

Kenneth Meyer - Biography

Kenneth Meyer, the national first-prize winner at the Music Teacher's National Association Collegiate Artist Competition, is regarded by the *Washington Post* as, "A thinking man's guitarist – he focuses on the inner structure of a piece...and plays with impressive gravity and power." The *Buffalo News* has called him, "Impeccably articulate with superb technique."

Since his professional concert debut at the *Teatro de la Opera de Maracay*, Mr. Meyer continues to appear in recital, as a chamber musician, and soloist with orchestra in venues throughout North America, South America and Europe. Highlights include concerts in Carnegie Hall's *Weill Recital Hall* and *Zankel Hall* (New York City), *Wolf Trap* (Virginia), the *Skirbal Cultural Center* (Los Angeles), the historic *Basilica di San Clemente*, (Italy), the *Museo de Barquisimeto*, *Museo del Teclado*, the *Sala José Felix Ribas*, the *Teatro de Teresa Carreño* (Venezuela), *Liviu Rebreanu*, *Gheorghe Dima Music Academy*, the *National College of Art Ion Vidu* (Romania), the *Fészek Muvészklub* (Hungary) and the *Ford Center for the Performing Arts* (Canada). In addition to live concerts, his performances have been featured on television, film, radio and most recently, on the Albany and INNOVA record labels.

Frequently in demand as a guest artist at colleges and universities across the country, Meyer has given concerts and lectures at, among others, the Eastman School of Music, the State University of New York College at Fredonia, Syracuse University, Cornell University, the University of Southern Mississippi, North Carolina School of the Arts, the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Hochstein School of Music, Delta College, Canisius College, Finger Lakes and Saint Joseph's Community Colleges and the University of Caracas in Venezuela. In addition, he is an active performer and teacher at music festivals and has been featured at the Rome, Alexandria, Eastman Guitar Summerfest and the Alirio Diaz Guitar Festivals.

Mr. Meyer's commitment to the cultivation and performance of new music has led to awards from the Barlow Endowment, the Argosy Foundation, and the Eastman School's Hanson Institute for American Music, interpretive instruction from Milton Babbitt and premiere performances of compositions by among others, Leslie Basset, Edward Green, Andrew Waggoner, Gregory Mertl, Edie Hill, Kevin Ernste, Nicolas Scherzinger, Jesse Benjamin Jones, Donald J. Sparr, James Piorkowski and Canadian composer Robert Baker. His diversity as a musician has led to performances on mandolin, banjo and electric guitar with among others, the Syracuse Opera, the Syracuse Society for New Music and the Broadway touring production of the Who's rock opera, "Tommy." In addition to performing new concerti for Electric Guitar and Wind Ensemble, Meyer was recently featured with Cornell University's Ensemble X under the direction of Pulitzer Prize winning composer Steven Stucky in a new concerto for guitar and chamber ensemble composed by Andrew Waggoner.

Kenneth Meyer holds degrees in Music Composition and Performance from the State University of New York at Fredonia and Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the Eastman School of Music. He has served on the faculties of East Carolina University and SUNY at Fredonia and most recently held visiting professorships at the Eastman School of Music and SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music. Currently, Dr. Kenneth Meyer directs thriving guitar programs at Onondaga Community College and Syracuse University's Setnor School of Music.