

Marlow U3A Music Appreciation Group, March 2010

A Brief History of the Classical Guitar



Lute

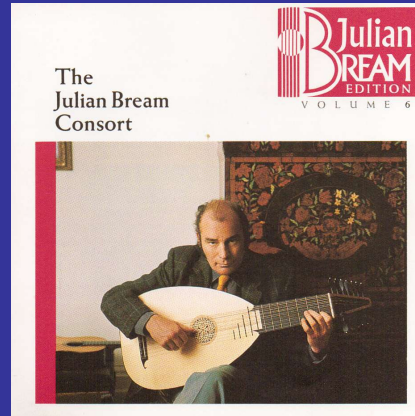


Richard Allison (b ?1560–70; d.before 1610):

The Bachelor's Delight

Julian Bream (lute)

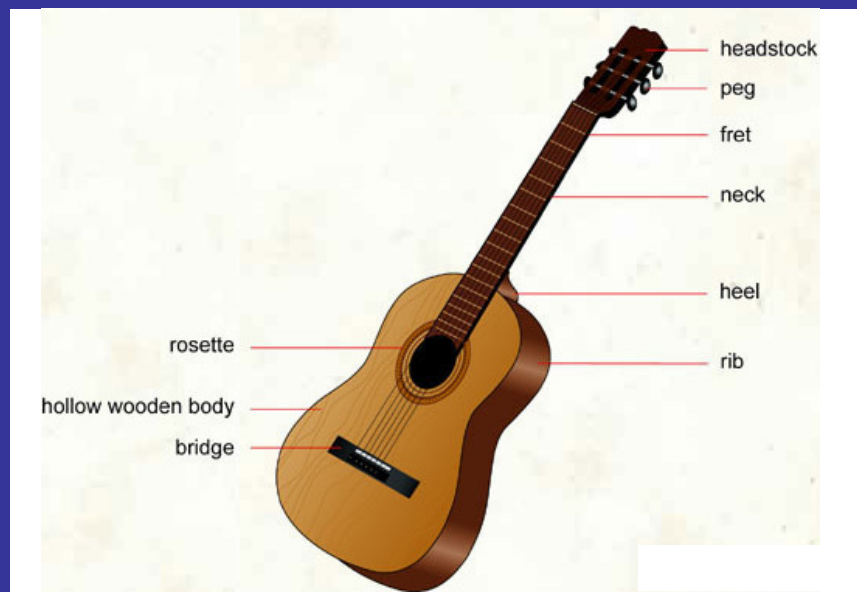
♪ Allison's most distinctive works are among those for mixed consort of treble viol (or violin), flute, lute, cittern, bandora and bass viol. These include the *Lady Frances Sidney pieces*, *Allison's Knell*, *The Batchelors Delight* and *Goe from my Window*



Mandolins and Citterns



Classical Guitar



John Johnson (1540-1595): *Pavan*

Julian Bream/John Williams

- English lutenist and composer: one of the 'musicians for the three lutes' to Queen Elizabeth
- Johnson's compositions are widely disseminated in both English and continental sources
- The popularity of his music is reflected in the many rearrangements of his works by contemporaries



Classical Composers

- ♪ Ferdinando Carulli and Mauro Giuliani (chamber works and concertos)
- ♪ Scarlatti (sonatas)
- ♪ Boccherini (guitar quintets)
- ♪ Haydn and Mozart (quintets)
- ♪ Hummel (Mandolin Concerto)

Fernando Sor (1778-1839):

L'Encouragement Op.34

Julian Bream/John Williams

- ♪ Sor's guitar duos were written in Paris during the last 12 years of his life.
- ♪ As a young composer he travelled extensively and composed in the major genres of the day
- ♪ Sor's broad experiences and technical expertise gave his guitar music a sophistication matched by few of his guitarist-composer contemporaries.



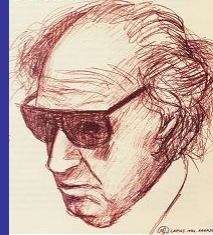
Joaquin Rodrigo (1901–1999):

Pastorale

Ernesto Bitetti (guitar)

He is amongst the most significant Spanish composers of the 20th Century.

His approachable style, with its echoes of Spanish folk music, changed little throughout his long career



He is remembered mainly for his guitar music. He wrote several guitar concertos, including the famous *Concierto De Aranjuez*.

Blind from childhood, his prodigious output was composed in braille

Andrés Segovia (1893-1987):

Estudo Sin Luz

Ernesto Bitetti (guitar)

- ♪ Spanish guitarist and composer.
- ♪ More than anyone, Segovia was responsible for revival of interest in guitar as 'classical' instrument.
- ♪ Works specially composed for him by Rodrigo, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Ponce, etc.
- ♪ Created Marquis of Salobreña by King Juan Carlos in 1981.
- ♪ As well as composing many of his own guitar pieces, he transcribed works by Bach and others for guitar.
- ♪ Continued world tours well into his 80s.

Other Romantic and 20th Century Composers for Guitar

- ♪ Gabriel Fauré
- ♪ Benjamin Britten
- ♪ William Walton
- ♪ Malcolm Arnold
- ♪ Stephen Dodgson
- ♪ Enrique Granados
- ♪ Isaac Albeniz
- ♪ Joaquin Turina
- ♪ Astor Piazzolla
- ♪ Heitor Villa-Lobos

**Mahler and Schoenberg
have included the guitar
in chamber ensembles**

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

- ♪ Argentine composer and bandoneon player.
- ♪ After years of writing and playing in Buenos Aires bars, he determined to break into 'serious' music, taking composition lessons from Nadia Boulanger in Paris.
- ♪ She steered him back to Argentina's true national music – tango - which he transformed by incorporating rhythms and harmonic dissonances derived from jazz and orchestral music.
- ♪ We heard his Libertango at the Valentines Day concert, and it features in the 2009 Last Night of the Proms.

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

♪ *Nightclub (from Histoire du Tango)*



♪ *Tango (Paul Gregory, guitar)*

Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

Works for Bandoneon and orchestra:

- ♪ *Concerto pour Bandoneon – Third movement (Presto)*
- ♪ *Tango Invierno Porteno*



Claude Debussy (1862-1918):

Claire de Lune

Julian Bream/John Williams



Emili Pujol (1886-1980): *Tango Espagnol*

Julian Bream (guitar)

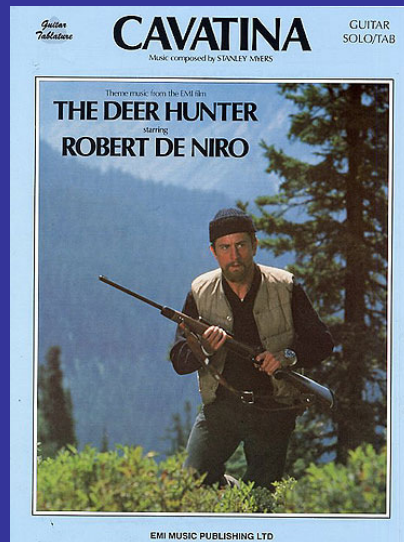
- ♪ After hearing Francisco Tárrega, he took up the classical guitar, remaining a pupil of Tárrega from 1902 until his death in 1909.
- ♪ Pujol went on to become a celebrated guitarist and composer.



Stanley Myers (1930-1993): *Cavatina*

John Williams (guitar)

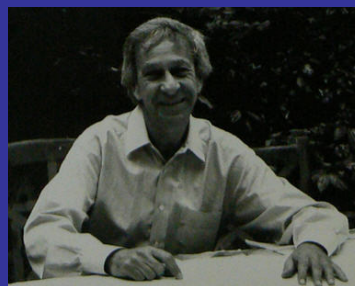
- ♪ *Cavatina* featured in *The Deer Hunter* (1978), and won Myers one of his several Ivor Novello Awards. A version of this theme had earlier appeared in the film *The Walking Stick*.
- ♪ A song *He Was Beautiful* was based on this theme and recorded by Cleo Lane, Iris Williams and Paul Potts.



Stanley Myers (1930-1993): *Cavatina*

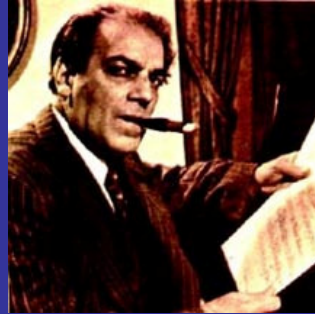
John Williams (guitar)

- ♪ English composer of over 100 film and television scores. Other film scores included *Kaleidoscope* (1966), *Ulysees* (1967), *Moonlighting* (1982), *Prick Up Your Ears* (1987), *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead* (1990) and *The Witches* (1990).
- ♪ His Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Orchestra was first performed in 1991.
- ♪ Myers died while scoring the BBC adaptation of *Middlemarch*.



Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

- ♪ The most significant creative figure in 20th century Brazilian art music.
- ♪ He created unique compositional styles in which contemporary European techniques and reinterpreted elements of national music are combined.



Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

Julian Bream (guitar)

- ♪ Guitar Concerto – 3rd movement – *Allegretto non troppo*
- ♪ *Prelude No.1 in E minor*
- ♪ *Prelude No.5 in E*

