



# Guitar Notes



A Publication of the Classic Guitar Society of Michigan

May 7, 2008

Edited by Tom Roach

Change is good, they say, and inevitable to be sure. April found us meeting at our new location on the campus of Madonna University, relocated from Kresge Hall to the Science Lecture Hall to offer a change of pace. Perhaps this was one degree of change too much for some unfamiliar with the campus as it appears that some folks may have arrived and, failing to find us, departed in frustration. The good news is that we will return to Kresge Hall on May 11 (Mother's Day), for our last meeting of the season.

The April meeting was highlighted with the appearance of local teacher Marc Michoud and two of his students, Brandon Derfity and Bryan Anderson. Brandon and Bryan offered the lovely works, Country Dance and Rehistro, respectively. Further delight was found in an appearance by Michael Bryce, sporting an Abe Wechter steel-string, double-cutaway, acoustic-electric instrument. Michael accompanied his voice for the traditional "Soon I will be done" and then the original solo "Expectation Waltz". Closing the meeting, Marc played Tarrega's "Recuerdos de la Alhambra". The playing was indeed spirited and much was made of the diversity in the repertoire.

While the holiday coincident with our May meeting has dashed plans for a featured performer, the close of the season finds us already planning for our return in September.

## Raphaella Smits returns to Madonna University



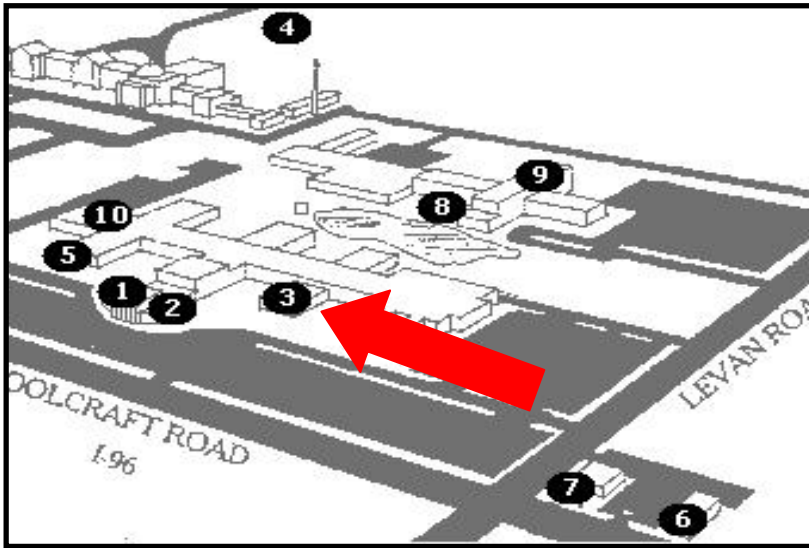
The return of Raphaella Smits to our area is always cause for celebration. Few artists consistently challenge themselves and the guitar with re-visitation and innovation as does Ms. Smits. This native of Belgium finds inspiration in the works of Weiss and Bach, revisiting the works of Weiss on a period seven-stringed parlor instrument and transcribing Bach for the eight-string guitar. On the occasion of this performance, Ms. Smits employed the 8-string instrument from Berlin-born, Toronto-based luthier Kolya Panhuyzen.

The first half of the program began with the shorter of two works, Le Zuyderzee by Napoleon Coste followed by the second violin partita in d-minor of Bach (BWV 1004). The second work closed with the familiar and formidable *Ciaccona*, bringing to bear the benefit of the extended scale of the instrument. After a furtive intermission, the program continued with Bach's Lute prelude in D, Le Romantique of J. K. Mertz and closed with more Bach, the A-minor partita for solo flute (BWV 1013). The soaring arpeggio of the last work left the audience still hungry and we were rewarded

with two encores, the last of which was dedicated by Ms. Smits to her generous hostess for the event, Helene Rottenberg. Helene was addressed from the stage with a most inconvenient choice, Shubert or Ramirez. Having made her choice, we were treated to a Tango by Ramirez. As with all memorable musical experiences, we will require patience and hope in anticipation of Ms. Smits next visit.

## Calendar

September 14, 2008, Sunday at 3:00 p.m.; **Meeting of the Classic Guitar Society of Michigan**  
Science Lecture Hall on the Madonna University Campus, 36600 Schoolcraft Rd. (at Levan), Livonia MI.



Madonna University - 36600 Schoolcraft Road - Livonia, Michigan 48150

Classic Guitar Society of Michigan  
1129 Woodlawn  
Royal Oak, Michigan 48073-5624