

Frank Wallace

composer | guitar | vihuela | lute | baritone



*“...I admire your work, your
artistry and genuine spirit.
We don't see enough of that
in the guitar world...in the
world in general for that
matter.”*

—**Dr. Stephen Mattingly**,
Director, 2013 GFA

*“I saw it [The Elements]
yesterday on Facebook,
amazing piece and amazing
playing!!!”*

—**Atanas Ourkouzounov**,
Jan 17, 2013

*Your melodies...man....!
Abrazo!”*

—**Pablo Garibay**

Compositions

"Frank Wallace plays his own works with inspiration, determination, and a wealth of creativity. With top notch playing and excellent compositions, this synthesis is a spectacular success. / ...he can match the musicality of any player out there... orchestral ideas in his playing...natural phrasing and rhythm...playing is virtuosic but always in a musically convincing way."

—Bradford Werner, **This Is Classical Guitar**

Frank Wallace writes music for: [Concert Guitar](#), [Voice & Guitar](#), [Chamber Works](#), [Flute](#), [Strings](#), [Voice & Lute](#), [Mandolin](#), [Student Guitarists](#) and more. All compositions are available for performance and are registered through ASCAP and published by [Gyre Music](#). Wallace is always interested in new commissions for you or your ensemble. A commission is a great way to enhance your repertoire, be involved in the creative process and to make a certain occasion special. Contact Frank to discuss your needs and desires and an appropriate fee.

"Each piece composed by Frank Wallace that I have had the opportunity to see has been a joy...a very stable and skillful author...one of those guitar music creators who really has something new to say."

—Dojcinovic, on Random Act; **Soundboard**, 2010



Works by Frank Wallace are played by:

Jan Bartlema, Lynn McGrath, Michael Nicolella, ChromaDuo, Mare Duo, Isaac Bustos, Pablo Garibay, Edel Muñoz, Rene Izquierdo, Sylvain Bergeron, San Francisco Guitar Quartet, Mobius Trio, Providence Mandolin Orchestra, JZO Mandolin Orchestra, Lynda Sayce, Norbert Dams, Christopher Ladd, Ciraldo Duo, Olson / De Cari Duo, Back Bay Trio, Argentis Duo, Mayes Duo, Nick Cutroneo, Chanson du Soir, Daniel Acsadi, Daniel Hartington, Elizabeth Merrill, Claire Rafaelson, Robert Margo, and more.

Biography

Frank Wallace, composer, guitar, lute and vihuela, baritone; b. November 22, 1952

American Record Guide calls Frank Wallace's compositions "*exciting, unpredictable, and fresh*". **Fanfare** magazine has dubbed him a composer with "*an authentic expressive voice*" and a "*high standard of musical interest*" who performs with "*flawless technical proficiency*". Frank Oteri of **NewMusicBox.org** calls Wallace's work "*contemporary musical emancipation*". Self-taught as a composer, his style has influences from the blues and jazz to medieval and *avante-garde*. The compelling melodies and rich accompaniments in his songs fluidly combine the disparate influences of his mentors from Dowland to Schubert to Britten. Wallace's works showcase the classical guitar in solo, duo, ensemble works from 3-7 guitars, and in chamber works with voice, flute, cello, English horn, mandolin, and piano. Wallace has written works for ChromaDuo, Jugend Zupf Orchestra of Germany, Mare Duo, Edel Muñoz, Marek Pasieczny, Olson / De Cari Duo, Providence Mandolin Orchestra and others.

Frank Wallace founded and directed for four years the Boston Classical Guitar Society's **Festival 21**, celebrating all that is new in 21st century classical guitar. In New York City Wallace founded and co-directed the **Second Sundays Classical Guitar Series** at Roger Smith Arts. He has taught at the New England Conservatory, various colleges and universities as well as summer festivals in Europe and the Americas and has a B.M. degree from San Francisco Conservatory. Wallace has performed through Europe and America and is recent recipient of the 2015 Ewing Arts Award for artistic excellence. He is a two-time winner of the NH Individual Fellowship Award (2001 and 2006). Wallace's complete works and recordings are available at www.gyremusic.com, a site rich with information and samples of sheet music and audio.

"...a composer with a distinct voice..." —Soundboard

Social Media



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WATCH

"This is fantastic Frank! Both composition and interpretation, it can't be more perfect! Cheers"
—Dr. Eduardo Minozzi Costa on YouTube, **The Elements**

"Wow! Fantastic playing, Frank! It's not often I am compelled to listen to every note and nuance of that old chestnut. Seriously, you have fantastic tones and feeling."
—Ockeghem1495, on YouTube, **Villa-Lobos Prelude #3**

www.frankwallace.com

Performance Recommendations

New Jersey City University

"All of my students who came to your recital have commented so positively on their impression! Your playing ability, beautiful voice and the interesting compositions all coalesced to make the recital a multi-layered event that captured their imaginations as to the limitless possibilities for performers. Your very accessible and pleasant personality sure helped make them more open to the message, thanks for making the recital such a success!"

—Ana Maria Rosado, PhD; Director of Guitar Studies

New Jersey City University

University of Dayton

"Frank's recent concert at the University of Dayton was an outstanding event in our year's calendar of events. Frank mixed traditional concert guitar solos with his own compositions in a well-rounded program which showcased the uniqueness of this talented and personable performer. To hear such a fine guitarist and a very enjoyable, expressive vocalist in the same person is a rarity. Add to that such a developed compositional style and a life well-spent in the arts, and you have a performer without peer.

Student comments were universally positive, and indication that Frank reached his audience in memorable ways. I completely recommend him for any events you may be planning."

—Jim McCutcheon, Artist-in-Residence
University of Dayton



Philadelphia Guitar Society

"We had some trepidation regarding a concert of music representing only one composer, but Frank's compositions (along with some of Nancy's poetry) have enough variety to more than carry the day. To add to the wide range of styles that the Wallace oeuvre presents, Frank uses two different guitars (a standard 6 string classical and a 10 string) and a renaissance lute. The impressive and well-played accompaniments, along with Frank's powerful baritone voice and Nancy's lovely soprano voice made for an extremely enjoyable afternoon. I received many favorable comments and requests to have the duo back again from our members. I have to agree, the sooner the better."

—Joseph Mayes, Artistic Director

Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society



Reviews

"Mr. Wallace is an esteemed colleague who, until two years ago, I knew only through recordings. His music, composed primarily for Duo LiveOak and solo guitar, struck me as at once provocative and engaging. Although it does not avail itself of the most "modernistic" harmonic practices, Frank Wallace's music is innovative in all the ways that matter. His writing for voice and guitar is both challenging and distinctive. He is also a consummate virtuoso solo guitar and lutenist, and a skilled vocal accompanist."

—Herman Weiss [former director of Composers in Red Sneakers, Cambridge, MA]

CD Review: *Woman of the Water*

"In over 25 years of writing about music on recordings and in concerts, I have rarely been as captivated and enchanted by any item as this new CD from Duo LiveOak...This is a first-rate chamber music duo with a new and refreshing twist...The CD's only major drawback is its brevity, for it ends sooner than any reasonable person who hears it would wish... Go for it!"

—John W. Lambert, **Classical Voice North Carolina**

CD Review: *Frank Wallace, His Own New Works*

"It is easy to feel an intimate connection to the ethereal beauty of Frank Wallace's compositions not only because of their individual splendor, but also because of the lush tone and sensitive perfection with which Wallace executes his music....Wallace's writing reveals interests in early music, American folk music, and the blues, as well as a more contemporary language. His music also clearly reflects a thorough knowledge of the guitar's repertoire; the works sound idiomatic, though never to a fault, and his harmony and counterpoint bring out some of the richest sonorities that the guitar has to offer... a brilliant collection of new repertoire performed by its composer, who happens to play with equal amounts of grace, sensitivity, and virtuosity."

—Stephen Griesgraber, **Guitar Review**

CD Review: *Woman of the Water*

"Imagine contemporary musical emancipation emanating out of John Dowland, rather than Richard Wagner, and you'll begin to get an idea of where this music is coming from. But, that's a terrible over-simplification, since his lute songs and guitar songs at times also hint at flamenco and Japanese koto traditions and at one point I thought I was hearing harmonies reminiscent of Tristan, plus the poetry he sets is mostly contemporary: Theodore Roethke, Robert Creeley, etc.

As Duo LiveOak, Wallace accompanies pure-voiced mezzo-soprano Nancy Knowles (who also has written many of the texts) and occasionally joins her in song with his baritone voice. Wait a minute? Isn't that starting to sound like a pop album, albeit an unplugged one? Perhaps this album is further proof of the meaninglessness of such terms as 'classical' and 'pop.'"

—NewMusicBox.org

CD Review: *Elemental*

"Frank Wallace plays his own works with inspiration, determination, and a wealth of creativity. With top notch playing and excellent compositions, this synthesis is a spectacular success. / ...he can match the musicality of any player out there...orchestral ideas in his playing...natural phrasing and rhythm...playing is virtuosic but always in a musically convincing way."

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Residency Proposal

Expanding the Guitar's Influence in the Classical World

JS Bach proved almost 300 years ago that the violin is a phenomenal solo instrument and wrote the most beloved and sacred music for it. And yet violin is most often heard in ensemble settings. The guitar is the most common accompaniment instrument in the world today, and yet it is rarely heard in combination with other instruments outside popular settings.

It is my goal as a lover of the classical guitar to contribute to the remedy of this situation. With so many young people attracted to the guitar and receiving advanced performance degrees, it is time that composers, teachers and presenters give them the opportunity to excel in the chamber music world. In 2014, with the generous assistance of the Augustine Foundation and Hartt School of Music, I wrote eight works that comprise **As It Could Be**, dedicated to the Hartt School Guitar Department and its founder/director Richard Provost on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. **AICB** was created with the intent of bringing together a large community of musicians to create a single grand piece. Twelve musicians were used to perform the entire work. Read more [here](#).

I propose to encourage this activity by the composition and commissioning of more new works for guitar with voice, strings, winds and chamber music ensembles. I will conduct such ensembles in concerts and residencies at your school or institution and will collaborate with your faculty and students to create a compelling concert of chamber music with guitar.

—Frank Wallace

Accepting commissions for chamber music, voice and guitar

Booking concerts for:

East Coast: continuous availability

West Coast: May 2016 / Fall 2016

Europe: Summer 2016 and 2017

Please inquire about any other times



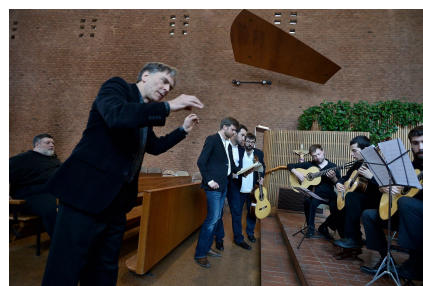
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Sheet music, CDs and downloads at www.gyremusic.com



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