

Edizione 2018

Cari amici

Dal 13 al 22 luglio, *the Volterra Project, Summer Guitar Institute* aprirà le porte della sua 12a edizione a un selezionato gruppo di quattordici musicisti provenienti da tutto il mondo per partecipare ad un'esperienza che il *Classical Guitar Magazine*, una delle più importanti riviste internazionali dedicate alla chitarra classica, ha riassunto nel suo numero di giugno 2018 in una sola parola: **"rivoluzionario!"**

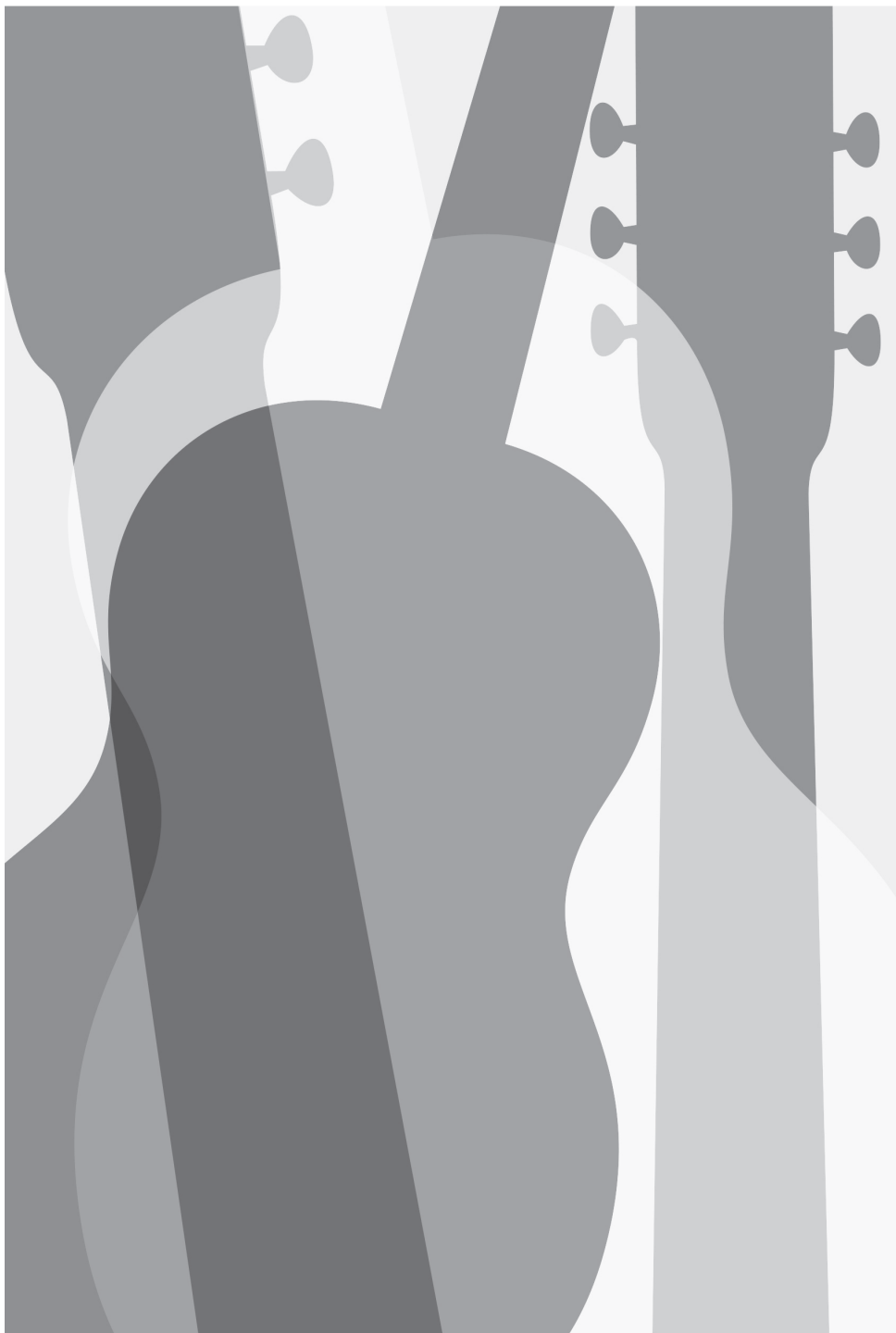
Quando nel 2006 abbiamo fondato il *the Volterra Project*, abbiamo voluto creare uno spazio in antitesi al moderno concetto di consumo di un prodotto semplificato che mira alla soddisfazione superficiale ma immediata, dove cibo, intrattenimento, cultura sono indifferenziati. L'arte è meno importante del suo involucro, il consenso è più importante dell'originalità e della creatività, l'avelocità è più importante della profondità.

Con abbiamo voluto creare un esperimento non competitivo in cui questa prospettiva viene capovolta, dove chitarristi provenienti da tutto il mondo possono riconnettersi con l'arte in un ambiente di ispirazione reciproca e crescita personale, sperimentando un modo completamente diverso di fare arte e musica.

Negli ultimi 12 anni abbiamo portato a Volterra 134 studenti provenienti da oltre 25 Paesi, 20 chitarristi di fama internazionale e 28 musicisti e professionisti nel campo della *business of music* e della *music physiology*.

Come ogni anno siamo felici di condividere tutto questo con la magica regione di Volterra organizzando una serie di tre concerti gratuiti con cui vogliamo ringraziare tutti voi per il vostro prezioso supporto e la vostra presenza senza i quali non potremmo tradurre in realtà i nostri sforzi.

Antigoni Goni e Michele Rosa-Clot
Directors



Edition 2018

Dear Friends

From 13 to 22 July, *the Volterra Project, Summer Guitar Institute* will open the doors of its 12th edition to a selected group of fourteen musicians from all over the world to an experience that *Classical Guitar Magazine*, one of the most important international magazines in classical guitar, has summarized with one word: ***"Groundbreaking"***!

By founding *the Volterra Project* in 2006, we proposed a space in antithesis to the modern concept of consumption of a simplified product aiming at the superficial but immediate satisfaction where, food, entertainment, culture are undifferentiated. Artistry is less important than its packaging, consensus is more important than originality and creativity, speed more important than profundity.

In opposition to this philosophy, *the Volterra Project* brought to existence a noncompetitive space where this perspective is turned upside down, where guitarists from all over the world can reconnect with artistry in an environment of mutual inspiration and personal growth to experience a completely different way of creating art and music.

In the last 12 years we brought together 134 students from over 25 Countries, 20 internationally acclaimed guitarists, 28 musicians and professionals in the fields of *business of music* and of *music physiology*.

Every year the Volterra Project is delighted to share all this with the magical region of Volterra by organizing a set of three free concerts and we thank you all you for your enthusiastic support and priceless presence. Without it our dream to make a difference by cultivating talent would be impossible.

Antigoni Goni and Michele Rosa-Clot
Directors

Friday 13th of July / 21:00
Camera Consigliare di Palazzo dei Priori
Volterra

To the Roots (Guitar recital)

Stephen Robinson

ALEXANDRE TANSMAN (1897-1986)	Cavatina
CARLO DOMENICONI (*1947)	Koyunbaba
ANDREW YORK (*1958)	Home
ROLAND DYENS (1955-2016)	Songe Capricorne
	Fuoco (Libra Sonatine)

Antigoni Goni

Luca Isolani & Maarten Vandenbemden

ISAAC ALBÉNIZ (1860-1909)	Suite Española, op. 47: Mallorca Sevilla Castilla
ENRIQUE GRANADOS (1867-1916)	Intermezzo (Goyescas) Rondalla Aragonesa
MAURICE RAVEL (1875-1937)	Ma mère l'Oye <i>(arr. M. Vandenbemden)</i>
LUCA ISOLANI (*1987)	Note fuori campo <i>Omaggio a Nino Rota</i>

Support for Stephen Robinson was made possible, in part, by a WORLD Class Travel Award through WORLD: The David & Leighan Rinker Center for International Learning, the School of Music, and the Brown Center for Faculty Innovation & Excellence at Stetson University.

Faculty

Antigoni Goni
Stephen Robinson
Laura Snowden
David Jaggs
Gretchen Egolf
Nicole Bachel
Patrece Robinson

Alumni Showcase

Nina Fourie-Gouws

Assistants

Luca Isolani
Maarten Vandenbemden

Composer in residence

Romain Cadot

Students

Irina Aleksandrova
Eliza Balmuth
Maria Bastida Abril
Lauren Baucum
Benjamin Gateno
Tony Italia
Alex Kenrick-Kupiec
Jelena Lukic
Nick Martin
Andrea Minuti
Francheska Pondevida
Remi Thurin
Georgios Tsalikidis
Stefano Vivaldini

Monday 16th of July / 21:00
Rocca Sillana, Pomarance

Webs of Creation (Guitar recital)

Nina Fourie-Gouws

NIKITA KOSHKIN (°1956)

1. Usher Valse by Nikita Koshkin (1956)

ROLAND DYENS (1955-2016)

2. Hommage a Villa-Lobos

by Roland Dyens (1955-2016)

I. Climazonie

II. Danse Caractérielle et Bachianinha

III. Andantinostalgie

IV. Tuhû

Laura Snowden

JOHN DOWLAND (1563-1626)

A Fancy

HEITOR VILLA-LOBOS (1887-1959)

Cinq Preludes

I. Andantino espressivo

II. Andantino

III. Andante

IV. Lento

V. Poco Animato

LAURA SNOWDEN (°1989)

Anpao

GIULIO REGONDI (1822-1872)

Introduction et Caprice, op. 23

Thursday 19th of July / 21:00
Camera Consigliare di Palazzo dei Priori
Volterra

The Volterra Project laureates (Guitar recital)

Irina Aleksandrova (Russia)

Eliza Balmuth (USA)

Maria Bastida Abril (Spain)

Lauren Baucum (USA)

Benjamin Gateno (USA)

Tony Italia (USA)

Alex Kenrick-Kupiec (USA)

Jelena Lukic (Serbia)

Nick Martin (USA)

Andrea Minuti (Italy)

Francheska Pondevida (Philippines/USA)

Remi Thurin (France)

Georgios Tsalikidis (Greece)

Stefano Vivaldini (Italy)



Maarten Vandenbenden



Antigoni Goni



Luca Isolani



Gretchen Egolf



Paivce Robinson



Stephen Robinson



Laura Snowden



Nicole Bachel



David Jaggs



Nina Fourie-Gours

BIOGRAPHIES

Antigoni Goni

Universally praised for her profound artistic sensitivity, her exquisite sound and for her unmatched palette of colors and dynamics, the Greek guitarist Antigoni Goni is internationally acclaimed as a true ambassador of the guitar and a sought-after pedagogue.

Her career blossomed in the mid 90s after winning the Guitar Foundation of America Competition, which resulted in some 65 concerts in North America and a contract with Naxos Records. Since then she performed virtually everywhere, in concert halls such as the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Covent Garden and the Wigmore Hall in London, the Odeon of Herodes Atticus in Acropolis (Athens) as well as the Philharmonic and the Cappella Sale in St. Petersburg, the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow, and Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall in New York to mention just a few.

Her highly successful recordings for Naxos, Koch, and Timespan records have been praised for being "expressively poetic and technically exciting" and have been received with great enthusiasm by the international musical community.

She is the founder of the Guitar Department at the Pre-College Division of Juilliard School of Music of New York where she also taught for 10 years.

Since 2005 Antigoni Goni has been Professor of Guitar at the Royal Conservatory in Brussels (Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel) and a member of its Artistic Committee. In April 2015, the Royal Conservatory named her "Professor of the year" making her the youngest professor ever presented with the "Madame de la Hault" prize, awarded by the Brussels Royal Conservatory's "Patrimonium".

In 2007 she founded and started directing "the Volterra Project, Summer Guitar Institute", an innovative Classical Guitar workshop that every summer gathers in Tuscany (Italy) international students and professionals of the highest caliber for ten days of intense study and inspired performances.

The Brussels Guitar Laboratory is an initiative of Antigoni Goni and the research department of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels.

Stephen Robinson

Acclaimed by The New York Times for “effortless virtuosity with intelligence and good taste,” by El Nuevo Dia (Puerto Rico) as a “magnificent North American guitarist, full of virtuosity, magnificent technical precision, and a masterfully delivered diverse range of sound,” and by Maestro Andrés Segovia as “a magnificent guitarist, one of the most brilliant guitarists of our times,” Stephen Robinson tours extensively as a recitalist, collaborative artist, and orchestral soloist. He performs at leading institutions and festivals worldwide and has appeared as guest soloist with orchestras including the Cincinnati Symphony and Boston Pops Orchestras.

Robinson's eight recordings for Clear Note Records, Centaur Records and Lakeside Records have received unanimous critical acclaim, with his most recent Clear Note release, *Imagine* hailed as “a CD which will rise toward the top of the listener's playlist” (Jim McCutcheon, *Soundboard Magazine*). McCutcheon continues, Robinson “played with a spaciousness in which only a masterful musician can transport the listener to that nirvana-like level of pure being.”

Stephen Robinson has garnered numerous international and national awards, fellowships and grants, including several from the National Endowment for the Arts. He has served as a Fulbright Fellow to Canada, and has been honored twice by Stetson University's Hand Award for Excellence in Research and Creativity for his unparalleled performances and recordings.

Stephen Robinson is Professor of Music at Stetson University, where he founded and has directed the Guitar Program since 1983. His alumni have excelled in the finest graduate programs of Yale University, The Eastman School of Music, The Peabody Conservatory, Florida State University, and University of Southern California, among others, and many now hold prominent positions in the professional world.

Stephen Robinson resides in Florida with his wife, Patrece, and together they have raised four sons and have four grandchildren. He performs exclusively with D'Addario Strings and plays a 2013 Antonius Müller guitar.

Laura Snowden

'A poignant, mesmerising show....held the Wigmore Hall rapt'

(The Guardian)

'A true musician whose interpretative capabilities are profound and exciting'

(Classical Guitar Magazine)

Award-winning classical guitarist and composer Laura Snowden was hand-picked by Julian Bream to give the Bream Trust concert at Wigmore Hall in 2015 and 2017, including world premieres by Olli Mustonen and Julian Anderson, commissioned by the Trust. She was the first guitarist to graduate from the prestigious Yehudi Menuhin School, where guitar tuition was made possible by a donation from the Rolling Stones. She was invited by guitarist John Williams to perform at Shakespeare's Globe with her folk ensemble Tir Eolas, and recently recorded Lisa Streich's new guitar concerto Augenlider with the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin.

Laura won First Prize at the Volos International Guitar Composition Competition and has been commissioned by VIDA Guitar Quartet and the International Guitar Foundation; her song Live Free was performed at over 300 simultaneous concerts in 60 countries for the charity Voices for Hospices.

She currently teaches at the Yehudi Menuhin School and has given classes at the International Guitar Foundation's Summer School, the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Birmingham Conservatoire and the Altamira Hong Kong International Guitar Symposium.

Nina Fourie-Gouws

Nina Fourie-Gouws was born in Pretoria, South Africa. She completed both her Bachelor and Masters in Music Performance degrees at the University of Pretoria and also received a Licentiate in Classical Guitar Teaching from the University of South Africa.

In 2012 Fourie-Gouws obtained her Postgraduate in Music Performance with distinction from the South African College of Music, University of Cape Town. She is the first guitarist to receive these honours cum laude.

Fourie-Gouws is a 2012 and 2014 Volterra Guitar Project alumnus and has also received masterclasses from a large number of concert guitarists and pedagogues, including Carlos Bonell (Royal College of Music in London), Nikita Koshkin (Russia), Marco Tamayo (Cuba), Štěpán Rak (Czech Republic), Victor Villadangos (Argentina), Goran Krivokapic (Montenegro), Antigoni Goni (Greece) and Carlos Barbosa-Lima (Brazil), to name a few.

Since 2013 Nina Fourie-Gouws has been part-time guitar lecturer at Stellenbosch Konservatorium where she teaches pre-undergraduate and undergraduate practical music studies, accompaniment, repertoire studies and teaching methodology.

Nina maintains an active concert schedule throughout Southern Africa and has performed as a guest artist on the South African television show, Kyknet's Draadloos.

Luca Isolani

Neapolitan guitarist, arranger and composer, after graduating cum laude under the guidance of Maurizio Villa at the Conservatorio di Napoli, Luca (b.1987) took part in the Volterra Project Summer Guitar Institute as a student for the first time in July 2011. The Volterra Project had a strong impact on both his musical and human growth, representing a turning point in his artistic development. As a result of this uplifting experience, he decided to move to Belgium where he had the privilege of studying with Antigoni Goni at the Koninklijk Conservatorium of Brussels, obtaining a Masters' Degree in Music with High Distinction in 2013.

During his educational path, he had the chance to take part in numerous master classes and courses with professors and world-renowned musicians such as Sharon Isbin, Konrad Ragossnig, Sergio and Odair Assad, Roland Dyens, Margarita Escarpa, Rene Izquierdo, Gaëlle Solal, Marco Socias. As a guitarist, in the past few years, Luca has performed both as a soloist and in chamber music performances all over Europe, sharing the stage with classical and folk musicians from all over the world. This drove him to explore the different uses of the guitar, finding out how a more and more intensive use of heterogeneous techniques requires a change of perspective on the guitar playing and on the performer himself.

As a result of these experiences, Luca has recently started working as a researcher for the PhD in Performing Arts program for the Vrije Universiteit van Brussel (VUB). Starting from the percussion producing actions in classical guitar literature and how those lead to a full rethinking of the performance, he explores the embodied knowledge of the so-called hybrid guitarist. Since the end of his studies, Luca has devoted himself uninterruptedly to pedagogical activities.

As a teacher, he has been working for the Music Academies of the Fédération Wallonie Bruxelles since 2013 and as Assistant Professor for the guitar department of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels from 2015 to 2017. He plays a guitar by the Italian luthier Angelo Vailati.

Maarten Vandenbemden

Maarten Vandenbemden (°1994) was born in a house full of guitars. His father, Roland, is his first teacher for the guitar, while Maarten also studies the piano, organ, harmony and chamber music at the music academy of his hometown Tervuren.

In 2011, Maarten is accepted in the class of Antigoni Goni at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels, combining the studies of Classical Guitar and Music Writing. After participating as a student in the Volterra Project of 2014, Maarten is inspired to carry on his musical journey from a broadened and refreshed perspective. A six-month Erasmus study in Napoli (Italy) further opens new horizons. In June 2017, he graduates from the Brussels conservatory with highest distinction.

Meanwhile, he has had the opportunity to follow a broad range of masterclasses with, amongst others, Sergio and Odair Assad, Sharon Isbin, Konrad Ragossnig, Yves Storms and Ian Watt. At the 2013 guitar festival of Kutná Hora (Czech Republic), Maarten was awarded the Special prize for best Interpretation by Štěpán Rak.

A shared passion for chamber music led into the creation of duo Adentro with pianist Saskia Van Herzeele. Eagerly discovering the unsuspected possibilities of music for guitar and piano, they are fascinated by the world of music theatre and the encounters of music with other art forms. In 2018, Adentro was finalist of the Supernova competition (BE) and winner of the chamber music competition at the Twents Guitar Festival (NL). Moreover, Maarten frequently performs together with Noémie Schellens (soprano) and Kobe Baeyens (baritone). Besides playing, he also loves writing his own arrangements of music he finds compelling and attractive, his arrangement of three Spanish folk song settings by Federico Garcia Lorca being published this year by auurk ed.

As a soloist, Maarten has performed with several orchestras and in 2017, he was winner of the Ghent International Guitar Competition and finalist of the first Honda Competition for Classical Music, leading to a performance at the Bozar centre of Fine Arts (Brussels). Since 2016, each July, he is enthusiastically involved as an assistant in the Volterra Project, one of the most unique and innovative Summer Courses in the classical guitar world.

Nicole Bachel

Nicole Bachel is Austrian-born, lived most of her adult life in the United States and currently resides in Brussels.

She has split her recent professional careers between luthier work, mostly repairing guitars, and as a Shiatsu practitioner. Her TCM-based Shiatsu Therapy training, completed in 2008, included the study of macrobiotics and the energetics of food, from which she draws to promote a balanced wholefoods diet.

She started her Qigong studies in 2004 via a certified instructor of the Healing Tao in Delaware, USA, and gives occasional individual and group instruction of seated and moving meditation.

Furthermore, Nicole holds a Shodan in Shurite-Shaolin since 2005. She draws from her martial arts training to incorporate the breath, stretching and core applications, into the Qigong sessions.

In 2016 she presented a Self-care for Musicians course at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels. The aim of the course was to help musicians increase body awareness, mental focus through meditative breath exercises and moving meditation, as well as provide nutritional advice, self-acupressure point application, self-massage and stretching exercises to give a performer tools to develop balanced practice routines and day-of-performance routines.

Romain Cadot

When Romain first started music, it was more of a hobby and it seemed it would stay that way. When he became older he actually realized he had things to express and this, combined with a lot of improvisation, inevitably lead to composition. Now he is trying out different ways inside the large scale of possibilities composition has to offer, in order to find his own path of expression.

Gretchen Egolf

Gretchen Egolf is an actor, director, and teacher, currently a Lecturer in Acting at London Academy of Musical and Dramatic Arts, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, Academy of Live and Recorded Arts, and The Actors Centre. She has also taught at RADA and Brunel University, as well as in her own independent studio practice. Gretchen trained at Juilliard (concurrent with Antigoni Goni) and has performed, to critical acclaim, in theatre, film, and television, in both America and the UK.

She has appeared on and off Broadway and in and off the West End, as well as in theatres across the US. Her screen work is extensive, mostly in American television. In teaching and coaching, Gretchen specialises in the Michael Chekhov Technique, receiving teaching certification from the Michael Chekhov Association and having studied extensively with Michael Chekhov London, NYC, and Europe, as well as being a member of Michael Chekhov UK and contributing to the recent New Pathways research project, symposium and book at Goldsmiths.

Gretchen also teaches various other methodologies and approaches to acting as well as directing theatre and experimental film.

David Jaggs

David Jaggs is best known for his highly successful range of eight “easy listening” albums which have sold well in excess of 100,000 copies. Over the last twenty years he has made over 2000 appearances marketing and promoting his work in a variety of “unusual” ways.

David also has his own record label, “Timespan Recordings” featuring artists David Miller, (Baroque Lute) (I think it is a worthwhile addition that soon will belong to your favourite Weiss CDs. Both (Lutes) sound wonderfully full, round and warm.” Lute and and Early Guitar Society of Japan. “...the disc is an exceptionally engaging Weiss recording... what wonderful expressiveness and musical intelligence David Miller brings to this music...” Chris Goodwin, Lute News.) Robert Brightmore (classical guitar) and most recently with Antigoni Goni on an important new album, “Hymn to the Muse”, released in the Spring of 2016..

As well as producing a DVD, “Evolucion” featuring British guitarist John Mills, David worked as engineer, editor and producer on an acclaimed double album “Segovia the Ramirez years” with John Mills, (the latter gaining a double five star review, performance and recording from BBC music magazine.)

David Jaggs attended the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London under the direction of Antonio Albanes. After graduating with distinction David was privileged to become a private student of Manuel Barrueco at his home in New Jersey, USA during 1987 and 1988.

Patrece Robinson

Career Development Specialist and Arts Consultant

Involved in the performing arts industry since 1980, Patrece Robinson has led a diverse career in academia, administration and the not-for-profit sectors. With extensive professional experience as educator, career adviser, performing arts presenter, artist representative, business manager, and success coach, she is dedicated to guiding individuals with their academic, artistic and career pursuits in developing fulfilling and sustainable careers.

As Adjunct Professor of Music at Stetson University in Florida from 2002 until her retirement in 2015, Ms. Robinson taught Career Skills for the Entrepreneurial Musician. Her many roles have included Administrative Director for the 2014 Sorrento, Italy GuitarFest, Fellow in the Coleman Foundation Entrepreneurship Program (2012-2014), Assistant Director of Stetson University's Office of Career Development (2008-2013), Administrative Director for the Stetson University International Guitar Workshop (1991-2005), Director of the Stetson University Community School of the Arts (1993-1997) and Business Manager for Central Florida Cultural Endeavors, Inc. and the Florida International Festival, featuring the London Symphony Orchestra (2006-2007)

A frequent guest presenter, Patrece Robinson has also served as keynote speaker at the Southern Entrepreneurship in the Arts Conference at the University of North Carolina - Greensboro, and as guest presenter at the 2017 Florida Guitar Festival at Florida State University and the Guitar Foundation of America's Annual International Convention at the University of Louisville.

A native of Miami, Florida, Patrece Robinson graduated summa cum laude from Florida State University with Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in piano performance where she was a student of the great American/Hungarian pianist, Edward Kilenyi. Committed to service in the Central Florida community, Ms. Robinson managed competitive youth soccer teams for 15 years. She resides in Florida with her husband, Stephen, and together they have raised four sons and have four grandchildren.



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