

# **Guitar Faculty Recital**

Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 5pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University  
The College of Professional Studies and School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

## Guitar Faculty Recital

Elizabeth C. D. Brown & Stephen Howland

with guests  
Leon Christian, *guitar*  
Nawon Jang, *guitar*

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Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.  
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.  
Use of cameras, recording equipment, and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

### PROGRAM

- Theme, Varié et Finale**..... **Manuel Ponce (1882-1948)**  
Elizabeth C. D. Brown
- Prelude and Fugue No. 1 in C Major, op. 87**..... **Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975)**  
arr. Stephen Howland  
Elizabeth C. D. Brown and Stephen Howland
- Cuna** ..... **Federico Mompou (1893-1987)**  
Stephen Howland
- Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)**..... **Franz Schubert (1797-1828)**  
from *German Mass, D. 872* arr. Stephen Howland  
Elizabeth C. D. Brown, Leon Christian, Nawon Jang, and Stephen Howland

### INTERMISSION

- Guárdame Las Vacas**..... **Luis de Narvaez (1526-1549)**
- Prelude** ..... **J. S. Bach (1685-1750)**  
from *Lute Suite, BWV 996*
- Fantasy, op. 7**..... **Fernando Sor (1778-1839)**
- Danza Mora** ..... **Francisco Tárrega (1852-1909)**
- Prelude No. 2** ..... **Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)**  
Leon Christian

**All the Things You Are..... Jerome Kern (1885-1945) & Oscar Hammerstein (1895-1960)**

**Moonlight in Vermont .....Henry Mancini (1924-1994) & Johnny Mercer (1909-1976)**

**Moon River ..... George Gershwin (1898-1937) & Ira Gershwin (1896-1983)**

**They Can't Take That Away from Me..... Arthur Schwartz (1900-1984) & Howard Dietz (1896-1983)**

**What a Friend We Have in Jesus .....Joseph M. Scriven (1819-1886)**

Nawon Jang

### **About the Performers**

A specialist in standard classical guitar as well as various early guitars and lutes, **Elizabeth C. D. Brown** is a very active performer throughout the Pacific Northwest, giving an average of 50 concerts a year. Highlights from recent seasons included solo lute and Baroque guitar recitals at Early Music Festivals in Berkeley and Cleveland, performing as the soloist in Vivaldi's *Concerto in D*, and a ten-performance run of Monteverdi's *Ulysses* in Seattle and San Francisco. Elizabeth's first solo recording, *La Folia de España: Dances for Guitar*, features works for Baroque, 19<sup>th</sup> century, and modern guitars. Also active as an ensemble musician, she is a member of Baroque Northwest, La Lira, the Puget Sound Consort, and Ayres and Graces, has appeared in the Early Music Guild's three Baroque opera productions, and with various other ensembles. An enthusiastic advocate for the guitar and lute, Elizabeth has given numerous outreach performances at schools, senior centers, and community centers for the Seattle Classic Guitar Society and the Early Music Guild, as well as by arrangement while on tour. She is head of the Guitar and Lute program at Pacific Lutheran University, and has taught at Seattle Pacific University and the Accademia d'Amore (Baroque opera workshop, Seattle). See her on YouTube at [www.youtube.com/user/ElizabethCDBrown](http://www.youtube.com/user/ElizabethCDBrown) or for more information visit: [www.elizabethcdbrown.com](http://www.elizabethcdbrown.com)

**Leon Christian** is a highly skilled and dynamic guitarist, known for his ability to master a wide variety of musical styles. Hailed as "an excellent guitarist" by David Brandon and "very talented" by John Sutherland, Leon's performances showcase his impressive range, from classical guitar to modern progressive rock. He has graced the stage with Northwest orchestras, including the Federal Way Symphony and Tacoma Community College Chamber Orchestra, where he was featured as a soloist in works like Joaquín Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* and *Fantasia para un gentilhombre*. Leon's engaging live performances have earned him spots at renowned venues such as Benaroya Hall and the historic Sorrento Hotel, and he continues to perform regularly in a variety of musical genres. As a lead songwriter and guitarist, he has been involved in several projects, including all original rock bands, bringing his musical vision to audiences across the region. In the studio, Leon has worked with a variety of artists and projects in many different styles, including his role as a session guitarist for Elizabeth Naccarato's album *A Southwest Story*. His studio credits extend to major recording locations such as London Bridge Studios and Mirror Sound Studio, where his work has been featured in independent films, TV commercials, and studio albums. Leon's collaborations include performances with rock legends like Sam Andrew of Big Brother and the Holding Company and Jerry Miller of Moby Grape. As an accomplished producer, Leon also creates original music for media placement. His musical journey began at age four with classical piano, and by age twelve, he transitioned to guitar and went on to study at the University of Puget Sound, under the tutelage of Douglas Rice Jr. He continued his guitar studies under internationally recognized guitarists including David Russell, William Kanengiser, and Christopher Parkening. He is the Director of the Federal Way School of Music, where he has taught for over ten years, and is committed to fostering music education through masterclasses, outreach programs, and his ongoing work with young musicians in the Seattle-Tacoma area.

Born in South Korea and raised in America, **Nawon Jang** continues his musical journey, which started from age ten, playing the violin. At age twelve, Nawon was fascinated by the guitar and began studying jazz guitar with a local New Jersey jazz guitarist through his high school years. It was clear for Nawon that he wanted to pursue music, so he went to Berklee College of Music for jazz guitar performance, then finished with a degree in film scoring. During his Berklee years, Nawon was able to play guitar in various jazz bands and studied guitar with Jon Wheatley. With the major change from jazz performance to film scoring, he had an opportunity to play the violin in the Berklee Contemporary Symphonic Orchestra, which featured world renowned artists such as Danilo Perez, John Patitucci, and Joe Lovano.

After graduating from Berklee College of Music, Nawon had freelance film/media composing gigs and continued serving the church with worship music. During the pandemic years, Nawon and his family moved to South Korea and lived there for a year, focusing primarily on freelance composing. In 2021, Nawon accepted the offer to be Associate Director of Worship and Arts at the University Presbyterian Church. Now, his family has been in Seattle for a full three years. Nawon is passionate in gathering local musicians to serve at the church and in providing hope through music. Recently, in 2024, he was selected and invited to an exclusive songwriting retreat at the Tommy Walker Ministry, in Irvine, CA. There, Nawon was able to work with the TWM team and perform his new song, *Our God, Our Home*. Nawon is a worshipper at heart, and he enjoys leading worship, hearing people singing wholeheartedly to God. He is excited to find more opportunities within the large music communities in the greater Seattle area.

**Stephen Howland** joined the PLU faculty in 2008, starting the festival with Elizabeth Brown in 2011. At PLU he has taught jazz and classical guitar, ear training, and jazz history. In 2017 Howland began arranging music for large guitar ensembles and directing the Festival Orchestra in a jazz piece to promote jazz education and appreciation. Howland currently teaches privately online and at Seattle's Rosewood Guitar. He gives clinics at universities, colleges, guitar society events, and private venues. Clinic topics have included: improvising and borrowing from Bach, integrating jazz and classical guitar studies, modal jazz, Jobim and Gilberto, and Charlie Christian, among many others. He has highly awarded classical guitar performance degrees from UI and ASU. Since 2009 he and Brown have played together as a duo. He has done many solo and ensemble arrangements of pieces by Albéniz, Bach, MacDowell, Mozart, Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, and Turina. He has written, arranged, and recorded ensemble music for the Seattle Classic Guitar Society, including their 2021 and 2022 holiday collaborative videos and concerts; and has published online guitar demos for Rosewood Guitar. He has been featured on large scale CD releases as a writer and studio guitarist for artists and bands, including the rock band MotoPony. Howland is also passionate about live music, playing classical, jazz, original music, dance music, and more. He has played with many outstanding musicians in the area, including Clipper Anderson, Marco De Carvalho, Jared Hall, Mark Ivester, Adam Kessler, Kate Olson, Nate Omdal, Jason Parker, Gordy Ryan, Melyssa Stone, and Cassio Vianna, among others.