The Washington Guitar Society is currently incorporated in the state of Virginia. We would like to be incorporated in D.C. and Maryland as well. If you are a lawyer and you would be willing to help us out pro bono, please call John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

Classified

1978 Jose Ramirez 1A. This is about the finest sounding Ramirez I've ever heard. Good condition for a twenty year old guitar. Asking \$3,500. Call John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

1979 Hernandis Grade Grande Concert.- Brazillian Rosewood back and sides, Granadillo fingerboard, Cedar neck, Spanish Pine soundboard, assembled in Japan. Imported by Sherry-Brener, Chicago/Madrid. Valued at \$1895 in 1986. Contact James Sherry of Sherry Brener at 312 427 5611 or the store at 773 737 1711 for more information. Any reasonable offer considered - Morris Lancaster 301 538 3884 or 703 902 4115 (work).

For the three guitars below, contact Francois-Marie Patorni, ph. office (202) 473 6265, home: (202) 291-4523, em: fmpatomi@worldbank.org

1985 Manuel Contreras "double-top" concert guitar. Spruce/Brazilian, 65 cm. A few cosmetic nicks, otherwise a beauty with great action (no buzzing or slapping), it's a guitar with a soul. Asking \$3,700 (was appraised recently by Kirkpatrick Guitar Studio in Baltimore for \$4,600). Includes all original Contreras papers, even the original dust cloth (this is the same guitar advertised in the last issue, I bought it from Beverly Ross)

Aria Concert Guitar (Japan). I bought it for \$800 new in 1976. Immaculate condition. Surprisingly good looking, feeling and sounding for the price. Great buy for practice or second travel guitar. \$800

Requinto, Concierto Model 8, 1987, by Esteve (Spain). This is a small classical guitar, it plays like one but with smaller fingerboard (53cm), much faster and brilliant. Immaculate condition. \$800.

Calendar of Events

If you know of a performance that does not appear, please send the information to us to include. This includes everything from professionals, degree recitals to teacher studio recitals.

Sept. 17-19 (Thu.-Sat.) 8 pm - World Premiere of Concerto Mediterraneo for Guitar and Orchestra. Manuel Barrueco will join the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra conducted by Günther Herbig in performing the Concerto Mediterraneo by Steven Stucky. This work should be of particular interest to Washington guitar enthusiasts as it is dedicated to Sophocles Papas. Other works on the program include Beethoven's *Egmont Overture* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 3 "Eroica"*. The concerts will be held at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall in Baltimore, MD. Join Elisabeth Papas Smith (daughter of Sophocles Papas) for a post-concert signing of the book "Sophocles Papas: The Guitar, His Life" on Sept 17 and 18 following the concert in the Meyerhoff lobby. Tickets are \$21, \$27, \$33, \$39, Boxes \$55. For tickets call (410) 783-8000.

Sept. 25 (Fri.) 8 pm - Risa Carlson presented by the Washington Guitar Society at the Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut Ave., Chevy Chase, MD. About 1 1/2 blocks south of Chevy Chase Circle. Free and open to the public. A hat will be passed for voluntary contributions to the artist. For information call John Rodgers at (202) 686-1020.

Sept. 26 (Sat.) 4 pm - Duo Con Brio (Kevin Vigil, guitar Barbara Vigil, flute) presented at by the Little River United Church of Christ, 8410 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA. Tickets \$10-General and \$5-Seniors and Students. For information call (703) 978-3060.