

## Matthew Ardizzone, classical guitarist

SHORT BIO (300 words; see page 5 for Complete Bio)

**Matthew Ardizzone** has performed throughout North America, including engagements in New York, Montréal, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Houston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The Pittsburgh Tribune has described his “sensitive nuances” and the NYC Guitar Society his “incredible tone, marvelous technical facility, and poetic phrasing.” He has recorded a CD with violinist Movses Pogossian (Duo Forza) and a solo guitar CD titled “*Mazurka!*” which won a 2001 Communicator Crystal Award of Excellence. Other awards include First Prize in the 1995 Rantucci Guitar Competition and fifth place in the 1997 Stotsenberg International Guitar Competition.

Concerto performances with orchestra include Rodrigo’s *Concierto de Aranjuez* with the Anderson Symphony Orchestra, the Livingston Symphony Orchestra, and the orchestra of the Conductor’s Retreat at Medomak (with members of the Portland Symphony Orchestra). He has collaborated with such major artists as flutist Leone Buyse, soprano Audrey Luna, and with members of the Detroit and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras.

Matthew Ardizzone has performed and taught master classes at schools throughout the country, including the Cleveland Institute of Music, the University of Michigan, Brooklyn College, Houston Baptist University, Ball State University, Eastern Michigan University, and Bethany College. A dedicated educator, he has been on the guitar faculties of Bowling Green State University, Nazareth College of Rochester, and the Eastman Community Music School. His teachers have included Nicholas Goluses and Paul O’Dette (at the Eastman School of Music), Eliot Fisk, and Sir Angel Romero. He lives in Ann Arbor with his wife, conductor and violinist Rachel C. Lauber, and their daughter Siena.

### PRESS & PRESENTER QUOTES

*“Guitarist Matthew Ardizzone was an expert in the intricacies of his role, always playing with sensitive nuances.”*  
Mark Kanny, Pittsburgh Tribune

*“...incredible tone, marvelous technical facility, and poetic phrasing.”*  
Don Witter, New York Classical Guitar Society

*“What an incredible evening! I can’t begin to tell you how magically you captured the audience with your superb talents. Each selection was sheer beauty and delight.”*  
Marge Dembowski, Manor House Supervisor, Toledo Metroparks

*“The audience was wildly enthusiastic!”*  
Julie Quayle, Musical Arts Series at Firelands, Port Clinton, OH

*“Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on a fine performance of the Rodrigo and the encore [Recuerdos de la Alhambra].”*  
Dr. Richard Sowers, Music Director, Anderson Symphony Orchestra, IN

*“Thanks again for doing such a wonderful concert of the Etudes. It was a pleasure to work together and get to know you. I hope you’ll do the pieces many times again.”*  
John Anthony Lennon, composer

*“Thank you once again for a wonderful and nuanced performance of “Tesserae.” It is always a thrill to hear one’s own music, but particularly to hear it played by sympathetic and engaged players. I very much enjoyed hearing your delicate guitar playing during the performance, and it added beautifully to the ensemble.”*  
Andrew E. Simpson, composer

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## Matthew Ardizzone, classical guitarist

### PERFORMANCE RESUME

#### CONCERTO PERFORMANCES

- La Follia Baroque Ensemble (MI), 2007 (Vivaldi, D major)
- Anderson Symphony Orchestra (IN), 2006 (Rodrigo, *Concierto de Aranjuez*)
- Livingston Symphony Orchestra (MI), 2005 (Rodrigo, *Aranjuez*)
- Medomak Conductor's Retreat Orchestra (ME), 2003 (Rodrigo, *Aranjuez*)

#### SELECTED SOLO ENGAGEMENTS (2005-2008)

- Annual solo recitals, Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor, MI
- Whittier College, CA
- Eastern Michigan University Guest Artist Series
- Grand Rapids Community College International Guitar Series
- Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Day of Music, Max M. Fisher Center
- Brooklyn College, NY
- Guest artist with U-M Contemporary Directions Ensemble
- Guest artist with Orchestra Canton, MI
- New Music and Art Festival, MidAmerican Center for Contemporary Music
- Guest artist, Orchard United Methodist Church, MI
- Solo recital, Music at the Manor House, Toledo, OH
- Faculty recitals, Bowling Green State University
- Featured artist, Chamber Music at the Scarab Club, Detroit, MI

#### SELECTIONS FROM SOLO ENGAGEMENTS (1997-2005)

- Firebrand Festival Series, Port Huron (OH)
- GuitarHouston Concert Series
- Music at the Manor House, Toledo
- Bowling Green State University, Faculty Artist Series
- Eastman GuitarFest, Featured Guest Artist
- Cornell University Summer Concert Series
- Ling Concert Series, Bethany College (KS)
- Ithaca College Winter Guitar Festival
- Brave New Works Series, Ann Arbor (MI)
- Inaugural Concert, Beveridge Webster Recital Series, Hanover (NH)
- George Eastman House, private reception for Isabella Rossellini
- College Concert Series: Cleveland Institute of Music, Elmira College, Eastern Michigan University, Michigan State University, University of Iowa, Nazareth College, Schenectady County Community College, Skidmore College
- Radio Performances: WGTE, Toledo Public Radio (*Live! from FM 91*, performance and interview, solo in 2005; with violinist Yehonatan Berick in 2006); WQED, Pittsburgh Public Radio (performance and interview with cellist Mikhail Istomin of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra)

## Matthew Ardizzone, classical guitarist

### PERFORMANCE RESUME *(continued)*

#### MASTER CLASSES & WORKSHOPS TAUGHT

- “*Total Recall: Harnessing the Power of the Mind to Enjoy Playing by Heart*”  
2007 ASTA National Conference; “*Practicing for Enjoyment*” workshop, Ball State University; Eastern Michigan University
- Guitar Master Classes:  
Eastern Michigan University (annual); Cleveland Institute of Music; Eastman Community Music School; Brooklyn College; Nazareth College of Rochester; Buffalo Suzuki Strings; University of Iowa; Houston Baptist University; Augustana College; Schenectady Community College

#### SELECTIONS FROM COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS (1997-2008)

- Duo Forza, with violinist Movses Pogossian  
Temple Israel (West Bloomfield, MI)  
Dilijan Chamber Music Series, Zipper Hall (Los Angeles, CA)  
St. John’s Armenian Church (San Francisco, CA)  
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (Terre Haute, IN)  
Wutz Hall (SUNY Buffalo, NY)  
First Presbyterian Church (Jackson, MI)  
Schoolcraft College (Livonia, MI)  
Village Theater at Cherry Hill (Canton, MI)  
Saginaw Valley State University (MI)  
Wayne State University  
Morton Arboretum (Lisle, IL)  
Detroit Institute of Art  
Shady Side Chamber Music Festival (Pittsburgh, PA)  
“Passages” Community Chamber Music Series (Bowling Green, OH)
- Audrey Luna, soprano, Kerrytown Concert House
- Olivia Duval, mezzo-soprano, University of Michigan
- Buyse-Ardizzone Duo, with flutist Leone Buyse  
Kerrytown Concert House, “Classics at Kerrytown” Series  
Rice University, Shepherd School of Music Faculty Series
- Duo performances with violinist Yehonatan Berick  
University of Michigan faculty recital  
Chelsea Musical Celebrations
- Chamber Music Ann Arbor, with violist Yizhak Schotten and cellist Anthony Elliot
- Duo Nouveau, with saxophonist Matthew Sintchak  
World Saxophone Congress, Montréal  
North American Saxophone Alliance, Chicago IL  
Kilbourn Summer Series, Eastman School of Music  
University of Iowa  
Augustana College  
Nazareth College
- Finger Lakes Guitar Quartet  
Elmira College Concert Series  
Skidmore College Guest Series  
Nazareth College of Rochester Guest Artist Series  
Ithaca College Winter Guitar Festival

## Matthew Ardizzone, classical guitarist

### PERFORMANCE RESUME *(continued)*

#### ORCHESTRAL WORK

- University of Michigan Opera Productions—Argento, *Postcard from Morocco* (2008)
- University of Michigan Orchestras— Villa-Lobos, *Canção de Amor* (2008); Mahler, Symphony No. 7 (2007); Ibert, *Chansons de Don Quichotte* (2004)
- Orchestra Canton—Shostakovich, *Jazz Suite* (2005)
- Toledo Opera—Rossini's *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (2004)
- Plymouth Symphony Orchestra—Cowell, *Persian Set*; Weill-Berio arrangements (2002)
- Slee Sinfonietta—Eric Oña's *Lame Butterfly* (1999)

#### RECORDINGS

- CD with Duo Forza: *Music of Spain & Latin American for Violin & Guitar*, 2003
- Professional recording session for C. Curtis Smith's *Gold Are My Flowers*, 2003
- Solo CD, "*Mazurka!*" for Aardvark Media Productions label, released 2001
- CD with Duo Nouveau, *Granados, Marcello & Corea* released 2000

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COMPLETE ARTIST BIO (see page 5 for a shorter version)

**Matthew Ardizzone** has performed throughout North America as a soloist, with orchestra, and in a variety of chamber music settings. The Pittsburgh Tribune has described his “sensitive nuances” and the NYC Guitar Society his “incredible tone, marvelous technical facility, and poetic phrasing.” The Ann Arbor-based guitarist has appeared in Michigan at the Max M. Fisher Center for Music, Chamber Music at the Scarab Club, the Detroit Institute of Art, the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, Schoolcraft College, and several Ann Arbor venues, including Hill Auditorium, Rackham Auditorium, and the Kerrytown Concert House. National venues include Zipper Hall in Los Angeles, the Proscenium Theatre at Cornell University, the University of Quebec in Montréal, Duncan Recital Hall at Rice University in Houston, Slee Hall in Buffalo, and Kilbourn Hall in Rochester, NY.

Recordings include a CD of music for violin and guitar with violinist Movses Pogossian (Duo Forza) and a solo guitar CD titled “*Mazurka!*” which won a 2001 Communicator Crystal Award of Excellence. Other awards include First Prize in the 1995 Rantucci Guitar Competition and fifth place in the 1997 Stotsenberg International Guitar Competition in Malibu. Ardizzone was one of twelve semi-finalists in the 1996 Walter W. Naumburg Competition for Guitar (NYC), and was a semi-finalist in the 1991 (Miami), 1996 (St. Louis), and 1998 (Montréal) Guitar Foundation of America International Competitions. In 1997 he became the first guitarist to receive a doctorate in performance (and the coveted Performer’s Certificate) from the Eastman School of Music. At Eastman, he studied guitar with Nicholas Goluses and Baroque performance with Paul O’Dette. He has additional studies with Eliot Fisk and Sir Angel Romero.

Ardizzone has performed and taught master classes at schools throughout the country, including the Cleveland Institute of Music, the University of Michigan, Brooklyn College, Houston Baptist University, Ball State University, Eastern Michigan University, and Bethany College in Kansas where he conducted a week-long residency, visiting area schools and performing chamber music with the college faculty. Outreach has always been an important component of his activities, and he has complemented many of his appearances with school visits in Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Kansas, and California. Guitar festival appearances include the Eastman GuitarFest, GuitarHouston, and the Ithaca College Winter Guitar Festival. Other performances of note include the inaugural concert of the Beveridge Webster Recital Series in Hanover, NH (the concert pianist and Juilliard professor was Ardizzone’s grandfather) and a private performance at the George Eastman House in Rochester, NY for Isabella Rossellini.

In addition to solo concerts, Ardizzone has collaborated with some particularly outstanding performers, including flutist Leone Buyse (Rice University, formerly Boston Symphony Orchestra), violinist Movses Pogossian (Tchaikovsky, USSR, and Lipizer Competition prize winner), soprano Audrey Luna, and faculty members of the University of Michigan School of Music. He has appeared as a guest artist with Brave New Works, the Phoenix Ensemble, Envision Chamber Consort, Chamber Music at the Scarab Club, and Chamber Music Ann Arbor. His performances at new music festivals have earned him the praise of composers such as John Anthony Lennon, Paul Lansky, Andrew Stimpson, Robert Beaser, and Leslie Bassett. Concerto performances with orchestra include Rodrigo’s *Concierto de Aranjuez* with the Anderson Symphony Orchestra, the Livingston Symphony Orchestra, and the orchestra of the Conductor’s Retreat at Medomak (with members of the Portland Symphony Orchestra).

A dedicated educator, he has been on the faculties of Bowling Green State University, Nazareth College of Rochester, and the Eastman Community Music School, and he has taught music appreciation at Washtenaw Community, St. John Fisher, and Nazareth Colleges. At the 2007 ASTA National Conference in Detroit, he introduced a new workshop titled: “*Total Recall: Harnessing the Power of the Mind to Enjoy Playing by Heart.*” He lives in Ann Arbor with his wife, conductor and violinist Rachel C. Lauber, and their daughter Siena.

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