



THOMAS VILOTEAU

Thomas Viloteau is considered one of the most gifted classical guitarists of the younger generation. His first concert was in his home country of France only a year after he began his studies, in front of an audience of 200 people. Since that concert, Thomas has played in some of the finest venues throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Norway, Great Britain, Taiwan and Puerto Rico.

Born into a family of fine arts enthusiasts, Thomas took his first lesson at the age of twelve. Although a late start for an internationally recognized musician, inspired by listening to Naxos recordings of other prominent classical musicians, Thomas decided at the outset of his career

that he wanted to record such a CD too. Eager to learn as much as he could about his instrument, he immediately went on to study at an international level, moving from Barcelona (Escola de Musica Juan Pedro Carrero and Conservatorio Superior Municipal), to Paris (École Normale with a scholarship from Fondation Zigmund Zaleski and CNSM) to San Francisco (San Francisco Conservatory of Music), seeking advice from some of the leading professors like Alvaro Pierri, Alberto Ponce, Judicaël Perroy, Roland Dyens and Marc Teicholtz.

Equally as talented as a performer, Thomas has also proven his versatile abilities as a competitor. Thomas has placed in numerous international competitions, taking First Prize in the Segovia Competition (Linares, Spain), Mottola Festival (Italy), Ville d'Antony (Paris, France), Sernancelhe (Porto, Portugal). In 2006, only nine years after he started playing, Thomas Viloteau won the renowned Guitar Foundation of America International Competition. This allowed him to record his first CD with the label Naxos.

Always willing to push his passion for classical guitar further, Thomas has recently finished writing a book about the modern advanced techniques of the classical guitar. Based on his own experiments, thoughts and those of his teachers and contemporaries, Thomas has created a tool to help others get to a point that he was able to accelerate to so quickly.

Since 2006, he's played a guitar made by the Australian Luthier, Greg Smallman. Thomas Viloteau uses and recommends Savarez strings.