

Sunday 28 July 2024
St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Mark Jennings - Classical Guitar

- * J. S. Bach (1685-1750), Prelude from the first Cello Suite.
- * Francisco Tárrega (1852-1909), Capricho Àrabe.
- * Silvius Leopold Weiss. (1687-1750), Passacaglia.
- * Frederico Moreno Torroba (1891-1982), Sonatina.
- * Joaquin Rodrigo (1901-1999), Adagio (arranged for solo guitar by Carlos Bonnel and Mark Jennings).
- * J.S Bach (1685-1750), Fuge BWV 1000.
- * Francisco Tárrega (1852-1909), Recuerdos de la Alhambra.
- * Issac Albaniz (1860-1909), Asturias.

Mark Jennings is a British born classical guitar recitalist, much sought after in the UK and overseas. He has been playing classical guitar for most of his life having begun lessons at an early age.

Following a successful audition Mark was awarded the coveted Dorset Arts Council scholarship to study with the preeminent classical guitarist Carlos Bonell at the London College of Music, part of the Guildhall School of Music, where he also studied harmony, counterpoint and composition with the British pianist and composer John McCabe.

Mark recognizes the importance of being alive to other interests, of having broad horizons and a rich and varied perspective. Winning the A.J.Ayer and R. Wolheim awards enabled him to widen and deepen his studies at the University College London (UCL) and to further develop his experience and skills as a recitalist.

He had the honour of studying for four years with the great 'Renaissance man' Sir Roger Scruton (composer, musicologist, music critic, writer and philosopher), and later went on to win the UCL 1994 Jacobsen Prize for the best all round student. In addition to a music diploma, Mark holds a BA (hons) in History, Politics and Philosophy, and an MPhil and Doctorate in Philosophy from University College London.

During this time he gave concerts regularly throughout the UK and on the Continent. Before becoming a full-time recitalist, he had been at various times a part-time tutor in philosophy at UCL, a part-time teacher of politics and history at Highgate School in North London and a teacher of philosophy and history at Christ Hospital School in West Sussex.

Mark was a member of the Baroque Players, a member of a guitar duo with Peter Rueffer (Music Director of the Dillington International Classical Guitar Festival), and member of the violin-guitar duo with Andrew Wickens (of The London Philharmonic Orchestra).

Mark is currently based in Hampstead, North London, and spends some of the winter months performing in South Africa. He is a regular 'wild swimmer', especially in the picturesque lakes of Hampstead Heath, this during all seasons and whatever the weather.