

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ABOUT YOUR MUSICIAN, YOGA AND MEDITATION TEACHER,  
WEDDING MINISTER and CALLIGRAPHER  
Rev. JOHN GIUNTA, MA, FRC, SI**

John Giunta is a conservatory-trained musician and performance artist. He attended Juilliard and the Mannes College of Music in New York City and holds a Master of Arts Degree in classical guitar performance from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. He has over 35 years of performing and teaching experience on numerous musical instruments, to include orchestra appearances, a national tour of "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris," radio, television, and the stage to include off-Broadway shows, Town Hall and Lincoln Center in New York City.



John has been a student of Western Mysticism and a practitioner of meditation since 1974. He holds a teaching certificate in Hatha yoga from the Himalayan International Institute of Yoga Science and Philosophy in Honesdale, Pennsylvania, founded by Swami Rama. He is also a yoga therapist, music therapist and spiritual coach. He teaches yoga at various locations in Northern Virginia, including his own studio. He made his pilgrimage to India in January, 2001 for the Maha Kumbha Mela and is a published author in the fields of yoga and music.

An experienced speaker on the techniques and benefits of yoga and meditation, his venues have included the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, the United States Department of State, United States Postal Service, the American Lung Association, Shenandoah University, Baltimore Whole Life Expo, American MENSA, Ltd., George Mason University Music Department, George Mason University Faculty Speakers Bureau and Levine School of Music.

John is also an Interfaith Minister ordained in 2004 at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City. His life experiences as a US Army Survival Instructor, yoga teacher, counselor and performer serve him well in teaching and mentoring a wide segment of the population.

He is available for private yoga therapy sessions, music lessons and music performances for all social and sacred occasions. John also accepts commissions for his calligraphy in five different hands.

For more information, view the website below and contact:

JOHN PETER GIUNTA  
VIENNA WOODS STUDIOS  
117 Moore Avenue, S.W.  
Vienna, Virginia 22180-5968  
(703) 281-5498  
<http://SpecialMind.com>

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***SOME PAST COMMENTS ON  
THE PERFORMANCES  
OF  
JOHN PETER GIUNTA***

"A performance by John Giunta is an aural and visual treat that invites the audience to explore relationships between the arts and between art and life itself. What sets Giunta's performances apart from most others is the artistic diversity he offers and his engaging manner of casual communication with the audience." **DR. MARILOU KRATZENSTEIN, PROFESSOR OF MUSIC, UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA.**

"A favorite with our staff and customers, Mr. Giunta's musicianship and audience rapport are of a caliber rarely matched by performers...His repertoire is unique--a blend of classical, jazz and Latin American/Spanish styles with a delightful dose of improvisation." **KATHLEEN HALNON, Publicist, Borders Book Shop.**

"What I can say about his music is that every note leans to its simple beauty. Every chord he plays makes the air dance, not just in harmony with the words of poetry, but with that requisite dissonance that leaves one hoping for more. John Giunta's music elevates senses which have no language, no means of expression except that of the heartbeat." **EDGAR SILEX, Native-American Poet, Author of *Even the Dead Have Memories*.**

"Everyone I spoke with just raved about your music and their enjoyment of the concert... it also fed the souls of so many music lovers." **GLENDA DAVIS, Board President, National Science of Mind Center of Washington DC.**

"Your excellent performance was enjoyed by all in attendance." **JEANNE BECKWITT FORREST, President, New Dominion Chorale.**

"John has a sensitivity about him that is truly unique and it translates 100% into his art...a modern Renaissance man...it was quite a powerful experience...I was literally mesmerized." **BIZ McMAHON, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.**

"We all agreed he was just incredible." ***Broadside*, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY.**

"The music was soothing and peaceful. My admiration is high for a musician who can improvise, and especially one who bases his/her improvisations on input from others, as John did." ***CAPITAL M*, Newsletter of Metropolitan Washington MENSA.**

"J.G.'s musical talents have been integral to the success of many performance projects under my direction. His artistry, sensitivity and versatility make him a joy to work with. John is an indispensable asset to my work..." **SANDRA KAMMANN, Choreographer and Artistic Director: Sisters of One Eye, Unitarian Regional Dance Ensemble.**

"John Giunta's greatest talents are his versatility and his ability to listen. At a reading by six Latin American and North American poets...Mr. Giunta was able to echo perfectly the mood and voice of

each individual poet and poem...His accompaniment gave the work the impact that poetry alone could not achieve." **DENISE DEVRIES**, Poet and Editor of *Hispanic Culture Review*, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, George Mason University.



Ode To Cupid

Fond love, deliver up thy Bow,  
I am become more Love than thou;  
I am wanton growne, and wild,  
Much lesse a man, and more a child,  
From Venus borne, of chaster kind,  
A better archer, though as blind.

## **JOHN PETER GIUNTA, MA**

### **MULTI-INSTRUMENTALIST AND PERFORMANCE ARTIST DESIGNER AND FACILITATOR OF THE "YOGA FOR MUSICIANS" WORKSHOP AVAILABILITY: PRIVATE INSTRUCTION, GROUP WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCES CLASSICAL GUITAR, FLUTES AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF PERFORMING EXPERIENCE**

##### **SOLO RECITALS:**

- o Himalayan International Institute of Yoga Science and Philosophy, Honesdale, Pennsylvania, performance of classical guitar pieces and improvisations on guitar and alto flute with readings of poetry, 1996.
- o George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, Hispanic Heritage Month, solo recital of Spanish and Latin-American Guitar music, 1993.
- o National Science of Mind Center of Washington DC, classical guitar compositions, poetry, and improvisations on guitars, flutes and glass harp, 1993.
- o Borders Book Shop, lecture-recitals, "Aesthetics of Music and Language." Including guitar compositions, poetry, improvisations on classical guitar, alto flute and glass harp, January, July and November 1993.
- o Hispanic Cultural Society at the Ellipse Arts Center, Arlington, Virginia, "Voices of Magic and Color: a Celebration of Contemporary Hispanic Art," classical guitar music for Christmas festival, 1992.
- o Metropolitan Washington MENSA, mixed media presentations and guitar recitals, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991.
- o Bull Run Park, Centerville, Virginia, Inauguration of Amphitheater, 1990.
- o George Mason University, solo student classical guitar recitals, 1988, 1989, 1993.

##### **MIXED MEDIA EVENTS:**

- o Hispanic Cultural Society at the Ellipse Arts Center, "Maraton de Poesia," improvised classical guitar and alto flute music to the poetry of Rei Berroa, 1995.
- o Carroll Community College, Poetry Reading. Completely improvised performance of guitar and flute music for readings by Edgar Silex and other poets, 1995.
- o George Mason University, Hispanic Heritage Month, guitar program for reading by contemporary Latin-American and Native-American writers, 1993.
- o Poetry Theater, George Mason University. Numerous productions. Classical guitar, alto flute and theremin improvisations to accompany readings of poetry, 1992 to present.
- o Edgar Silex, Native-American poet, accompanied Mr. Silex's poetry with improvisations on classical guitar in numerous readings, 1992 to present.
- o Hispanic Cultural Society at the Ellipse Arts Center, program of Spanish poetry by Latin-American poets, improvised classical guitar music to poetry, 1992.
- o George Mason University, First Prize Winner, Talent Show, 1991.
- o George Mason University, solo mixed media program of poetry, dance, sculpture and visual art pieces, combined with completely improvised music on flutes, classical guitar and 12-string guitar, 1988.

### **ORCHESTRA AND CHAMBER PERFORMANCES:**

- o Himalayan Institute, Honesdale, Pennsylvania, Indian devotional music ensemble, played alto flute with Sri Laxmi Narayan Tiwari, 1996.
- o New Dominion Chorale, Thomas Beveridge, conducting. Performed guitar part in "Misa Criolla," by Ariel Ramirez, 1993.
- o McLean Orchestra and George Mason University Orchestra, Colonel Arnald Gabriel, conducting, performed on classical guitar with orchestra, Christmas 1989, Christmas 1992.
- o Lincoln Center, New York City. Performance by Mannes Guitar Trio in chamber music program in Library Auditorium, 1972.
- o Mannes College of Music, New York City, "Cosi Fan Tutti," by W. A. Mozart, classical guitar part with Mannes orchestra, 1972.
- o Juilliard, New York City "Don Pasquale," by, G. Donizetti, classical guitar part with Juilliard Opera orchestra, 1967.

### **DANCE PERFORMANCE ACCOMPANIMENT:**

- o Arlington Unitarian Dancers and the Unitarian Regional Dance Ensemble, Sandra Kammann, director. Numerous performances, accompanied dancers on flutes and guitars, 1989 to 1991.
- o Nina Cohen, dancer and choreographer, concert of Nina's original dance pieces accompanied by classical guitar and alto flute, New York City, 1975.

### **TELEVISION AND RADIO PERFORMANCES:**

- o "Mason Report," George Mason University Television, interview of John Giunta with classical guitar compositions and improvisations, 19 April 1993.
- o "Mason Moments," George Mason University Television, classical guitar solos, 12 March 1993.
- o "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris," numerous media appearances on national tour.
- o "Camera Three," New York City television, played alto flute for program sound track, 1974.
- o WNYC Radio, New York City. "Music on Campus," Mannes College of Music, performed classical guitar pieces, 1972, 1973.

### **NATIONAL TOUR:**

- o "Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris" 1972-1974. Played guitars, flutes, recorder, mandolin.

### **THEATER PERFORMANCES:**

- o Pericles, Prince of Tyre by William Shakespeare, George Mason University, performed role of "Gower", the narrator, and composed and performed incidental music live on four instruments, 1990.

- o Blood Wedding, by Garcia Lorca, off-Broadway, New York City. Composed and performed original incidental music on classic guitar, 1976.
- o Carlos Tolentino, actor, orator, Town Hall, New York City, Spanish Poetry and classical guitar, 1975.
- o La Mama Experimental Theater Company, New York City: "Trilogy," Greek plays directed by Liz Swados, performed structured improvisations on flute and mandolin, ten weeks in 1974.

For more information, contact:

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117 Moore Avenue, SW  
Vienna, Virginia 22180-5968  
(703) 281-5498  
Email: [jpgiunta1211@aol.com](mailto:jpgiunta1211@aol.com)  
Web: [SpecialMind.com](http://SpecialMind.com)



**PROGRAMS MAY BE ASSEMBLED FROM THE FOLLOWING. SUBSTITUTIONS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE AT THE DISCRETION OF JOHN GIUNTA.**

**CLASSICAL GUITAR**

Isaac Albeniz (1860-1909)  
Sevilla

J S Bach (1685-1750)  
Selected Suite Movements

Augustin Barrios-Mangore (1885-1944)  
Una Limosna Por El Amor De Dios

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)  
Nocturnal, Op. 70

Leo Brouwer (1939- )  
Danza Caracteristica

John Duarte (1919- )  
English Suite

Antonio Lauro (1909-1986)  
Suite Venezolana  
Four Venezuelan Waltzes

Miguel Llobet (1875-1938)  
El Testimonio de Amelia (1900)

Manuel Ponce (1882-1948)  
Prelude

Fernando Sor (1778-1839)  
Variations on a Theme of Mozart  
Selected Studies

Francisco Tarrega (1852-1909)  
Recuerdos de la Alhambra  
Adelita  
La Alborada (The Little Music Box)

Jochin Turina (1882-1949)  
Rafaga  
Fandanguillo

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)  
Suite Populaire Brasilienne  
Study No. 1

**MANDOLIN**

Ethnic melodies or improvisations played while strolling.

**FLUTES AND RECORDERS**

Familiar classical, folk and traditional melodies, improvisations in the new age and jazz idioms to suit the ambiance. An electronic digital delay may be utilized.

**ACCORDION**

Selected classical arrangements, standards and folk songs.

**HAMMERED DULCIMER**

In the spirit of the Indian santoor, improvisations and ragas will be played.

**THEREMIN**

Improvisations and familiar melodies.

**READINGS OF POETRY OR PHILOSOPHICAL NARRATIVES MAY BE INCLUDED.**



Availability: Sound Therapy Private Sessions and Group Workshops



Conducting SERE (Survival, Evasion, Resistance, Escape) training for members of the elite 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.  
*Availability: Orienteering, map reading and survival training for Scout groups.*



Here I am playing my collection of Tibetan Singing Bowls at a New Year's Eve Celebration at the Unity Church of Fairfax, Virginia.



Playing my Italian accordion at an Italian wedding at an Italian Church in Washington, DC



After my ordination as an Interfaith Minister at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in New York City, 2004.



"The Lord's Prayer", Spanish Round Gothic hand.  
Availability: Commissions for poetry, invocations, prayers, ornamental alphabets.

