CALL AND RESPONSE

Thomas Echols, guitar and electronics
  Invoke
Zachariah Matteson, violin
Geoff Manyin, cello
Karl Mitze, viola and mandolin
Nick Montopoli, violin and banjo

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021

Call 1 Thomas Echols
  Clair de Lune (Claude Debussy)*
  Descendre (Thomas Echols)

Call 2 Zachariah Matteson
  Feliz en tu Dia (Emilio Alberto Aragón Bermúdez)*

Call 3 Thomas Echols
  Blue in Green (Miles Davis & Bill Evans, Arr. Echols)*

Call 4 Karl Mitze
  Clair de Lune (Claude Debussy)*
  Let it Go (James Bay)*
  Entre Dos Aguas (Paco de Lucia)*
Call 5
  Human (Thomas Echols)
  Gymnopedie No. 1 (Erik Satie arr. Matteson)*

Call 6
  Ojala (Silvio Rodríguez)*

Call 7
  Gymnopedie No. 1 Reprise
  Rustling sound of the radio (Thomas Echols)*

Call 8
  Moon River (Henry Mancini arr. Echols)*

*ft freely adapted from the original

CALL AND RESPONSE is part of KMFA Classical 89.5’s intergenerational Star Notes Project, offering opportunities for deep connection through conversations and experiences centered on music and meaning. We would like to thank Azaria Hernandez, Paola Domínguez, and Diego Perez from Austin Soundwaves, and Rebekah Baines Johnson Center residents Janet Roberts, Farah Rivera, and Doug McWhorter for their enthusiastic participation in the conversations that inspired today’s program. This concert was supported in part through the generosity of the St. David’s Foundation and the Texas Commission on the Arts.
CALL AND RESPONSE: A Conversation with Invoke’s Zach Matteson

We are so excited to present our first Austin Now event of the Spring 2021 season, CALL AND RESPONSE with Invoke and Thomas Echols, presented in partnership with KMFA, on Sunday, April 18th at 5pm CDT.

For the Austin Now series our Artistic Director, Joe Williams, has asked outstanding artists from our city to get together and create something beautiful using the collaboration of different mediums in whatever way they feel represents the times we are living in now.

CALL AND RESPONSE is an exploration into memory, meaning, and the not-so-obvious threads that connect us all over Austin. It was developed in collaboration with members of the community and participants were asked questions about what music means to them. Their responses helped steer the program we will see Sunday.

We got the opportunity to connect with one of the incredible members of Invoke, Zach Matteson, and he shared some beautiful things about his journey as a musician and the journey of Invoke coming together.

“I started the violin at age 5. As I grew up, music was something that was always constant in my life: chamber music with siblings/friends, community choir with my dad in middle school, and eventually community orchestra in high school. In orchestra, I really fell in love with the rush of being completely surrounded by music, creating something together as a group. Maybe it was the “rush” that making music provided (or the fact that nothing else in school had interested me) but I decided to try and get a college degree in music. I went to University of Maryland to get my degree in music performance (for a variety of reasons) and it was there that I met the other members of Invoke during my Junior year.”

“At UMD, we worked with dance choreographer, Liz Lerman, to get the orchestra dancing while performing “Appalachian Spring,” among other things...there was a definite energy in the air of “what’s next?” and “what can we do to subvert expectations.” It was in this environment that Invoke (Nick, Geoff, Karl, and myself) came together. Initially, we started as a straight forward new music quartet, interested in performing works by living composers that we knew, but it quickly developed into the bluegrass crossover/composer collective/new music ensemble/string quartet group that you see today. That “rush” is still there, and I love the fact that it’s something I get to create with my best friends everyday...”

...read the rest of this story at AustinClassicalGuitar.org.
A SPECIAL THANK YOU to the Star Notes Project participants from Rebekah Baines Johnson Center and students of Austin Soundwaves.

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

GIVE
Saturday, April 29, 2021 at 7PM CDT
Free, Donations Welcome
Guided by the belief that music can be a powerful catalyst for acceptance, hope, and joy, GIVE is a community concert featuring commissions from local artists, creative projects from students and community members as well as powerful songs from ACG’s Music & Healing program.

RUPERT & LAURA
Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7PM CDT
Free, Donations Welcome
This spring our ACG concert-streaming rig has traveled up to Brooklyn, New York, to broadcast some of the amazing artistry that’s been attracted from around the globe to one of the world’s greatest cities. We start things off with husband and wife duo Rupert Boyd and Laura Metcalf sharing the divine sounds of cello and guitar.

FLOWERS OF LIFE
with Gabriel Santiago & Andrea DeLong-Amaya
Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 7PM CDT
Free, Donations Welcome
Inspired by the transformation of winter to spring at the Wildflower Center, composer and performer Gabriel Santiago collaborates with master horticulturalist Andrea DeLong-Amaya to celebrate the intersections of nature and music.

Presented in partnership with Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

SEASON FINALE
with Texas Guitar Quartet, Virtual Guitar Orchestra, Ex-Aequo, & Young Guitarists from across Texas
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.
This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin Economic Development Department, and by a generous award from the National Endowment for the Arts.