

SHARE

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Google Buzz](#) [Digg](#) [Stumble Upon](#) [RSS Feed](#) [Print This Page](#)

# GuitarSarasota to host classical guitarist Martha Masters

By Susan Rife, Herald-Tribune / Monday, February 13, 2012

There are particular perks to being president of the Guitar Foundation of America. Among them, discovered classical guitarist Martha Masters, is being able to ask composers to write pieces of music that are used in the GFA's annual International Competition.



Martha Masters

She will perform one of them, a new work composed by Roland Dyens, at a GuitarSarasota concert Feb. 18 in Sarasota.

The Dyens work “was an ask, flat-out,” said Masters. “And then he dedicated it to me.”

The work, titled “Anyway,” “has a lot of jazz influences; I would say Caribbean, I would say Cuban,” said Masters. “It’s fast, driving, there’s actually an improv section in it.”

Masters is a solo recitalist as well as a member of chamber ensemble Duo Erato. In 2000, she won first prize in the GFA international solo guitar competition and the Andres Segovia International Guitar Competition in Lenares, Spain.

Her leanings in classical guitar have always been toward the Spanish and Italian repertoire.

“Honestly I never wanted to play popular music,” she said in a telephone interview from Los Angeles. “There’s something about the challenge and the rewards of playing the lines and the voices of classical guitar.”

She has been playing since the age of 6, when an uncle who loved the guitar suggested it to her and her parents. She had wanted to play the cello but her mother said it was too large to be carried to school.

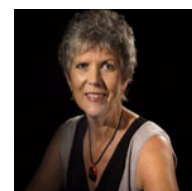
“I fell in love with the guitar very quickly,” said Masters, who was blessed with a teacher who “had a passion for teaching and a passion for teaching children.” Her GuitarSarasota concert will also include Bach’s third Violin Sonata, which she described herself as “very excited about. It’s so rewarding, so rich.”

Although Masters has several guitars in her collection, she relies on two in particular, and her preferred traveling companion is a custom-made instrument built from Madagascar rosewood with a cedar top.

“I tend to buy older guitars through dealers because then you know what you’re getting,” she said, which made commissioning a custom-built instrument a bit of a risk.

“I really liked it right from the start,” she said. “Within a month I loved it and within a year it felt like it was the guitar meant for me.”

**CONCERT PREVIEW**  
 MARTHA MASTERS will perform a GuitarSarasota concert at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 18 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2256 Bahia Vista St., Sarasota. Tickets are \$25, \$20 members. 362-2991; [www.guitarsarasota.org](http://www.guitarsarasota.org)



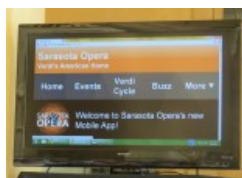
**SUSAN RIFE**  
 Susan Rife is the arts and books editor for the Herald-Tribune Media Group. She holds a bachelor of science degree in journalism from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. She can be reached by [email](#) or call (941) 361-4930. Make sure to “Like” Arts Sarasota on Facebook for news and reviews of the arts.

*Last modified: February 13, 2012  
 All rights reserved. This copyrighted material may not be published without permissions. Links are encouraged.*

#### SIMILAR STORIES



Perlman Music



Sarasota Opera



Diversity Chorus



Few South County

Program/Suncoast announces its 9th winter residency

holds auditions

arts groups receive grants

---

#### YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN

[RETAIL GIANT HAS ITS EYES ON PUBLIX](#)  
(*HeraldTribune.com*)

[Behind the Scenes: A new festival worth growing](#)  
(*Arts Sarasota*)

[Sarasota Opera launches new smartphone app](#) (*Arts Sarasota*)

[CAA logs could resolve Olympics UFO](#) (*De Void*)

[A note of optimism ...](#) | [Real Estate Today](#) (*Real Estate Today*)

[A new tropical wave has potential to become Ernesto](#)  
| [Hurricane Report](#) (*Hurricane Report*)

#### FROM AROUND THE WEB

[Former Homecoming Queen Reveals Her Secret Life as a Bully](#) (*Girl's Gone Child*)

[14 Celebrities Who Married a Non-Celebrity \(Is This the Key to a Lasting Hollywood Relationship?\)](#) (*Styleblazer*)

[Why Stylists Hate Boxed Color](#) (*Hair Color For Women*)

[Beyonce's Daughter Blue Ivy Carter Shows Us Her Cheeks](#) (*Pop Dust*)

[We Can't Help But Stare...Kristen Stewart Photos](#)  
(*StyleBistro*)

[Olympic Swimmer Brendan Hansen On Losing His Gold Medal](#)  (*Uinterview*)

[what's this]