

Kirk Hanser

Guitarist - Educator

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Formal Education

Aug. 1990-May 1992; **Master of Music in Performance**; Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah Univ., Winchester, VA
 Aug. 1986-May 1990; **Bachelor of Music in Performance**; Millikin Univ., Decatur, IL

HIGHLIGHTS of Live Performances/Presentations

"(Kirk Hanser is) a superb guitarist...(possessing) an authentic musical personality."

- Erik Eriksson, D.C. Advocate

- **SICGS Great Guitar Series** as solo artist. Presented by *First Southern Bank of Carbondale* and the *Southern Illinois Classical Guitar Society*. Broadcast online to SICGS audience; April 22, 2020
- **2019 Univ. of Louisville National International Guitar Festival and Competition** as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by *the UofL* and the *D'Addario Foundation*. Comstock Concert Hall, UofL, Louisville, KY; Oct.19, 2019
- **Paint Your Wagon** as guitar/banjo/mandolin. Presented by *The Munny* in St. Louis, MO. July/Aug. 2019
- **Women Rock** as lead electric guitar with rock combo and SLSO orchestra. *Music of Pat Benatar, Carole King, Tina Turner, and other iconic women of pop/rock genre from the 1960's-1990's*. Presented by *the SLSO*, Powell Hall, St. Louis, MO; June 15, 2019
- **Jersey Boys** as 1st guitar. Presented by *The Munny* during its 100th Anniversary Season, St. Louis, MO. July 2018.
- **Regina** as guitarist/banjo. Presented by *Opera Theater of St. Louis*, The Loretto-Hilton Auditorium, Webster Groves, MO; May-June 2018
- **Guitar Series at Peabody Conservatory** as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by *Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University*, Friedberg Hall Baltimore, MD; March 2018
- **Baroque Music for Strings** program, as featured solo artist and baroque chamber musician supported by members of the SLSO. Presented by the *Sheldon Arts Foundation* as part of the **Sheldon Classics Concert Series**; *The Sheldon Concert Hall*, St. Louis, MO; Jan 24, 2018
- **Missouri Symphony Orchestra** as guest artist with orchestra. *The Missouri Theater*, Columbia, MO. June 28, 2017
- **The Grapes of Wrath** as guitarist. Presented by Opera Theater of St. Louis, *The Loretto-Hilton Auditorium*, Webster Groves, MO; May 27-June 25, 2017
- **Great Artist Series** as solo guitarist. Presented by the Knoxville Guitar Society, Knoxville, TN; Feb. 18, 2017
- **Ratatouille** (Movie with live music, *American Premiere*); as guitarist with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Presented by the SLSO, *Powell Hall*, St. Louis, MO; Jan. 2-3, 2016
- **Millikin University** as solo guitarist in recital and master class. Presented by Millikin University Guitar Department, *Kaeuper Hall*, Decatur, IL Oct.6, 2015
- **32nd Annual "Cincinnati Guitar Festival"** Concert and class as Hanser-McClellan Duo. *Univ. of Cincinnati*; July 15-16, 2015
- **The Barber of Seville** as guitarist, featuring tenor **Christopher Tiesi** and mezzo-soprano **Daniela Mack**. Presented by Opera Theater of St. Louis, *The Loretto-Hilton Theater*, St. Louis, MO; May-June 2015
- **"Guitar Festival at APSU"**, concert and master class as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by the Austin Peay State University Guitar Department, Clarksville, TN; April 14-15, 2015
- **Music of South America** program, solo guitar/chamber performance in joint concert with SLSO concertmaster David Halen. Presented as part of the **Sheldon Classics Concert Series**, *The Sheldon Concert Hall*. St. Louis, MO; April 8, 2015

- “Highlights of Performances” Continued –

- **The Godfather** (movie/live music) as guitarist. Presented by the *St. Louis Symphony Orchestra*. Powell Hall; March 2015
- **Great Artist Series**, as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by the *Knoxville Guitar Society*, Knoxville, TN; February 8, 2015
- **Washington Univ. Faculty Recital**. Solo performance. Presented by the *Washington University Dept. of Music*. Des Lee Auditorium, University City, MO; Oct. 24, 2014
- **Grease** as guitarist, featuring actress Phyllis Smith (from NBC’s “The Office”, Pixar’s “Inside Out”). Presented by *The Muny*. St. Louis, MO; *nine performances*, August 2014
- **Bordeaux Conservatory** as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by the *Bordeaux Conservatory of Music*, Bordeaux, France; Feb. 14, 2014
- **Crypte Ararat**, as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by the *Paris Conservatory of Music and Dance*, Paris, France. Feb. 15, 2014
- **Zobel Gitarrenschule Series**, as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by the *Zobel Gitarrenschule*. Wilhelmkirche, Bad Nauheim, Germany; Feb. 9, 2014
- **Champion**, as guitarist for of the jazz-opera, composed by five-time Grammy-winning composer/trumpeter Terence Blanchard. **World Premiere performances** featuring world-renowned mezzo-soprano **Denyce Graves**. Commissioned and presented by *Opera Theater of St. Louis*. Loretto-Hilton Theater, St. Louis, MO; June 2013
- **The Hill Country Guitar Ensemble Festival**, featured concert artists and clinicians, as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by *UT-San Marcos*, San Marcos, TX; April 2013
- **Great Artist Series**, as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by *Springfield Classical Guitar Society*, Springfield, IL. September 2012
- **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** as guitarist. Presented by *The Muny at Forest Park*, St. Louis, MO; July 2012
- **Featured Soloist** with the **St. Louis Symphony Orchestra** for the sold-out performances of **Final Fantasy**. Presented by the *St. Louis Symphony Orchestra*. Powell Hall, St. Louis, MO; March 2012
- **Great Duets Live** as Hanser-McClellan Guitar Duo with various SLSO members. Part of the *Sheldon Great Artists Series*, presented by the *Sheldon Arts Foundation*. The Sheldon Concert Hall, St. Louis, MO; January 2012
- **Seven (Memorial for the Columbia Astronauts)** by Péter Eötvös as guitarist with the SLSO. **American Premiere Performance** under the direction of Maestro David Robertson, with soloist Akiko Suwanai. Presented by the *SLSO*. Powell Hall, St. Louis, MO, January 2011
- **Wheaton Guitar Concert Series** as Hanser-McClellan Duo; Presented by *Wheaton College Dept. of Music*. Chicago, IL; Sept. 2010
- **Footloose**; Guitarist for the hit musical production at the MUNY. Presented by *The Muny at Forest Park*, St. Louis, MO; August 2010
- **Great Artist Series**, as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by the *St. Louis Classical Guitar Society*. The Ethical Society, St. Louis, MO; Oct. 2010
- **Celebration of the Guitar**, touring guitarist with the SLSO performing works by American composer Frank Zappa under maestro David Robertson. Tour featured concerts at **The Pageant** in University City and the **Harris Theater** at Millennium Park in downtown Chicago, IL.; Nov. 2009
- **Great Artist Series** as the Hanser-McClellan Duo. Presented by the *South Bay Guitar Society*; Four concerts, various halls, San Francisco, CA; October 2009
- **2006 International Guitar Foundation of America Conference** as the Hanser-McClellan Duo. Selected, featured performance during annual international conference. Presented by *The Guitar Foundation of America*. Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin, OH; Oct. 2006
- **From the Garden Live** as Hanser-McClellan Duo. Live radio broadcast presented by KFJO FM; *Missouri Botanical Garden*, St. Louis, MO, Apr. 2005
- **1999 International Guitar Foundation of America Conference**; featured performance as Hanser-McClellan Duo; *University of South Carolina*, Charleston, SC; Sept. 1999
- **Live at the Elvium**; Guitar/flute duo, live radio broadcast produced by Wisconsin Public Radio; *Elvium Museum*, Madison, WI; Mar. 1995
- Various Live Performances; backing variety acts on guitar. Tokyo, Tokorozawa City, Sabu, Hakone, Japan; July 1988
- **Kyllma Metalli Festival** as original rock/pop band. Kuusankoski, Finland; June 1985
- Hotelli Pribaltiskaya, St. Petersburg, Russia; May 1985

HIGHLIGHTS of Recordings and Publications

- **Caprice – The Chamber Music of Kim Portnoy;** audio CD; 2018
Various artists contribute to this recording of the music of composer Kim Portnoy. Contains *world premiere recording* of **Three Intermezzos**, written by Kim Portnoy for the Hanser-McClellan Guitar Duo.
- **Classic Guitar for High School Students; Educational Advantage, Publ.,** August 2016
Author for the ten-semester curriculum for classic guitar study. Upon passing each level, **students can receive the required high school music credit at any high school in all 50 states.**
- **Slightly Above Below-Average - A Tribute to Chet Atkins;** audio CD; fall 2012
Special guest performer/engineer/producer on tribute recording, **produced at the request of the Atkins family.** Features performances alongside musical luminaries such as Vince Gill, Frank Vignola, Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits), Tommy Emmanuel, The Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, and many others.

“These guys are one hell of a duo.”
– Chet Atkins, 14-time Grammy-winning guitarist and producer
- **La Vida Breve;** audio CD, the Hanser-McClellan Guitar Duo; spring 2005
Includes several works **written for the duo** by world-renowned composers including Jorge Morel (Argentina), Roger Hudson (USA), Jonas Molberg (Sweden) and others.

“(With La Vida Breve,) be prepared not only to hear guitar played at its highest order but also to be entertained and moved by these fine musicians.”
– Fingerstyle Guitar Magazine (U.S.)
- **Chet Atkins in Three Dimensions;** book (*Mel Bay Publ., 2003*)
Contributing music transcriber and typesetter.
- **Jazz Goes Classic;** book (*Mel Bay/Warner Bros. Publ., 2002*)
Contributing author/arranger to one of Mel Bay/Warner Bros. Publ. best-selling collections.
- **Rock Goes Classic;** book (*Mel Bay/Warner Bros. Publ. 2001*)
Contributing author/arranger to one of Mel Bay/Warner Bros. Publ. best-selling collections.
- **Jongo! Music of South America for Two Guitars;** audio CD, The HMGD, 1999

“(Jongo is)...full of colour and a real surprise throughout!”
– Classical Guitar Magazine (U.K.)
- **Noel! Christmas Music for Flute and Guitar,** audio CD with Candice Griffith (*DCV Recordings, 1994*)

“(Noel is)...one of the finest collections of Christmas arrangements ever.”
– Erik Eriksson, music critic for the D.C. Advocate

HIGHLIGHTS of Works Written for/Dedicated to:

- by **Olivier Chassain** (France)
 - **Deloin en Loia**, five-mvt. sonata dedicated to the Hanser-McClellan Duo (2014)

- by **Roger Hudson** (USA)
 - **Delta**, arranged by the composer for two guitars and dedicated to the HMGD (2010)

- by **Jorge Morel** (Argentina)
 - **Aquarelle**, for two guitars, string quartet and percussion; composed for and dedicated to the HMGD (2006)
 - **Two to Tango**; Dedicated to the HMGD (publ. by *Mel Bay Publ., Inc.*, 2002)
 - **Millinium Duet (Homage to Chet Atkins)**, composed for and dedicated to the HMGD (publ. by *Mel Bay Publ., Inc.*, 2001)

- by **Kim Portnoy** (USA)
 - **Three Impromptus**; composed for and dedicated to the HMGD (2005)

- by **Rico Stover** (USA)
 - **Fantasia Sudamericana**; dedicated to the HMGD (2004)

- by *Premio Sharp winning composer* **Paulo Bellinati** (Brazil)
 - **Valsa Brilhante**; arranged by the composer for two guitars and dedicated to the HMGD (2001)

HIGHLIGHTS of Teaching Experience:

- January 20-March 6, 2016
St. Louis Classical Guitar Society
 - 10-school residency program for the St. Louis City Public School System. Sponsored by the **National Endowment for the Arts**, presented by the St. Louis Classical Guitar Society.

- Sept., 2015 - present
Educational Advantage
 - **Lead Teacher (nation-wide)**
 - **Curriculum author**
 - This is a fully accredited high school music curriculum, available in all 50 states. 10 semesters will be made available for classic guitar in total, semesters one and three are published, seven through ten are in progress.

- Feb. 2014
Conservatoire de Bordeaux
 - In-residence as **guest professor** for their guitar department.

- Feb. 2014
Conservatoire National Superieur de Musique et Danse de Paris
 - In-residence as **guest professor** for their guitar department. **** First non-faculty in the history of the CNSMDP to be hired in-residence for their guitar department.*

- Jan. 2012 – May 2015
Washington University
 - **Applied Instructor**
 - Development and Implementation of **Beginning Guitar Classes** to ready students for future private instruction.
 - Private instruction of **private jazz and classic guitar students**.

- Aug. 2001 – May 2011
“Sunrise Conservatory” for the University City School District
 - **Applied Instructor**
 - **Coordinator of Guitar Studies**
 - Coordination and instruction of a three-year classic guitar program (4th-6th grades) for guitar students. *(Program discontinued due to lack of state/school district funding.)*

- Sept. 1999—May 2015
St. Charles Community College
 - **Adjunct Professor of Music**
 - Development and Coordination of **Classic Guitar Studies**
 - Development and Coordination of **Guitar Class for Music Educators and Music Therapists**
 - Development and Coordination of **Audio Production Studies**
 - **Music Appreciation**
 - **Music Theory**

- *“Highlights of Teaching Experience” Continued* -

- Aug. 1999 – May 2002
St. Louis Community College System
- Lecturer of Music
 - Jazz History

- Jan. 1996—present
St. Louis Academy for Guitar, LLC
- Executive Director
 - Student recruitment
 - CEO/CFO duties
 - Oversight of staff
 - Curriculum development
 - Instruction of upper-level students.

Students in this program have won several local, regional and national competitions for both solo and ensemble performance, including the Missouri Chapter of ASTA Solo Strings Competition (two out of the past three years), and first prize in national competition for pre-college guitar ensembles (2014 and 2017).

- Jan. 1996—present
Childbloom Guitar Program of St. Louis
- Director
 - Student recruitment
 - Training staff for licensing, Oversight of staff
 - Advisement on curriculum development
 - Music direction of touring ensembles (St. Louis Bella Corda)
 - Instruction of students ages 4-12

Students in this program are frequent winners of local, regional, and national competitions for both solo and ensemble performance.

- August 1994 – Dec. 1995
University of Wisconsin, Manitowoc, WI
- Lecturer of Music
 - Coordinator of Classic Guitar Studies

- Aug. 1993 – December 1995;
Silver Lake College, Manitowoc, WI
- Lecturer of Music
 - Coordinator of Classic and Jazz Guitar Studies

- Aug. 1990 – May 1992
Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University; Winchester, VA
- Graduate Teaching Assistant
 - Instructor of Classic Guitar
 - Guitar Classes for Music Education and Music Therapy majors

HIGHLIGHTS of Management/Leadership Accomplishments

- **Mid America Guitar Camps**

Founder and Director; 2003 – present

Since 2003, the annual Mid America Guitar Camps that have brought hundreds of extremely talented and motivated students to the St. Louis area for a fun and intensive week of guitar activities from throughout the U.S. Kirk's duties for the camp have included:

- The hiring, designation of jobs and development of job descriptions for staff and faculty.
- All financial issues regarding the camp (at \$25K-\$35K/week), including grant writing.
- Development and/or oversight of all curriculum development.
- Organization of off-campus concert events and personnel transportation.
- Print/media advertising and publicity for the camp and all associated events.

"I'm particularly impressed with (my son's) revitalized love for playing guitar. He came back from camp a better and more enthusiastic guitarist."

- D.W., attending parent from Georgetown, TX

- **St. Louis Guitar Consortium, Inc.**

CEO; 2004 – 2013

The SLGC, Inc., a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation, had the mission "to foster, promote and develop outstanding educational experiences for young guitarists." Founded in 1995, Kirk Hanser took over the CEO and CFO responsibilities of the SLGC in 2004, and has since used the organizations mission to:

- Sponsor visits from acclaimed artists,
- Sponsor student recitals and
- Award scholarships for young area artists for various musical opportunities.
- Serve as the host organization and fiscal receiver for the Mid America Guitar Camps.

NOTE: We hope to restart this organization in the near future.

- **St. Louis Academy for Guitar, LLC**

Founder and Exec. Director; 1996 – present

The SLAFG curricula are designed to work with all ages and all levels of growing guitarists in the St. Louis area. The SLAFG currently serves over 150 families in the St. Louis area. Management/leadership duties include:

- The hiring and continued employment of staff and faculty.
- Oversight of student development through the creation and institution of Graded Level Exams.
- Director, music director and founder of **St. Louis Bella Corda**, a touring and recording guitar ensemble of high-level students of middle- and high-school age. This group has performed in many Midwest metropolitan areas, including venues in Kansas City, Chicago, Nashville, and Austin.

- **Childbloom Guitar Program of St. Louis**

Director; 1996 – present

The Childbloom Guitar Program began in Austin, Texas by founder Kevin Taylor in 1980. Kirk trained in 1985 and is licensed to use the Childbloom curriculum.

- Director of Programs in St. Louis Metro area
- Hiring and training of certified and licensed Childbloom Guitar instructors for St. Louis programs and other U.S. programs.
- "Parent liaison" to assist in learning proper practice techniques and integration of the guitar into the homes of younger students.

- **International Guitar Foundation of America Conference**

Assistant Director; 1996

The GFA is a national classic guitar organization – the largest of its kind in the nation – that presents an international conference and competition in a different major metropolitan area annually. The SLGC, Inc., the host organization in 1996, was responsible for – literally – all aspects of the conference. Kirk Hanser's own duties during the 10 months prior to the event included:

- Reviewing and booking concert performers, two acts each afternoon and one major act each evening for the duration of the conference (six days).
- Coordinating the vendors' fair and securing the area.
- General public relations and radio publicity throughout the metro area leading up to and during the event.

HIGHLIGHTS of Awards/Recognition

- Appointed to the **Missouri Touring Artist Roster** as *solo artist*; Missouri Arts Council, 2019
- Regional Arts Commission **Individual Artist Grant** winner, 2013 and 2015
- Signed as **D'Addario Performing Artist** with D'Addario Strings, 2013
- Appointed to the **Missouri Touring Artist Roster** as *Hanser-McClellan Duo*; Missouri Arts Council, 2012 present
- Signed as **Gibson Artist** with the Gibson Guitar Company, 2003-present
- **Ensemble-in-Residence** for Webster University, Hanser-McClellan Guitar Duo. 1998-present
- *from the Childbloom Guitar Company:*
 - **National Teacher of the Year** (1996)
 - **Outstanding National Program** (1998, 2005, and 2007)
 - **Motivator Award** (2000, 2001, 2002, 2006, 2011, 2012)
 - **National Student Ensemble of the Year Award** for *St. Louis Bella Corda* (2014 and 2017)
- **Graduate Assistant** position for the guitar department at Shenandoah Conservatory (Winchester, VA). 1990-1992
- **1st Place**, Virginia American String Teachers Association Solo Strings Competition. 1991
- **1st Place**, Illinois Music Teachers National Association Concerto Competition. 1989