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WHAT New York Guitar Festival 2018

WHERE Brookfield Place (230 Vesey Street)

DATE May 18 + 19, 2018

COST FREE, no tickets required

NEW YORK GUITAR FESTIVAL 2018 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ARTS BROOKFIELD PRESENTS:

Los Sonidos de España/The Sounds of Spain

**Brookfield Place
May 18 & 19, 2018**

New York, NY, March 20, 2018 — This spring, the New York Guitar Festival and Arts Brookfield will present two days of performances devoted entirely to classical and flamenco Spanish guitar music at Brookfield Place.

In recent years, the Festival has focused on taking the guitar into unlikely spaces, such as a day and night of ragas, or within the medieval ambience of The Met's Cloisters Museum, or casting it as the new "voice" of silent films. It's been more than a decade – not since the 2006 Spanish Marathon – that the Festival has specifically concentrated on the country most listeners think of when they hear classical guitar.

"Los Sonidos de España/The Sounds of Spain" casts a fresh glance at standard classics and flamenco roots. Joining us are two legendary guitarists, Sharon Isbin and Pepe Romero, who will perform solo and in duos with special guests in the evening concerts. For our afternoon matinees, we welcome two artists who blur the lines between classical and flamenco – Adam del Monte and Marija Temo. Expect some singing and dancing during their sets!

"A quintessential emblem of Spain, Flamenco is an art form that originated in the southern province of Andalusia. A fusion of Moorish, Gypsy, Jewish and Spanish cultures, it has historically been the musical outlet of the poor and oppressed. Flamenco never tells a story, it is more of a "cry in the dark" with the artists lamenting of their plight," explains **David Spelman, the Artistic Director of the New York Guitar Festival**. Spelman adds, *"guitar playing (toque) is one of the three pillars of Flamenco, the other two being singing (cante) and dance (baile). And while the guitar has a central role in accompanying singers and dancers, it has developed into a solo artform on its own."*

Two-time Grammy Award-winner, Sharon Isbin commented: *"I'm thrilled to return to the NYGF to celebrate music from the rich, magnificent tradition of Spain, with its seductive passion, yearning, nostalgia and joy!"*

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*"We're thrilled to welcome back the New York Guitar Festival for its 10th year at Brookfield Place," said **Elysa Marden, Vice President, Arts Brookfield.** "By bringing these world-class artists to the Winter Garden, The Sounds of Spain performances are sure to electrify guests and excite a wide range of guitar enthusiasts."*

All events are FREE to attend and will be held in the Winter Garden at Brookfield Place (230 Vesey Street).

PROGRAM:

Friday, May 18

12:30PM

Adam del Monte, with special guests Sonia Olla and Ismael Fernández

Known for the introspective lyricism of his classical guitar style as well as the exuberant spontaneity of his flamenco repertoire, Adam del Monte delights and moves audiences with his mastery of both art forms. In addition to performing iconic works by Albéniz and Tárrega, del Monte has composed two concertos for flamenco guitar and orchestra. His most recent recording, *Asi lo siento yo*, features collaborations with other flamenco musicians in songs that integrate aspects of tango, jazz, and Gypsy soul. Del Monte has also made music for the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, Osvaldo Golijov, and film composer John Williams. Joining del Monte for his afternoon program will be the flamenco dancer and choreographer Sonia Olla (described by the New York Times as "a furnace of earthy sensuality") and her partner, the Seville-born cantadore Ismael Fernández.

Friday, May 18

7:30PM

Pepe Romero

Classical guitar legend and Festival friend Pepe Romero returns to the NYGF for the first time since 2014. On that occasion, Romero gave an all-Bach recital. This time, the maestro will pay tribute to his father, Celedonio Romero, and the music of Spain, particularly that of his native Málaga. Romero will focus on flamenco guitar, bringing with him a to-be-announced roster of special guests, singers, and dancers. Among his celebrated accomplishments, Romero has premiered works – composed especially for him – by Rodrigo and Torroba. He's recorded more than 60 albums across his career, 30 of which were as part of a quartet with his father and brothers in The Romeros, an ensemble widely regarded as "The Royal Family of the Guitar." In addition to championing new works for the instrument, Romero has also rescued previously lost concerti by Giuliani and Carulli, among others, bringing them out of the archives and into the light.

Saturday, May 19

12:30PM

Marija Temo

Triple threat Marija Temo does it all: she sings, dances, and fiercely plays flamenco guitar. Praised for her formidable chops, Temo plays a guitar specifically tailored to the nuances of both classical and flamenco; she co-designed this unique instrument with luthier Tom Rodriguez. Although immersed in flamenco tradition, Temo also

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plays pop crossover and solos with symphonies. Composer Loris Ohannes Chobanian wrote the Concierto del Fuego especially as a showcase for Temo's individual synthesis of classical rigor and Spanish style. She performed in Fuego Ibérico, a flamenco musical inspired by cabaret. Currently, she serves as Guitar Chair at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Temo received a Master's degree from the Peabody Conservatory, where she studied with Manuel Barrueco. Her solo recital at this year's NYGF marks her first appearance at the Festival since "Audible Cloisters" in 2016.

Saturday, May 19

7:30PM

Sharon Isbin, with guest artist Romero Lubambo

New York Guitar Festival proudly welcomes back Sharon Isbin, whose performance last year was a major highlight of the 2017 Festival. This time, Isbin's program will feature a combination of solos and duos with her guest, the Brazilian jazz guitarist Romero Lubambo. Isbin and Lubambo, who performed together in the award-winning documentary Sharon Isbin: Troubadour, share a lyrical sensibility that makes their duets a natural elision of improvisation, classical music, and cross-cultural exploration. A two-time Grammy winner and founder of the guitar department at Juilliard, Isbin has premiered works by Tan Dun, John Corigliano, and Christopher Rouse, among other composers, that were written especially for her. Isbin's most recent recording, Alma Española, pairs her with the mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard for a set of Spanish art songs by Montsalvatge, Agustín Lara, and Lorca. Hailed as much for her "mesmerizing finesse" as for the range of her repertoire, Isbin has recorded everything from Baroque and Renaissance to contemporary classical to Latin American traditions in Journey to the Amazon.

ABOUT NEW YORK GUITAR FESTIVAL

Exploring virtually every aspect of the guitar's personality, the New York Guitar Festival, since 1999, has presented many of the world's most influential guitarists at Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Sawdust, (Le) Poisson Rouge, 92nd Street Y, Brookfield Place Winter Garden and other iconic venues, large and small. From multi Grammy-winners to emerging artists, NYGF performers have included masters of the classical repertoire (Pepe Romero, Christopher Parkening, Ana Vidović, Nigel North) as well as blues & jazz (Taj Mahal, Bucky Pizzarelli, Bill Frisell, Sonny Landreth), pop & indie rock (Vernon Reid, Bruce Springsteen, Bon Iver, Andy Summers, Thurston Moore), and folk & Americana (Levon Helm, Emmylou Harris, Cindy Cashdollar, Leo Kottke) as well as sounds of Central & South America (Badi Assad, Yamandu Costa, Vinicius Cantuária) and genre-defying innovators (Kaki King, David Torn, Daniel Lanois, Bryce Dessner). The New York Guitar Festival: music from across the centuries. . . and music yet to be.

Website: newyorkguitarfestival.org

Facebook: facebook.com/newyorkguitarfestival

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ABOUT ARTS BROOKFIELD

Arts Brookfield presents exciting, world-class cultural experiences to hundreds of thousands of people for free each year in both indoor and outdoor public spaces at Brookfield's premier office properties in New York, Los Angeles, Denver, Houston, Washington, D.C., London, Toronto, Perth and Sydney. From concerts, theater and dance to film screenings and art exhibitions, Arts Brookfield brings public spaces to life through art. Visit www.ArtsBrookfield.com for a complete schedule of events.



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ABOUT BROOKFIELD PLACE NEW YORK

Brookfield Place is the downtown escape for fashion, food and art on the Hudson River. Its palm filled Winter Garden and Marble Grand Staircase create a calming backdrop for an exclusive collection of shops (including Saks, Gucci, and J.Crew), arts exhibits, and some of the city's most talked about food purveyors and restaurants from Black Seed Bagels to the Michelin Starred Le District. Whether exploring the latest art installation, catching the sunset, or browsing our stores, Brookfield Place always offers something to discover.

Website: BrookfieldPlaceNY.com
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ABOUT BROOKFIELD PROPERTIES

Brookfield Properties is a premier real estate operating company that provides integrated services across the real estate investment strategies of Brookfield Asset Management (“Brookfield”) — a global alternative asset manager with over \$265 billion in AUM.

Brookfield’s global investing expertise and access to large-scale capital, combined with Brookfield Properties’ well-established position as the commercial landlord of choice in many of the world’s most dynamic markets, provides a unique advantage. It also assures premier-quality commercial premises and optimal outcomes for our tenants, business partners and the communities in which we operate.

Our vertically integrated real estate capabilities are established in each of Brookfield’s target sectors and regions around the globe, ensuring that our assets are managed to maximize the tenant experience, with a focus on integrating new real estate technologies that keep us at the forefront of innovation and sustainability.

For more information, visit brookfieldproperties.com.

