

# NATHAN FISCHER

## CONCERT PROPOSAL

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"Fischer weaves a spell in this intimate recital." -

*Raymond Tuttle of Fanfare*

"Delivered with engaging emotion. This is music that touches us deeply... Take a trip to somewhere you've never been." -

*Tim McCutcheon of American Record Guide*

"Fischer handles all of the shifts with grace, emotional insight, and deceptive ease." -

*CD Hotlist*

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## CLASSICAL GUITAR

2021-2022 THREE PROGRAMS | SOLO AND CHAMBER

ARTIST

# NATHAN FISCHER

SOLO GUITAR | BIOGRAPHY



This solo program blends all-time beloved pieces, unknown traditional works, and new compositions to create a unique concert experience for audiences. The music represents a diverse international landscape, covering Malaysian popular, Australian minimalism, Spanish traditional, Indonesian neo-romantic, Paraguayan neo-classical, and slightly twisted antiquity from Peru.

For twenty years, **Nathan Fischer** has built a career that has taken him full swing around the world. Currently, he is a Career Specialist with the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music Office of Entrepreneurship and Career Development.

Nathan has appeared on five continents as both soloist and chamber musician with the Silver Sands Guitar Trio, the Orphika Duo, and other collaborations. An advocate for performing new music he has worked with many exciting composers worldwide.

Faculty appointments have included guitar positions with the UiTM in Malaysia, Visiting Assistant Professor at the American University in Cairo, and Visiting Professor at the National Conservatory in Cairo, Egypt. He has held adjunct positions with the WAAPA in Perth, Australia, UNLV in Las Vegas, and SUNY Fredonia in Upstate New York. He received the 2013 UiTM Outstanding Service Award for advancing students.

His research has included grants from the Howard Hanson Institute of New Music, the Fromm Foundation at Harvard, and a U.S. Fulbright Scholar grant. An AUC faculty grant enabled study of the works of Antonio Lauro with Luis Zea in Caracas, Venezuela. He is a co-founder of the Twisted Spruce Music Foundation ([www.twistedspruce.org](http://www.twistedspruce.org)), a new music incubator for composers and guitarists, and has published with Azahar Press, the Malaysian Music Journal, and Soundset Recordings.

Nathan holds a DMA and MM from Eastman with Nicholas Goluses, attended the *Accademia di Musicale Chigiani* in Siena, Italy, studying with Oscar Ghiglia, and earned a BM from George Mason University. He received the 2004 Andrés Segovia Award for Musical Accomplishment and Human Endeavor from ESM.

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# SOLO GUITAR PROGRAM

Gubahanku, Variations on an Indonesian Song Op. 124 - 9'

John Duarte  
(1919-2004)

La Catedral - 8'

Agustín Barrios  
(1885-1944)

Tiento para un pensador - 4'31"

Daniel Cueto  
(b. 1986)

Bendito - Guitar and Electronics - 8'24"

Marcel Castro-Lima  
(b. 1987)

## *Intermission*

Getaran Jiwa, Variations on a Malaysian Song Op. 125 - 7'31"

John Duarte  
(1919-2004)

Salji arr. Nathan Fischer (2015) - 4'10"

Amirah Ali  
(b. 1982)

Ráfaga - 2'50"

Joaquín Turina  
(1882-1949)

Hinchenbrook Riffs - Guitar and Digital Delay - 9'

Nigel Westlake  
(b. 1958)

“Fischer is a fine player who has strong identification with the material... A treasure trove of interesting and unfamiliar works.” - *Al Kunze of Soundboard*

## ARTISTS

# ORPHIKA DUO

## PIANO & GUITAR | BIOGRAPHY

**Orphika Duo** presents a new music program tailor made for piano and guitar. The compositions represent old and new from Australia, Italy, Hungary, Spain, and the United States. Award winning players, **Mireia Frutos Fernández** from Spain (piano) and **Nathan Fischer** from the United States (guitar) have performed together in Asia, Europe, and the United States.



As an artist, **Mireia Frutos** has performed in Australia, Malaysia, Spain, Italy, Germany, Austria, France, Hungary, Israel, and the USA, both as a solo pianist, as a collaborator with a wide variety of ensembles, and as a soloist with orchestra. Dedicated to contemporary music, she has worked with composers and premiered works both for piano solo and ensemble.

Mireia has been awarded First Prize in several competitions including the Musical Youth of Spain Competition, the “Marisa Montiel” piano competition, the “Hazen” Competition, or the “Acordes Caja Madrid” Competition for orchestra, as soloist with the Mendelssohn’s second piano concerto. This last one was recorded and broadcasted for the Spanish Television. She was granted the “Artistic Excellence Award” from Jacobs School of Music, the “Mutua Madrileña Foundation” scholarship, the “Musical Youth of Madrid” scholarship, and the “Rotary Club” grant.

Born in Madrid, Mireia is currently an Associate Instructor in the Collaborative Piano department at Jacobs School of Music, where she is finishing her DM. She studied a Master of Music at the Liszt Academy in Budapest, Hungary, and a Bachelors Degree at the Superior Conservatory of Aragón, Spain. Since 2014 she works as chamber music teacher for the summer course “Musique et Montagne” in France with her cello partner Morgane de Lafforest.

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# ORPHIKA DUO PROGRAM

## PIANO & GUITAR

Jovian Moons

Ganymede - 4'17"

Europa - 4'42"

Io - 4'52"

Nigel Westlake

(b. 1958)

Violet Shadows (2020) - 9' 4"

Paul Elwood

(b. 1958)

Fantasia pour guitare et piano, Op. 145 - 8'30"

Castelnuovo-tedesco

(1895-1968)

### *Intermission*

Sonata Tolteca I - 8'24"

Attila Jeszenszky Bohm

(b. 1976)

Falcon Fantasy - 6'

The Falcons

Feathers

Flying

Elizabeth R. Austin

(b. 1938)

Thirds - 4'10"

Aaron Travers

(b. 1975)

Introducción y Fandango (arr. Julian Bream) - 6'25"

Luigi Boccherini

(1743-1805)

*Orphika Duo*  
*Mireia Frutos Fernández, Piano*  
*Nathan Fischer, Guitar*

## ARTIST

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# SANCHEZ-FISCHER DUO

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## VOICE & GUITAR | BIOGRAPHY

Currently, Brandon Sanchez and Nathan Fischer are half way through recording their first studio album. The special project has leveraged their unique talent to pursue a program of beloved Spanish songs never performed or recorded for guitar and voice. This program captures the intense virtuosic and rhythmic style Joaquín Rodrigo is famous for. Together with Nin's songs, akin to the much beloved *Seven Spanish Popular Songs* by Manuel de Falla will captivate any audience with thier traditional Spanish flair.



Baritone **Brandon Sanchez** has quickly built a dynamic and visible portfolio career having performed some of the most beloved operas, oratorios, and art song cycles popular with today's audiences.

A frequent operatic lead, Brandon's repertoire includes Schaunard in *La Bohème* and the title role of Gianni Schicchi. Productions with IU Opera Theater include the collegiate premiere of *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*, *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and *The Three Hermits*.

An avid performer of sacred music, he has sung the role of The Celebrant in productions of Bernstein's *Mass* and San José State University (SJSU). He was featured as a soloist in the *Requiem* by Fauré and also Brahms. International performances include appearing as soloist in the Haydn *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Ireland Limerick Sinfonia and with the Cairo Festival Symphony in Egypt.

Other notable performances include soloist in Vaughan William's *Serenade to Music* with the Symphony Silicon Valley, as soloist for Orff's *Carmina Burana*, the Mozart *Vespers*, and featured with the Lafayette Master Chorale. Brandon enjoys developing a well-rounded repertoire in various styles including jazz and musical theater. He is also an avid recitalist and embraces the meaningful addition of art song literature.

Brandon holds an MM in Voice Performance and a Performance Diploma in Solo Voice Performance from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. He holds a BM in Vocal Performance from SJSU.

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# SANCHEZ-FISCHER DUO

## PROGRAM

### VOICE & GUITAR

Con Antonio Machado - 23'

Preludio  
Mi corazón te aguarda  
Tu voz y tu mano  
Los sueños  
Cantaban los niños  
¿Recuerdas?  
Fiesta en el prado  
Canción del Duero

Joaquín Rodrigo  
(1901-1999)

### *Intermission*

Veinte Cantos Populares Españoles (arr. Nathan Fischer) - 25'

Tonada de Valdovino  
Cantar  
Tonada de la niña perdida  
Montañase  
Tonada del Conde Sol  
Malagueña  
Granadina  
Saeta  
Jota Tortosina  
Jota Valenciana

Joaquín Nin  
(1879-1959)

*Brandan Sanchez, Baritone  
Nathan Fischer, Guitar*

## SAMPLE PROGRAM NOTES

### Getaran Jiwa, Variations on a Malaysian Song Op. 125 (1996)

John Duarte composed this work at the request of the Classical Guitar Society (WP/Sel) Malaysia. Duarte was an artist-in-residence for the 1996 guitar camp. Upon arrival, he brought both the *Getaran Jiwa* variations and the *Gubahanku* variations to fill the commission of a single work. *Getaran Jiwa* (vibrations of the soul) was a popular song from the year 1960 sung by P. Ramlee for the film *Antara dua Darjat* (between two castes). It is the story of two lovers forcefully separated. After years in exile, the protagonist *Ghazali* sings this song to remind his love, *Tengka Zeleha*, who he is and how he feels about her. This ultimately reunites them despite the challenges they face having been born into different castes. *Variations on Getaran Jiwa* is an important work for Malaysia because it is the first concert work written by a non-Malaysian composer on a Malaysian theme for the classical guitar.

### Salji (2015)

Amirah Ali currently lives in Los Angeles where she is a popular music composer and singer. Having grown up in equatorial Malaysia, just outside of Kuala Lumpur, she was accustomed to regular sunshine and daily temperature ranges of 84-91 °F. During graduate studies at Northern Illinois University, she saw snow for the first time and composed a short work originally for piano called *Snow*. *Salji (Snow)* is an arrangement of *Snow* for the guitar by Nathan Fischer. Both graceful and light, it is a natural fit for the instrument.

### Joaquín Rodrigo – Con Antonio Machado (1901-1999)

"In 1971, the *Comisaría General de la música* (an agency of the Spanish Ministry of Education) commissioned Joaquín Rodrigo (1901-1999) to write a song cycle as a tribute to the composer Joaquín Turina. Not unlike many of the Spanish artists of his time, Rodrigo was drawn to France - the epicenter of 20th century art and culture - and although heavily influenced by his European studies, Rodrigo's music is rooted in the traditions of Spanish culture and nationalism. Rodrigo used text by the famous poet, Antonio Machado (1875-1939) and completed what he called a collection of songs that he named *Con Antonio Machado* for voice and piano. The arrangement presented today returns to his Spanish roots with this guitar transcription by concert guitarist and professor, Marco Socías. Socías meticulously worked on transcribing 31 of Rodrigo's songs for the anniversary of his death in 2019. Rodrigo was heavily inspired by literature, which played an important role in his output of song repertoire. Indeed, as the title of this set suggests, these songs are a shared experience with Antonio Machado and his poetry. The symbolism in the texts will transport you to the landscapes of the blue hills and the snow covered fields of Soria, the green pine groves, the drab holm oaks and the land of the upper *Duero*. They sing repeatedly of roses and mild April afternoons, of a lover with a childlike voice, who was wrenched away by death, so early and so still"—*Brandan Sanchez*.



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# | PUBLICITY

## HOW WE HELP YOU...

### 4-6 WEEKS BEFORE THE CONCERT DATE

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**2-3 minute video reel** - using sample performance material to advertise the concert. Formatted for Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

**Social media promotions** - designed content with date, time, and place of concert. Targeted for your demographic, city, and/or region.

**Personal invitations** - sent to contacts, colleagues, friends, and local media.

**Then we deliver a great concert!**



Orphika Duo



Sanchez-Fischer Duo

## CONTACT

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