

Gyre Music presents  
**Frank Wallace**  
Three Spanish Guitars

**Manuel Gutierrez, 1854**

Good Winds for Dionisio - Homage to Aguado Frank Wallace, b. 1952

Fandango Variado, op. 16 Dionisio Aguado, 1784-1849

**Manuel Ramirez, c. 1910**

Preludio #5 Francisco Tárrega, 1852-1909

Prelude # 1 & 3 Heitor Villa-Lobos, 1887- 1959

Omaggio Manuel de Falla, 1876-1946

Homenaje a Tárrega, op. 69 (1932) Joaquín Turina, 1882-1949

Garrotín

Soleares

Nana Federico García Lorca, 1898-1936

Café de Chinitas Lorca

*intermission*

**Ignacio Fleta, 1964**

Suite Compostelana (1962) Federico Mompou, 1893-1987

Prelude

Coral

Cuna

Recitativo

Canción

Muñeira

Anoushka *from* Film Scores (2015) Frank Wallace

Black Falcon (2013) Frank Wallace

From West Side Story Leonard Bernstein, 1918-1990

Something's Coming (arr. F. Wallace)

America

Played on original instruments: Manuel Gutierrez, Sevilla, 1854;  
Manuel Ramirez, Madrid, c. 1910; Ignacio Fleta, Barcelona, 1964

Frank Wallace is supported in part by a grant from the NH State Council on the Arts.

## Frank Wallace composer, guitarist, baritone

On stage, Frank Wallace is known for his “*elegant virtuosity*” (Classics Today) on the solo guitar, lute and vihuela and is also a master of self-accompanied song. Of his most recent CD **Four Extraordinary Spanish Guitars**, Al Kunze says in **Soundboard**, “...[he is] a powerful player, possessed of an unfailing musicianship...an almost symphonic range of colors and articulations...” Wallace tours internationally, performing music from the 16th - 21st century both as a soloist and with mezzo-soprano Nancy Knowles as Duo LiveOak. Wallace is a graduate of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in guitar performance and is self-taught as a composer. **American Record Guide** calls Wallace’s compositions “*exciting, unpredictable, and fresh.*” **Fanfare** magazine has dubbed him a composer with “*an authentic expressive voice*” and a “*high standard of musical interest*” who performs with “*flawless technical proficiency*”. Wallace’s complete recordings and compositions are available at [www.gyremusic.com](http://www.gyremusic.com), a site rich with information and samples of sheet music and audio.

*“Wallace plays his own works with inspiration, determination, and a wealth of creativity...he can match the musicality of any player out there...”* — This is classical guitar

## NOTES

These three Spanish guitars are part of a small collection of guitars I acquired in the mid 1990’s. When I bought these guitars, I had been a *vihuela* player exclusively for more than a decade and as I returned to the guitar I was captivated in particular by the lighter structure of 19th century guitars and what I perceived as a “woodier” tone than modern guitars - having more personal character. I must say that I was stunned at the power and freshness of the older instruments as well.

Each one of these guitars has captivated me at some point as being “the best.” It is foolishness, but human nature I presume, to rate our experiences. Needless to say, each is a like a child, not a spouse, having their own qualities and I love them all equally. Is it the old wood itself or the magic of the builder? No doubt it is a combination of these factors along with my intimate knowledge of each that make these fine instruments speak to me.

With the exception of my own compositions, the music in this program is appropriate to the period of each instrument on which it is played. Gutierrez had a shop on the same street that the great Antonio Torres worked in the 1850-60’s and they no doubt shared ideas and inspiration. Manuel Ramirez represents the next generation of builders following the same genealogy and is also quite perfect in relation to Tárrega’s music being played on it. It’s sound is stunning especially given it’s relatively shallow body and short 630mm scale. Ignacio Fleta and his two sons established one of the most desired high-end guitar shops in the world by the mid 1950’s. Fleta had built other string instruments earlier, but when Segovia and his protegee John Williams began playing his instruments, they became one of the most sought after guitars in the world.

More information on the builders can be found at <http://www.zavaletas-guitarras.com/Guitar-Makers-of-Sevilla/>. Thank you James Greenberg for making this information accessible.