

Scottish musician Matthew McAllister is widely regarded as one of the most exciting and talented Classical Guitarists in Europe. Matthew has been delighting audiences worldwide with his exquisite performances and effortless presentation for over a decade.

*"The sweetness of McAllister's elegant tone and fluent phrasing soothed the audience"*

**Classical Guitar Magazine**

Born in Falkirk and raised in the East Neuk of Fife, Matthew studied at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama, with Allan Neave. Towards the end of his studies Matthew toured with Scottish Ballet, performed at The Simon Bolivar Guitar Festivals held at The Venezuelan Embassy in London and appeared on both the BBC and Spanish Television. Since graduating with Bachelor of Music with Honours in 2003, he has enjoyed continued success and is a regular performer and educator at Classical Guitar Festivals and Concert Series worldwide.

*"the superb musicianship of McAllister brought the very best from his instrument in this intimate setting, a fascinating and thoroughly entrancing programme"*

**The Scotsman**

Matthew made his debut at the prestigious Concertgebouw Concert Hall in Amsterdam in 2009 and returned there in 2015, both performances were broadcast live by Radio 4 (National Broadcaster of the Netherlands) on the Spiegelzaal Show. Matthew made his London debut in the Purcell Room of the Queen Elizabeth Hall in 2007 and most recently was presented by the Iberian & Latin American Music Society Series at St Martin in the Fields in 2015. Regularly appearing on the stages of many major international Cities Matthew has performed in Los Angeles, Toronto, San Jose, Lima, Mexico City, San Francisco, Edinburgh, Sarajevo, Montreal, Tallinn, Chicago, Caracas, Abu Dhabi, Minsk, Vancouver, Reykjavik to name a few. Matthew has performed live on British, Spanish, Malaysian, Belgium, Peruvian, Dutch, Polish, Bosnian and Chilean television, has been featured on numerous radio broadcasts worldwide, toured extensively throughout North & South America, Europe and Asia both as a soloist and chamber musician. His Flute and Guitar Duo with Irish Flautist Aisling Agnew is a world leader in the genre having gained the very highest praise from music critics and their peers.

*"Matthew and Aisling, both accomplished players individually, come together and bring a beautiful natural charm to their musicality, which make listening to them a constant pleasure"*

**David Russell**

Matthew has produced an extensive discography with Natural Studio Records, Baros Records and RTE Lyric. With 7 albums to his name his output is as eclectic as it is accomplished.

*"Captivating and beautiful"*

**Paris Guitar Foundation**

His latest solo album **French Collection** (released in 2015) is tour de force of the French repertoire, **Bach & Brouwer** (released in 2008) is a bold pairing of suites by J.S.Bach and Leo Brouwer, Matthew's debut album **Merula** (released in 2004) has now received a second edition pressing with Baros Records.

*"There will soon come the time where I will once again be asked by some curious music lover what classical guitar CD I recommend they buy in order to introduce themselves to the instrument. When that time arrives, Matthew McAllister will be the name that will spring to mind and the album will be Merula"*

**Timothy Smith - Minor 7th Magazine**

Matthew's 2006 and 2015 albums **Recital** and **Bidla** with his duo partner Irish flautist Aisling Agnew affirms their reputation as the leading exponents of the Flute & Guitar genre featuring a wide range of virtuosic and beautiful music from around the globe.

*"The guitar work, substituting for a more ambitious orchestra, carries the burden of shading the bright, optimistic, and virtuosic flute with all the dark foreboding of the drama. McAllister accomplishes this brilliantly with great understatement, never intruding, yet always pointing to the tragedy."*

**Classical Music Guide**

*"From Baroque flair to modern soundscapes the Agnew McAllister Duo deliver virtuosity, beauty, and solid musicianship making Bidla a top ensemble pick for 2015."*

**This is Classical Guitar**

As an educator Matthew holds the posts of Classical Guitar Tutor and Lecturer in Music at the University of St Andrews & Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, and most recently established the Classical Guitar Retreat which presents a residential summer course on the Island of Cumbrae off the West Coast of Scotland.

*I had the chance to meet Matthew McAllister a few years back when he was adjudicating the Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival in Canada. He is one of nicest people I've met and inspired my students as well as demonstrated some beautiful playing.*

**Bradford Werner - Victoria Guitar Trio**