

BRADLEY COLTEN

CLASSICAL GUITAR

Biography

Bradley Colten has appeared in performance throughout the United States and in Canada, France, Germany and Switzerland as a soloist and chamber musician. Highlight appearances include performances at Caramoor Music Festival, Lincoln Center, the New World Symphony Orchestra's chamber music series, Merkin Concert Hall, and Carnegie Hall, where his debut was noted by Guitar Review magazine as "superbly unrelenting" and as having "imaginative lyricism" and "amazing energy." Bradley has made a mark at guitar festivals as well, performing at the GFA Festival, the NY Guitar Seminar at Mannes, the Bowdoin Summer Music and New England Conservatory Music Festivals, and at many guitar societies throughout the country. He has been featured in print, online and on air. Articles about Bradley have appeared in Guitar Review; his CD has been featured on NPR's "Open Mic"; and he has performed live on New York City's "Soundcheck" on WNYC radio.

Bradley is a founding member of Arc Duo, an award-winning flute and guitar ensemble. Roundly hailed by critics and presenters, the duo's performances have been described as "musically artistic experience[s] from beginning to end", and as "an exceptional ensemble" performing with "poetic sensibility to all-out bravura." Interviews and articles about Arc Duo have appeared in Soundboard Magazine, Flute Talk, Classical Guitar, NYlon Review, Stylus, American Flute Guild, and Guitar Review.

Soundboard Magazine hailed Arc Duo's debut CD as an "indispensable addition to the guitar's discography". The duo's most recent recording, "The Diller-Quaile Commissions" was released by Azica Records in August 2012. Bradley's latest solo CD, released September 2014 on the Azica label, documents his unprecedented discovery of the guitar music by American composer, Ernst Bacon.

Bradley is a recipient of the *Andrés Segovia Award* from the Manhattan School of Music and served as a chamber music coach at the school. He was noted with "Performance Distinction" after his studies at the New England Conservatory of Music. While still at New England Conservatory, The Boston Globe hailed Bradley for his "sensitive" Boston premiere of Mario Davidovsky's Synchronisms #10 in Jordan Hall.

Bradley holds undergraduate degrees from both Tufts University and the New England Conservatory, and Masters and Doctorate degrees from the Manhattan School of Music. He performs on a Daryl Perry guitar, endorses Hannabach Strings and is an Azica Recording Artist.

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Press

“Technically immaculate, caring, and gorgeously engineered performances.” (Artistic Quality: 10, Sound Quality: 10)

– *Jed Distler, Classics Today*

“[Colten’s] interpretation is a rich blend of refinement and heartfelt communication ... dramatic flair and virtuosic playing.”

– *Paula Edelstein, AXS.com*

“Bradley’s performance of the guitar works of Ernst Bacon was brilliant, and his telling, between pieces, of the story behind the music made for a particularly riveting evening. This repertoire is a significant discovery, made all the more compelling by Bradley’s beautiful playing and his sharing of the long process of unearthing it. The capacity crowd loved it, and clearly wanted more.”

– *John Olson, NYC Guitar Society President*

“Bradley Colten’s impeccable playing is masterful, pure, always with feeling”

– *Richard Carter, Examiner.com*

“Colten’s playing is thoughtful and exacting ... always with a good sense of phrasing and musicality. He is great at building up tension toward destinations and climaxes.”

– *Bradford Werner, This is Classical Guitar*

“Electrifying, reflective, and always engaging ... a mix of sensuality and thoughtful elegance.”

– *Paul Cesarczyk, Guitar Review (Regarding Arc Duo’s Carnegie Hall Debut)*

“A young award winner that could easily take his place next to Chris Parkening and others of that ilk, Colten serves up stellar listening for a Sunday afternoon where he takes an acoustic guitar places you never imagined while still staying within the realm of solo, classical guitar. Winning stuff throughout.”

– *Midwest Record*