

Upcoming Concerts

The Robinson Guitar Duo

Sunday, October 29, 2017 at 4 p.m.

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

General admission: \$15, Students: \$10

VCU Flamenco Festival VII: Concerts featuring flamenco guitarists Leah Kruszewski, Ricardo Marlow, and Torcuato Zamora

Friday-Sunday, March 23-25, 2018

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall

W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

General admission: \$15, Students: \$10

learn more at

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DEPARTMENT OF **MUSIC**

2017 - 2018 Guitar Series

Banjo Masters

featuring

John Bullard and Adam Larrabee

with guest artists

Darrell Muller, bass

Jay Starling, dobro

Andy Thacker, mandolin

Sunday, October 1, 2017 at 4 p.m.

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

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**Selections for this afternoon's concert
will be announced from the stage.**

About the artists

John Bullard has gained international attention for his work in developing and transcribing classical repertoire for the five-string banjo. In 2005, he became the first classical banjoist to graduate from Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Music with a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance. Graduating magna cum laude, John was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda, the prestigious national music honor society. Critically acclaimed CD releases by Bullard include **John Bullard – The Classical Banjo** on the Dargason label and **Bach on the Banjo** on Albany Records. Music from John's recordings has been included in several feature films such as the DreamWorks animated film *The Rise of the Guardians* and the award winning *The Edge of Heaven*.

"And if the idea of Bach on a five-string banjo strikes you as inherently contradictory, a musical oxymoron, then you only have to listen to Bullard's newest CD to recognize you might need to rethink your estimation."

—Virginia Living Magazine

Bullard's new album, ***Classical Banjo: The Perfect Southern Art***, is the summation of his life's work. Over a dozen musicians and an eight-person choir helped make this unprecedented album of works by Baroque and Romantic composers. '*The Perfect Southern Art*' presents a variety of tone color, beautifully executed ornamentation, and sensitive interpretations. The pieces are fragile and intimate in Bullard's hands. Peaceful and austere. If you close your eyes you might think you're listening to a harpsichord, but it's not. It's banjo as you've never heard it: as a perfect southern art.

Guitarist **Adam Larrabee**, a seasoned jazz guitarist who appeared as a sideman on Bruce Hornsby's recording "Spirit Trail" and who taught at New England Conservatory while performing in the Boston area for nearly 10 years, is perhaps best known around the country as a banjoist with the bluegrass band Love Canon. Adam currently teaches classical and jazz guitar at James Madison University. Adam received his Masters in Music in Jazz Studies from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1998.