



Athens Guitar Trio

Jack Price

Founding Partner / Managing Director

Marc Parella

Partner / Director of Operations

James Clarke

A&R Marketing - Ensembles

Mailing Address:

520 Geary Street Suite 605
San Francisco CA 94102

Telephone:

Toll-Free 1-866-PRI-RUBI (774-7824)
310-254-7149 / Los Angeles
415-504-3654 / San Francisco
678-292-5014 / Atlanta

Email:

jp@pricerubin.com
mp@pricerubin.com
jc@pricerubin.com

Website:

www.pricerubin.com
www.athensguitartrio.com
www.youtube.com/athensguitartrio

Yahoo!Messenger

pricerubin

Skype

pricerubent



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Athens Guitar Trio-Biography

Whether pushing the boundaries of the guitar ensemble, dazzling audiences with their virtuosity, or playing a captivating program, the **Athens Guitar Trio** is rapidly establishing itself as one of today's premier chamber ensembles. The Trio—Dusty Woodruff, Rylan Smith, and Matthew Anderson—hails from Athens, Georgia, a city renowned for its music. They have rapidly found their stride, undoubtedly becoming one of the most diverse and expressive ensembles of their generation. The **AGT** brings an eclecticism to their programming by including styles as far apart as Classical and Klezmer, Americana and Spanish, or Renaissance and Contemporary. The addition of a rare eleven-string guitar extends their range and ensemble capabilities as well as adds to the sheer size of their sound, which is just another element that sets the **Athens Guitar Trio** apart from other guitar ensembles. To put it simply, the **Athens Guitar Trio** represents a new direction and sound in the world of classical guitar virtuosity.

Standing ovations and rave reviews have become the norm at **Athens Guitar Trio** concerts. This holds true whether they are entertaining heads of state such as President Jimmy Carter, performing for award-winning musicians like William Bolcom and Christopher Parkening, or charming audiences in major cities like St. Louis or Dallas. The Trio has been featured on radio throughout the country, including the nationally syndicated *Classical Guitar Alive!*, and they have been invited to give interviews to several NPR affiliates. The **AGT** was also recently asked to record a program for the premier episode of a new Georgia Public Broadcasting show, *UGA Performs*, as well as the accompanying CD for FJH Publications' *Everybody's Classical Guitar, Volume 1*. Their debut CD, *Emergence*, was received by *Soundboard Magazine* as "an excellent debut from this young ensemble." The **Athens Guitar Trio** currently has a new CD in the works, which will be an all-American album including the music of composers such as Louis Gottschalk, William Bolcom, Scott Joplin, and Edward MacDowell. Much of this music will be programmed on their upcoming tours.

The trio embraces yet transcends the traditions of the classical guitar, while at the same time rejecting the rigid definition of what a classical concert should be. Shattering the notion that music of the past should be performed in a dry, academic way, the **Athens Guitar Trio** is always striving to perfect its artistry in order to create the most sublime experience for any concertgoer.

Athens Guitar Trio-Critical Acclaim

"The amazing program variety and colorful interpretations of the Athens Guitar Trio were well-received on a snowy night in St. Louis--a standing ovation said it all!"

~**William Ash, President, St. Louis Classical Guitar Society**

"**Emergence** is an excellent debut from this young ensemble... The trio's performances are characterized by beautiful tone and creative use of timbre and articulation."

~**Soundboard Magazine**

"The Athens Guitar Trio's interpretations of music from both classical and contemporary composers are seamlessly blended into an organic whole. The CD provides a wonderful listening experience that transports listeners to new worlds."

~**Jim Motavalli, WPKN-89.5 (New Haven/Bridgeport)**

"Classical sound seamlessly blended with fresh innovation."

~**Southern Distinction Magazine**

"The Athens Guitar Trio distinguishes itself from similar groups by its interesting choice of material and their excellent ensemble; they project a very attractive bonhomie that should be appealing to audiences."

~**William Bolcom, Composer, 1988 Pulitzer Prize Winner**

"I have rarely heard a trio that is as compatible in their ensemble, technique, and musicianship as the Athens Guitar Trio. They have beautiful sound and perform as one guitar."

~**John Sutherland, Professor of Guitar, The University of Georgia**

Athens Guitar Trio-Repertoire

Concerto Grosso in G minor,
"Christmas" (arr. for guitar trio) (Corelli)

Dance No. 1 from La Vida Breve (Falla)

Prelude and Fugue in C minor (Bach)

Theme and Variations in D minor
(Brahms)

The Banjo – Grottesque Fantaisie
(Gottschalk)

Berceuse (Gottschalk)

Bad Boy (Takemitsu)

En Bateau (Debussy)

Silhouette (Dvořák)

Humoresque (Dvořák)

Pavane, Op. 50 (Faure)

Rejouissance (Handel)

Ragtime Dance (Joplin)

La Guerre (Janequin)

Scherzino (Ponce)

Zapateado Caribe (Barrios)

Die Sieben Zwerge in Wunderland
(Weaver)*

Juba (Dett)

Nine Bagatelles for Guitar Trio
(Brown)*

Opening (Glass)

Prelude and Fugue in A major
(Shostakovich)

Rondo (Hindemith)

Intermezzo (Ponce)

Quintet No. 1 in D minor (arr. for guitar
trio) (Boccherini)

Cuatro Piezas (Rodrigo)

Woodland Sketches (MacDowell)

Concertos

Concerto pour trios guitars et orchestre
à cordes (A. Williams)

**Written for the AGT*

Athens Guitar Trio-Sample Program 1

Dance No. 1
from La Vida Breve

Manuel de Falla
(1876-1946)

Quintet No. 1 in D minor
I. Allegro moderato
II. Cantabile
III. Minuetto e Trio
IV. Allegro assai

Luigi Boccherini
(1743-1805)

Ragtime Dance

Scott Joplin
(1867-1917)

Zapateado Caribe

Agustín Barrios Mangoré
(1885-1944)

Intermission

Opening
from Glassworks

Philip Glass
(b. 1937)

Four Piano Pieces
1. Calaseras (Homenaje a Chueca)
2. Fandango del Ventorrillo
3. Plegaria de la Infanta de Castilla
4. Danza Valenciana

Joaquin Rodrigo
(1901-1999)

Prelude and Fugue in C minor
from the Well-Tempered Clavier I

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

The Banjo – Grotesque Fantaisie

Louis Moreau Gottschalk
(1829-1869)

Athens Guitar Trio-Sample Program 2

Dance No. 1
from La Vida Breve

Manuel de Falla
(1876-1946)

Silhouette
Humoresque

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

Woodland Sketches, Op. 51
1. To a Wild Rose
2. Will o' the Wisp
3. At an Old Trysting Place
4. In Autumn
5. From an Indian Lodge
6. To a Water Lily
7. From Uncle Remus
8. A Deserted Farm
9. By a Meadow Brook
10. Told at Sunset

Edward MacDowell
(1860-1908)

Bad Boy

Toru Takemitsu
(1930-1996)

Prelude and Fugue in C minor
from the Well-Tempered Clavier I

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

Intermission

La Guerre (La Bataille de Marignan)

Clément Janequin
(1485-1558)

En Bateau
from the Petite Suite

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

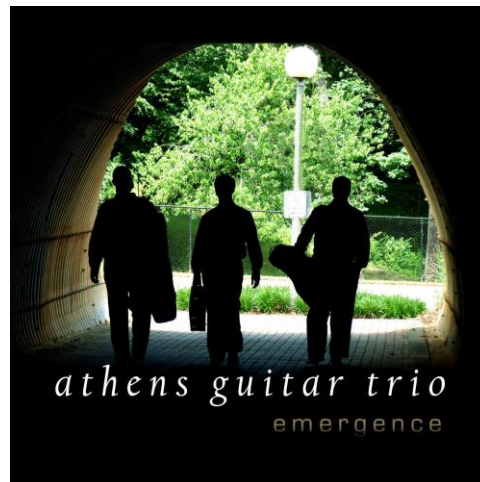
Theme and Variations
from the Sextet in B-flat major, Op. 18

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

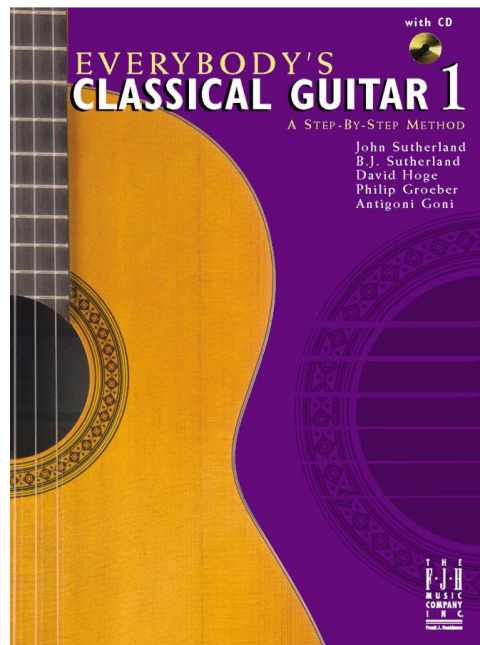
The Banjo – Grotesque Fantaisie

Louis Moreau Gottschalk
(1829-1869)

Athens Guitar Trio-Discography



Emergence (2008)



Everybody's Classical Guitar, Vol. 1
(Trio recorded the accompanying CD) (2010)

Videos

Please visit the Trio's Youtube page at:

<http://www.youtube.com/athensguitartrio>