



AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR & LADY BIRD JOHNSON WILDFLOWER CENTER

PRESENT

# FLOWERS OF LIFE

Gabriel Santiago, *guitars and vocals*  
Andrea DeLong-Amaya, *spoken word*

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021

Preface: Unlived Future

*"What is life?..."* - Chief Crowfoot

Floating  
Flowers of Life - Part 1

*"Spring has come with gratitude..."* - Andrea DeLong-Amaya\*

Always Remember - Part 1  
Unsettled

*"All plants are our brothers and sisters..."* - Arapaho, Native American Proverb

Always Remember - Part 2  
Flowers of Life - Part 2

*"Take this stunning firewheel..."* - Amy McCullough

Unlived Future  
Flower Scapes

*"Sowing seed is a decisive act of faith"* - Andrea DeLong-Amaya

Miniatures  
I. Yellow Sea  
II. Traveler  
III. Spiritual  
IV. Following the Path

*"Where flowers bloom, so does hope..."* - Lady Bird Johnson\*

Flowers of Life - Part 3

All music by Gabriel Santiago

\*Using text freely adapted from Lady Bird Johnson

All photos by Bruce Leander

Videos sourced from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Ambient sounds sourced from the National Park Service & Free Sounds

*Our blog is overflowing with beautiful stories, videos, and insights. We include one in every virtual concert program, but if you'd like to read more, or see the videos they mention, just visit [AustinClassicalGuitar.org](http://AustinClassicalGuitar.org). Here's tonight's story...*

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## Flowers of Life: A Conversation with Gabriel Santiago

*Composer and performer Gabriel Santiago collaborates with master horticulturist Andrea DeLong-Amaya to celebrate the intersections of nature and music. Presented in partnership with the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.*

As part of the Austin Now series, ACG's Artistic Director Joe Williams asked the talented composer and performer Gabriel Santiago to collaborate with master horticulturist Andrea DeLong-Amaya from the Wildflower Center to create a program inspired by the intersections of nature and music.

We have seen many transformations this year, including the infamous Texas Winter Storm that turned into this beautiful spring we are now experiencing.

Nature's beauty and complexity has been a common inspiration for some of our Austin Now events such as Cycles from last fall. Joe Williams shared some of his inspiration for Flowers of Life,



*"The ACG Spring season has been centered around the themes of hope, rebirth, & celebration. In many ways, these themes grew out of a conversation with Andrea DeLong-Amaya, the director of Horticulture at Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center.*

*"We talked about the cycle of seasons and the process that plants go through every year: from winter to spring, from seed to bloom, from dirt to fields of flowers. And it occurred to me that that transformation - that process - in many ways reveals where we are. We've been in a sort of winter since Covid hit and, starting with the new year, sparks of hope are igniting. We can peek at a foreseeable end to the pandemic and the human spirit and our community is in the process of blooming. But we aren't out of the woods yet - we need to nurture every last bit of hope in our community - and that's what we have been endeavoring to do."*



*"I am so inspired by Andrea and Gabriel's collaboration and their work together. In Flowers of Life, Gabriel Santiago's gorgeous music evokes the beauty of both wildflowers and our community and Andrea's voice offers poems and quotes gently urging us to take part in the wonder around us and ignite hope for our future..."*

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*...read the rest of this story at [AustinClassicalGuitar.org](http://AustinClassicalGuitar.org).*

Cover and photography by Bruce Leander

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# 30<sup>th</sup> SEASON FINALE



*with* Texas Guitar Quartet, Virtual Guitar Orchestra, Ex-Aequo, & Young Guitarists from across Texas

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**Saturday, May 22, 2021 at 8PM CDT**

Free, Donations Welcome

Our 30th season finale is an energetic celebration of Spring. An orchestra of young guitarists from all over Texas will premiere new arrangements by living Black American composers, and the Texas Guitar Quartet, long-time collaborators on some of ACG's most ambitious projects (*Persona*, *i/we*, *dream and together*), will be dazzling us live from the AISD Performing Arts Center.

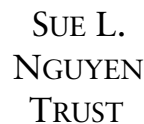
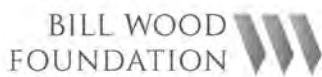
ACG's 30th season finale is created in collaboration with Ex-Aequo, Virtual Guitar Orchestra, AISD and The Augustine Foundation.



# AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR

## MAJOR SPONSORS AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS

### 2020-2021



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