

## Profile: René Heredia

**R**ené and his Flamenco guitar have been together for so many years of his lifetime that there seems to be no separation of the two. He formed a bond with the guitar as a child. His life, his character, his loves and aspirations have all developed through the instrument.

He began his training with his father, a Gitano Puro (pure Gypsy). As a boy, René was taught the rudiments of Flamenco Guitar and Spanish Gypsy Dance. He brings a unique view of both sides of the art form to his audience.

As a little boy, René remembers always having the house full of flamencos such as Carlos Montoya, Vicente Escudero, Mario Escudero, José Greco's dance Company, Carmen Amaya, Sabicas, La Chunga and her Company. They were all close friends of José Heredia and his family. Sabicas would help and teach René the secrets of Flamenco at his mother's kitchen table.

At thirteen, he was performing with his sisters, Fátima, Sarita, Zoraida, Carmen, and brother Enrique. "Los Heredia" were doing concerts, television shows and supper club performances. His international recognition came when he was seventeen and the incomparable Flamenco dancer Carmen Amaya (Spain's greatest dancer of this century) heard him play. She immediately took him to be her lead guitarist. He toured many years doing concerts in the major capitals of Europe and the United States with the famous Amaya Ballet. While he was in Spain, René was invited to perform with the singing and motion picture star Antoñita Moreno, in "Los Reinos de España". He was then invited to perform in the *Festival de Cante Grande* with Fosforito, Jarrito, Juanito Varea, Chocolate, and Gordito de Triana; some of Spain's most outstanding singers. As his reputation grew, the famous Spanish dancer José Greco invited him to be his lead guitarist for several seasons. René has



Mr. Heredia will wrap-up this season's Concert Series on March 31

played for such outstanding dancers as El Güito, Mario Maya, Los Pelaos, Manuela Vargas, Luisita Triana, María Rosa, Ciro, Rosa Montoya, Lutys de Luz, María Benitez, Los Heredia, and many more.

While living in Paris, René's distinguished L.P. album, *Alborada Flamenca*, was awarded the *Gran Prix de Disque* of France. In the United States, René was invited to perform the world premiere of his symphony composition and Flamenco suite for Guitar and Orchestra "Alborada Gitana" (a *Farruca*), which he performed with the Denver Symphony and Denver Chamber Orchestra at Red Rocks Amphitheater.

René has performed live concerts and T.V. shows with his Flamenco Fusion Group and his Flamenco Fantasy Dance Theatre. He performed solo concerts at such prestigious venues as New York's Carnegie Recital Hall four years in a row, where he received standing ovations; the Champs Elysee Theatre in Paris; Westminster Theatre in London; Teatro Barcelona; Teatro La Zarzuela and Teatro Maravilla in Madrid, Spain; and the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and Greek Theatre in Los Angeles.

René has performed concerts with his Flamenco Fantasy Dance Theatre in Kansas City, where he was awarded the "Keys to the City" (sister city of Seville, Spain). He was recognized as one of Colorado's best-known composers in a special tribute to Colorado artists at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

René was awarded the prestigious *Governor's Award of Colorado* for excellence in performance and education, as well as the *Mayor's Award of Denver* for excellence in the arts. He has done command performances

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### COMING ATTRACTIONS

- **Saturday, March 10**, DCGS Debut Competition
- **Tuesday, March 20**, DCGS Monthly Meeting
- **Saturday, March 31**, DCGS Concert Series: René Heredia
- **Saturday, April 14**, DCGS Youth Concert
- **Tuesday, April 17**, DCGS Monthly Meeting

### GUITAR FOR SELL

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## Board Notes

March will bring to a close our 2006-07 season with two important events. On March 10 we will hold our first Denver Classical Guitar Society Debut Competition. We are hoping as many of you as possible will be on hand to support our young competitors. (See article on event details) This event is free and open to the public. On Friday, March 31 we will host Denver's own Rene Heredia in an all Flamenco concert. This will be a fun and interesting evening. Rene will take us through the history of the pieces he will be performing. Remember tickets are available through our website, mail order or at the door. We plan to have the new brochure for the 2007-08 season ready to distribute at this event.

The Board is still searching for someone to take the position of Treasurer. We are looking for someone with bookkeeping experience or who has held a similar position before. The Treasurer will be responsible for paying all bill and reimbursements as well as keeping our records on a computer program such as MicroSoft Money or Quicken. Monthly reports on the transaction and account balances will need to be presented at the Board Meeting and a budget must be prepared annually. Anyone interested in this Board position should contact me at my email address or call 303-940-7097 for further information. We would like to fill this position as soon as possible. In addition we would like to have someone serve as Out Reach Chair Person. This position has a great deal of potential and I

hope someone out there is interested in taking it on. As we continue to grow we will have more opportunities for member to become involved in the running of the organization. We welcome your interest, support and suggestions.

—Rochelle Chartier  
President

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ken.bobbitt@cccs.edu



## DCGS Debut Competition

On Saturday, March 10, 2007, the first DCGS Debut Competition will happen at the South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street. Six high quality competitors have qualified for the public Semi-final round which begins promptly at 1:00 PM. Four players will qualify for the public Final round which will begin at 7:00 PM Saturday evening. After the Final round, the winners (3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> places) will be announced and presented to the public.

The awards are:

First Prize is \$500 and a professional debut concert in the DCGS 2007 – 2008 concert season. The Winner's Concert will be held next winter at the South Broadway Christian Church. Second Prize is \$250, and Third Prize is \$100.

The music presented will vary from competitor to competitor. For the Semi-final round each player will present the two pieces submitted for the "video-tape" or Preliminary round, plus two free choice works of contrasting styles and periods. The total program duration is a maximum of 20 minutes per contestant.

The Final round will be a free choice program of no less than 15 or more than 20 minutes duration. None of the works performed in the previous rounds may be included.

We trust there will be a lot of interest from the Society members, friends, and the general public, and that many of you will make it a priority to attend. If you have never watched a guitar competition, you are in for a fun, interesting, and probably enlightening experience. It's fascinating to observe

the performers presenting their best efforts, and dealing with the intense pressure of playing for a panel of judges along with a public audience.

Another important aspect of this competition is to broadly support the Winner's Concert next winter. The revenue from that concert will be used to replenish the Patrick M. Keller Fund which was the source of funding for the DCGS Debut Competition. This is wonderful opportunity for the DCGS to shine in the Denver musical community with our focus on presenting outstanding Colorado guitarists.

Please join us at both the Competition and the Winner's Concert.

—Steve Waechter, Director  
DCGS Debut Competition

*DCGS Annual Youth Recital  
Saturday, April 14, 1:30 pm  
South Broadway Christian Church*

*Teachers if you have students who wish to participate, contact Steve Bondy at  
Stephen@twinkletogether.com for more information.*



## Meeting Notes

The February meeting marked the first time since I became monthly meeting chairman that snow, slick roads and cold weren't issues. In spite of that, we had a meeting anyway. **Bruce Thompson**, batting lead off, started with Bach's "Gavottes I and II" from the 3<sup>rd</sup> cello suite. **Tom Stump** was back after a short hiatus to perform Satie's "Gymnopédies No. 1", Frederick Hand's "Elegy for a King" and a selection from one of Bach's violin sonatas. **John Coleman** stepped up with

Carulli's *Prelude op. 265* and Sor's *Study No. 17*. **Ken Thompson**, in the cleanup slot, played four lovely selections from Torroba's "Castles of Spain". **Martin Ters** rendered the "Four Ballad Stories" by Milan Tesar, putting even more "vivo" into the "Vivo" movement! Newcomer **Adam Buer** wowed the gathering with Tansman's "Barcarolle" and a prelude by James McGuire. **Kathryn Lewis** brought in her musical partner, **Elaine Madera**, for a delightful collection of four short duets. **Brint Lukens**, playing in that

meek, restrained, quiet style he's so well known for (ha!), cranked up the intensity with a lively "Rumba" and "Recuerdos de la Alhambra". **Rochelle Chartier** capped our evening with a soothing "Courante" and a nice period of pleasant mingling and conversation ensued.

—Dave Olsson  
Monthly Meeting Chairman



## Profile: René Heredia

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for such dignitaries as Prince Rainier and Princess Grace of Monaco, Armand Hammer, Prince Bandar of Saudi Arabia, Queen Noor of Jordan, and Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter.

René was invited to be the lead guitarist and guest artist with Stewart Copeland, founder of "The Police" in his national tour of the U.S.A. in "The Rhythmatics". René was invited by Colorado

Performing Arts Center to be the musical director for the play "Romeo and Juliet" (set to early colonial California).

René has appeared on numerous national radio and television shows, including *The Ed Sullivan Show* with Duke Ellington, *The Steve Allen Show* with Sabicas, and *The Art Linkletter Show* with Donald O'Connor and Abbie Laine, *The George Goble and Eddie Fisher Show* with Carmen Amaya, and *The Ann Southern Show* with César

Romero. René appeared in the Spanish Movie "Balcón de Luna" with Paquita Rico, Carmen Sevilla, and Lola Flores. His N.E.T. concert specials and opening acts for such outstanding artists as Bill Cosby, Hal Linden, and Peter Nero have put René in the forefront as one of the leading Flamenco Guitarists in the United States today.



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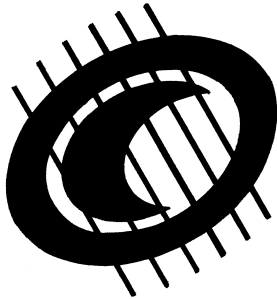
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[bobmccarroll@comcast.net](mailto:bobmccarroll@comcast.net)



Denver Classical Guitar Society  
7881 Oak Street  
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March/April 2007



### Society Contacts

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#### Email:

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\*Send membership dues (\$15) and address changes to Rochelle at 7881 Oak Street, Arvada, CO 80005. *Please include your email address.*

\*\*Send newsletter articles to Clara at ClaraCT@aol.com

## Calendar

**Thursday, March 8, 7:00 pm—Masakazu Ito,** Arvada Center, \$12.

**Saturday, March 10, 1:00 pm (Semi-final round) and 7:00 pm (final round), DCGS Debut Competition,** South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street (at Ellsworth), Denver.

**Saturday, March 10, 7:30 pm—Eisteddfod: Colin Thurmond (guitarist and composer) & Molly Kittle (mezzo-soprano),** Hamilton Hall, Lamont School of Music, University of Denver.

**Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 pm—DCGS Monthly Meeting,** South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street (at Ellsworth), Denver.

**Tuesday, March 20, 3-5 pm—Eliot Fisk Master-Class,** Hamilton Recital Hall, Lamont School of Music, University of Denver, FREE.

**Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 pm—Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra with Eliot Fisk, guitarist.** Newman Center, University of Denver, \$25-\$55.

**Saturday, March 31, 7:30 pm—DCGS Concert Series, René Heredia, Flamenco guitarist,** South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street (at Ellsworth), Denver, \$15.

**Monday, April 2, 12 pm, Richard Wright, Guitar Pedagogue, Lecture,** Williams Recital Salon, University of Denver.

**Tuesday, April 3, 3-5 pm, Richard Wright, Master-Class,** Hamilton Recital Hall, University of Denver.

**Saturday, April 14, 1:30 pm—DCGS Annual Youth Recital,** South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street (at Ellsworth), Denver.

**Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 pm—DCGS Monthly Meeting,** South Broadway Christian Church, 23 Lincoln Street (at Ellsworth), Denver.

**René Heredia and his Flamenco Group,** every Thursday at Buenos Aires Grill, 2191 Arapahoe St. For more info 303-296-6709 or 720-971-3118.

#### We're on the Web!

[www.denverclassicalguitarsociety.org](http://www.denverclassicalguitarsociety.org)

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