

A Note from Cléa Galhano

A teacher of mine once told me that when we meet the right person to play with, we can never abandon that opportunity. That is what happened with Rene and me. Both of us were soloists with Musical Offering in Milwaukee when we were asked to play a Latin encore at the concert. We did, and to our surprise it was magical, very easy and natural. That was the beginning of our partnership.

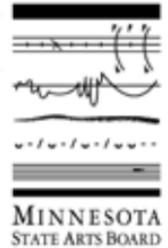
To my surprise, Rene and I had similar experiences in life. We both come from Latin countries and from loving middle class families. I come from Brazil, Rene is from Cuba. Our ages and childhoods were very different, but we had one thing in common: the dream to pursue music in life and to share it with others in order to make a difference in people's lives—performing, teaching and opening doors for new generations who would be inspired by our example. Both of us were studying and making a living in different countries, confronted with ethnic obstacles, and at the same time making our dream a reality.

✿ ARTISTS' BIOS

Brazilian recorder player **Cléa Galhano** is an Internationally renowned performer of early, contemporary and Brazilian music. Galhano has performed in the United States, Canada, South America and Europe as a chamber musician, collaborating with recorder player Marion Verbruggen, Jacques Ogg, Belladonna, Lanzelotte/Galhano Duo, Galhano/Montgomery Duo, Kingsbury Ensemble and Blue Baroque

CREDITS

Cléa Galhano is a fiscal year 2015 recipient of an Artist Initiative grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature; and by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Recorded at Tanner Monagle Studio, Milwaukee, WI

Recording Engineer: Ric Probst

May 2015

Pro Tools editing done at Creation Audio, Studio A, in Minneapolis, MN

Engineer - Miles Hanson

Consulting Engineer - Steve Wiese

Liner Notes - Sharon Carlson

CD Design - Elaine Evans

his mission in life. In addition to Celso's solo career, he has shared the stages with some of the world's great guitarists including Sergio and Odair Assad, Badi Assad, Romero Lubambo, Yamandu Costa, Cristina Azuma, Peter Finger and Solorazaf. He has opened for Gilberto Gil, Bebel Gilberto, Hermeto Pascaul and Al di Meola, among other great musicians.

Breno Blauth (b. Porto Alegre, 1931; d. São Paulo, 1993) was a composer and Brazilian teacher. He studied in Porto Alegre with Enio de Freitas and Castro and in Rio de Janeiro with Paulo Silva and Newton Padua. In 1963 he moved to São Paulo where he perfected his music with Camargo Guarnieri and began teaching. His composition had an initial phase of nationalistic character, using elements of folklore, and later assimilated dodecaphonic, atonal and random polytonal. In his last phase he sought a return to traditional forms in a unique interpretation. In 1963 he represented Brazil in the Youth Musical Festival in Paris, and in 1974 won the chamber music division of the Paulista Association of Art Critics. His work was presented posthumously at the XIII Biennial of Contemporary Brazilian Music in 1999. His compositions are heard today in Brazil and abroad.

Band. As a featured soloist, Galhano has worked with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, New World Symphony, Musical Offering and Lyra Baroque Orchestra.

Among other important music festivals, Ms. Galhano has performed at the Boston Early Music Festival, the Tage Alter Music Festival in Germany, Wigmore Hall in London, Weill/Carnegie and Merk Halls in New York and Palazzo Santa Croce in Rome, always receiving acclaimed reviews. Ms. Galhano was featured in 2006 in the Second International Recorder Congress in Leiden, Holland; in 2007 and 2013 at the International Recorder Conference in Montréal; and in 2012 at the ARS International Conference, Portland, Oregon. She gave her Weill/Carnegie Hall debut in May 2010 receiving great reviews.

Galhano studied in Brazil at Faculdade Santa Marcelina, the Royal Conservatory (The Hague) and the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, earning a LASPAU, Fulbright Scholarship and support from the Dutch government. As an advocate of recorder music and educational initiatives, she served for six years on the national board of the American Recorder Society and was featured for many years as teacher and soloist at Suzuki and AOSA conferences.

A popular teacher and ensemble director, Galhano regularly conducts workshops across the United States, Europe and Brazil. Currently, Galhano is the Executive Artistic Director of the Saint Paul Conservatory of Music and she is on the faculty of Macalester College. Ms. Galhano

has recordings available on Dorian, Ten Thousand Lakes and Eldorado labels, was artist-in-residence at the prestigious Schubert Club in St. Paul, Minnesota for ten years and is the Music Director of the Recorder Orchestra of the Midwest. Among other grants, Ms. Galhano recently received the prestigious 2013 McKnight Fellowship Award, the Artist Fellowship from Minnesota State Arts Board and she is the recipient of the National Arts Associate of Sigma Alpha Iota.

www.cleagalhano.com

Rene Izquierdo, a native from Cuba, graduated from the Guillermo Tomas, Amadeo Roldan Conservatory and Superior Institute of Art in Havana. In the United States, Mr. Izquierdo earned a Master of Music and an Artist Diploma degrees from Yale University School of Music, where he studied with Benjamin Verdery. While at Yale he represented the university in an exchange program with the Conservatoire National de Musique et de Danse du Paris and worked with guitarists Olivier Chassain and Roland Dyens. Rene has appeared as a guest soloist and in chamber music concerts throughout the United States, Cuba and Europe. He has shared the stage with prestigious guitarists including Eliot Fisk, Benjamin Verdery and Jorge Morel, as well as renowned flutist Ransom Wilson, soprano Lucy Shelton, David Jolley and Paquito d’Rivera. Renowned composers such as Jorge Morel and Carlos R. Rivera have dedicated works to him.

Mr. Izquierdo is a recipient of numerous awards. He is a winner of JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Competition in 2004, Extremadura

Europe, where he has given recitals, seminars, workshops and master classes in Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. In 1990, together with Walfrido Dominguez, he founded Duo Confluence.

Sergio Assad (b. 1952) is a Brazilian guitarist, composer and arranger who often performs with his brother, Odair Assad in the guitar duo Sérgio and Odair Assad, commonly referred to as Assad Brothers or Duo Assad. Born into a musical family in Mococa, São Paulo, Brazil, Sergio Assad began creating music for the guitar not long after he began playing the instrument. He learned Brazilian folk melodies from his father. By age 14, he was arranging and writing original compositions for the guitar duo he had formed with his brother, Odair. At the age of 17, he and Odair began their studies under the best known classical guitar teacher in Brazil at the time, Monina Tavora, a former disciple of Andrés Segovia. Sergio later went on to study conducting and composition at the Escola Nacional de Música in Rio de Janeiro, and worked privately with Brazilian composition teacher, Esther Scliar.

Celso Machado (b. 1953), virtuoso Brazilian guitarist, percussionist, multi instrumentalist and composer, transports his audiences through the richness and diversity of Brazilian music and beyond. For forty years Celso Machado has been performing on concert stages throughout Brazil, Western Europe, Scandinavia, Canada and the United States. Considered one of the most versatile and exciting musician/composers of Brazilian music today, his guitar technique is but one of his passions. His gift for making music out of anything and everything around us is

Edmundo Villani Cortes (b. 1930) has composed in many genres, from symphony to jazz and folk music. In 1967 he was known as an arranger of some 600 works for the orchestras of the Brazilian television TV Tupi in São Paulo and Globo TV in Rio de Janeiro. He has won national and international prizes including a 1978 composition for “Nonet” in Munich, Germany, 1986 and first prize at the Concurso de Composição da Cultura, Editora Musical for Choro pretensioso. He is professor at the Academia Paulista de Musica, the Instituto de Artes of the University of São Paulo (USP) and professor of composition at the Escola de Música da Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro.

Eduardo Martin (b. 1956 in Havana) is a teacher and composer who studied guitar with Jesus Ortega and composition with Alfredo Angel Vazquez Dieznieto. He pursued advanced courses in classical guitar with Isaac Nicola, Rey Guerra, Leo Brouwer, David Russel, Wolfgang Lendle, Costas Cotsiolis, Ichiro Suzuki, Antonio Lauro and Alirio Diaz and in 1985 he graduated from the Instituto Superior de Arte de Cuba. Martin has been part of the quartet Guitarra 4, with whom he made concert tours throughout Cuba, as well as various television and radio programs, and recordings for the label EGREM Cuba. He has collaborated with colleagues Rey Guerra, Carlos Alberto Lloro and Walfrido Domínguez, and the Imaginario Quartet. Martin has received awards in guitar competitions, chamber music and composition and has written works for guitar, duos, trios, quartets, flute and guitar, flute and two guitars and orchestra of guitars. He has composed music for theater and film and has made numerous tours of Cuba, Latin America and

International Guitar Competition, Schadt String competition and Stotsenberg International Guitar Competition among others.

He is currently a professor of classical guitar at the Wisconsin State University in Milwaukee and an active solo performer and chamber musician. Rene has studied with Leo Brouwer, David Russell, Shin-Ichi Fukuda, Eli Kassner, Pepe Romero, Angel Romero, Carlos Barbosa-Lima, David Starobin, Eduardo Fernandez, Jorge Morel, Robert Beaser and Anthony Newman among others.

www.reneizquierdoguitar.com

A native of Minsk, Belarus, **Elina Chekan** (Ella) is a faculty member and the director of Pre-College & Suzuki Guitar Programs at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she is pursuing a Doctoral Degree from Northwestern University Bienen School of Music.

Combining active performing and teaching careers, Ella is visible around the United States, Europe and Asia as a soloist and chamber musician. She equally enjoys big halls and small venues and above all advocates sharing knowledge and passion for music. Duo Exaudi collaboration with Rene Izquierdo took them to perform at Iserlohn Festival in Germany, Taiwan, National Concert Hall in Taipei, Royal Museum of Musical Instruments in Brussels, Belgium and concert halls in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Every summer Ella is a guest at the Camino Artes Project in Spain, the Volterra Project in Tuscany, Italy, as well as frequent guest at Mannes Guitar Festival in New York City, Yale Guitar Extravaganza and

Ella holds both Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Classical Guitar Performance, Music Education and Orchestral Conducting from Minsk Music College and the Belarusian Academy of Music where she studied with distinguished professors Eugene Gridiushko, Valery Gromov and Valery Belyshev. Ella graduated from Yale University with a Master of Music Degree and received the Louis and Anne Rosoff Award under Professor Benjamin Verdery.

✧ **Rene and Clea's Concert Reviews**

"The concert 'The Night of the Tango' with Cléa Galhano and Rene Izquierdo was fantastic. The playing was superb and the choice of program material excellent. Cléa and Rene own this repertoire. It included my favorite work 'The History of the Tango' by Piazzolla and it couldn't have been played better. The whole program consisted of material that combines that melodic quality along with the harmonic inventiveness and rhythms that make this music so interesting. A fantastic evening of music." — Milwaukee, Wisconsin

"'Latin Reverie' was the title of the recital that Cléa Galhano and Rene Izquierdo presented on December 19th at the Weill Hall of Carnegie Hall. ... an evening of unusually interesting and attractive music... Both artists played with great skill, and presented obvious pleasure in the music, which they communicated to the appreciative audience." — American Recorder

✧ **COMPOSERS**

Ástor Pantaleón Piazzolla (b. March 11, 1921; d. July 4, 1992) was an Argentine tango composer and bandoneon player. His works revolutionized the traditional tango into a new style termed nuevo tango, incorporating elements from jazz and classical music. A virtuoso bandoneonist, he regularly performed his own compositions with a variety of ensembles. One of the prizes he won was a scholarship from the French government to study in Paris with Nadia Boulanger, considered the best music educator of her time. At first, Piazzolla tried to hide his tanguero past and his bandoneon work, thinking that his destiny was in classical music. This situation was quickly remedied when he lost his heart to Boulanger and played his Tango "Triunfal" for her. From then on he received an historic recommendation: "Astor, your classical pieces are well written, but the true Piazzolla is here, never leave it behind."

Máximo Diego Pujol (b. 1957 in Buenos Aires) is an Argentine classical guitarist and composer. He graduated from the Juan José Castro Provincial Conservatory and did his instrumental studies with Alfredo Vicente Gascón, Horacio Ceballos, Abel Carlevaro, Liliana Ardissonne and Miguel Angel Girollet. He also studied harmony and composition under the guidance of Leónidas Arnedo and participated in master classes and seminars directed by Antonio de Raco, Abel Carlevaro and Leo Brouwer. Pujol has been awarded numerous prizes in Argentine and international competitions. His compositions reflect the influence of Ástor Piazzolla and the use of the tango as a basic style.