

## About the VCU Guitar Program

The VCU Guitar Program is a vibrant part of the VCU Department of Music. Several of our alumni are teaching at VCU and at other universities, including Norfolk State University, the College of William and Mary, Christopher Newport University, the University of Richmond, and Randolph-Macon College. In addition, several of our graduates are currently teaching in Virginia public and private schools.

Each year, the *VCU Guitar Series* and the *Guitar and Other Strings Series* bring nationally and internationally acclaimed guitarists to the VCU campus for concerts and master classes. Past performers include William Kanengiser, Manuel Barrueco, Eliot Fisk, Dennis Koster, David Russell, Simon Dinnigan, the Washington Guitar Quintet, Charlie Byrd (jazz), John Jackson (blues), Torcuato Zamora (flamenco), Miguelito (flamenco), and Leo Kottke (finger-style).

The Jesús Silva Merit Scholarship provides financial assistance to outstanding undergraduate guitar majors.

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# ***An Afternoon of Classical Guitar***

***The VCU Guitar Ensemble***  
***Directed by John Patykula***

***with special guest***  
***John Bullard, classical banjo***

3:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 2, 2021

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall  
922 Park Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23284

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VCU Guitar Ensemble *John Patykula, director*

Wesley Eldridge	Alex Fisher
Jasmine Lopez	Rinatt Montoya
Josue Parada	Ashley Purisima
Devin Sullivan	Johnny White

The VCU Guitar Ensemble has been a part of the Richmond music scene since 1982. This unique ensemble's repertoire ranges from the Renaissance to the contemporary. In addition, this group frequently premieres new compositions and commissioned works by established arrangers and composers. The ensemble has been featured on several National Public Radio stations and on local television arts segments. The VCU Guitar Ensemble has performed at the 2008 and 2019 Experiencing Villa-Lobos International Festival at VCU, and on the 2009 and 2010 VCU Flamenco Festivals. For many years the ensemble was the featured group at the Chesterfield All-County Guitar Ensemble Festival.

John Bullard has attracted international attention for his work in developing and transcribing classical repertoire for the five-string banjo. His critically acclaimed CD releases include **John Bullard - The Classical Banjo** on the Dargason label and **Bach on the Banjo** on Albany Records. 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. 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**. John's classical banjo playing was highlighted in the June 2005 issue of **Vintage Guitar Magazine**. He has published two books with Mel Bay Publications, **Bach for the Banjo** and **Scales and Arpeggios for Classical Banjo**. John is also included in Mel Bay Publication's popular book and CD collection **Banjo 2000** featuring works by the world's finest banjoists. John's virtuoso playing was the focus of a cover story and interview in the May 1993 issue of **The Banjo Newsletter**. John was on the faculty of the world-renowned **Tennessee Banjo Institute** along with such luminaries as Pete Seeger, Bela Fleck and Tony Trischka. He has performed throughout the United States and has been featured on numerous radio and television programs. His most recent CD, **Classical Banjo: The Perfect Southern Art**, has been praised "as exceptionally brilliant as it is masterful."

**Program**

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| Gigue from Partita No. 3                            | J.S. Bach, arr. J. Bullard/J. Patykula<br>John Bullard, classical banjo<br>with the VCU Guitar Ensemble                           |
| Andante from Concerto for Two Mandolins             | Antonio Vivaldi<br>arr. J. Bullard/J. Patykula<br>John Bullard and Johnny White, classical banjos<br>with the VCU Guitar Ensemble |
| Prelude in Bb minor from 24 Preludes for Solo Banjo | Adam Larrabee<br>John Bullard, classical banjo  |
| Air and Gavotte                                     | Johann Anton Logy<br>Wesley Eldridge, guitar  |
| La Llorona  | traditional Mexican song, arr. Jesús Silva<br>VCU Guitar Ensemble   |
| Amanda-Gavotte                                      | Alberto C. Obregon<br>Alex Fisher, guitar   |
| Etude #11   | Leo Brouwer<br>Rinatt Montoya, guitar   |
| Yellow Bird   | Chet Atkins version, arr. J. Patykula<br>VCU Guitar Ensemble  |
| Prelude No. 4                                       | Heitor Villa-Lobos<br>Johnny White, guitar  |
| Vincent   | Don McLean, arr. Adam Larrabee<br>VCU Guitar Ensemble   |
| Julia Florida                                       | Augustín Barrios Mangoré<br>Ashley Purisima, guitar   |
| Malagueña   | Isaac Albéniz, arr. J. Patykula   |

VCU Guitar Ensemble