

# Guest Artist Recital

## Duo Mantar

### “When Adam Meets Jacob”

Adam Levin, guitar

Jacob Reuven, mandolin

Thursday, January 26 · 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

1715 N. Broad Street

Philadelphia, PA 19122



# Program

“Oriental Pantomime”\* Jan Freidlin (b. 1944)

Three Songs Without Words Paul Ben-Haim (1897-1984)  
I. Arioso arr. Greg Nestor  
II. Ballad  
III. Sephardic Melody

Sonata for Mandolin and Guitar Yehezkel Braun (1922-2014)  
I. Fantasia  
II. Aria  
III. Variazione

| Intermission |

Otoño Porteño Astor Piazzolla (1933-1990)  
from *Cuatro Estaciones* arr. João Luiz

(Ningun) (Improvisation) Ernest Bloch (1880-1959)  
from *Suit Baal Shem* arr. Greg Nestor

Duet for Mandolin and Guitar Ittai Rosenbaum (b. 1966)

Three Jewish Dances Marc Lavry (1903-1967)  
I. Sher arr. Greg Nestor  
II. Yemenite Wedding Dance  
III. Hora

\*Dedicated to Duo Mantar

## About the Artists

**DUO MANTAR** is comprised of two virtuosos, American classical guitarist, Adam Levin, and Israeli Mandolinist, Jacob Reuven. They are described as “viscerally and imaginative” and “transcendental and exuberant,” respectively. This novel pairing is rare in the chamber music world; however, the two plucked instruments are complimentary and are natural extensions of one another. Levin and Reuven began playing together in fall 2017 and share a passion for Israeli Music, Hebrew and Jewish songs. Both of them are committed to expanding the repertoire available for mandolin and guitar by actively commissioning today’s most sought-after Israeli composers. They have already commissioned four renowned Israeli composers, including Josef Bardanashvili, Ittai Rosenbaum, Oren Lok and Jan Freidlin. Additionally, they are performing works originally written for mandolin and guitar by Yehezkel Braun and fresh arrangements of traditional Hebrew songs by Marc Lavry and Maurice Ravel. They gave their debut in April 2018 at the University of Rhode Island Guitar Festival. In 2018/19, they toured in the United States, Israel and Spain. Their debut recording on Naxos Label (June 2021) reached number one on the Billboard Traditional Classical Album Chart and they already planning another record with the Sonatas by Gabriele Leone. They are touring the US in fall 2022 and premiering a groundbreaking double concerto by Israeli-American composer, Avner Dorman. They have also commissioned a new double concerto by Israeli-German composer, Ittai Rosenbaum. In the 2023-24 season they will premiere a series of new commissions based on Piazzolla’s and Vivaldi’s Seasons. Jacob performs on a Arik Kerman and Adam Levin performs on Stephan Connor and Dominique Field classical guitars ([www.duomantar.com](http://www.duomantar.com)).

Classical guitarist **ADAM LEVIN** has been praised for his “visceral and imaginative performances” by the Washington Post. As a prize winning and Billboard top-charting classical guitarist and recording artist, Levin has performed on four continents across the globe, as well as extensively at renowned venues across the United States. Levin’s live performances have been featured nationally numerous times on NPR’s Performance Today, the nationally syndicated Classical Guitar Alive, and studio performances on top radio stations including WFMT Chicago, WCRB Boston, and RIPR Rhode Island.

Levin has toured across the US including appearances at Guitar Foundation of America, Austin Classical Guitar, Philadelphia Classical Guitar Society, Old First Church in San Francisco, Boston Classical Guitar Society, Berklee College of Music, The National Gallery in Washington D.C, and Miami New Music Festival, and Austin Chamber Music. During the 2022-23 concert season, Levin will tour in New York, California, and Brazil with violinist, William Knuth (as Duo Sonidos), to premiere works by Clarice Assad, Sergio Assad, and João Luiz, perform as soloist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Raanana Symphonette, and make solo appearances Spain, Portugal, and Taiwan. His guitar trio, The Great Necks, will perform an all-Spanish program in Providence, RI, Austin, TX, and Mexico City.

The recipient of numerous top prizes, Levin has been recognized by the Society of American Musicians, the Lake Forest Concerto Competition, Minnesota’s Schubert Competition, Boston GuitarFest, Concurso Internacional de les Corts para Joves Intèrpretes in Barcelona, Concurso Internazionale Di Gargnano, and Certamen Internacional Luys Milan de Guitarra in Valencia. For his promotion, interpretation and performance of Spanish music, he was nominated for the 2011 Trujamán Prize, in which only three guitarists worldwide are selected annually. In 2020, the Community of Valencia, Spain nominated Levin as the Ambassador of Music, to represent the culture and music of that region.

From 2008-2011, Levin was honored as a Fulbright Scholar and received grant awards from the Program for Cultural Cooperation Fellowship (promoting cultural understanding between Spain and the United States) and the Kate Neal Kinley Fellowship, to research contemporary Spanish guitar repertoire in Madrid, Spain. His three-year residency resulted in a major collaboration with 30 Spanish composers spanning four generations, who each wrote works commissioned by and dedicated to Levin. In 2012, production began on a four-volume encyclopedic recording project with Naxos. The first two recordings in the series, 21st Century Spanish Guitar, Volume 1 and Volume 2 have been released by Naxos to rave reviews from Classical Guitar Magazine, Soundboard, American Record Guide, and featured Recording of the Month and Recording of the Year awards from Music-Web International. In November 2017, Naxos released Volume 3 of the series, with six world premieres of solo works dedicated to Levin, including pieces by three of Spain's most renowned composers, Antón García Abril, Leonardo Balada, and Cristobal Halffter, plus three works by rising composers Eduardo Morales-Caso, Laura Vega, and José Luis Greco. Volume 4 was released on the Frameworks Record Label in August 2021 with works by Morales-Caso, Brotons, Balada, Muñiz, and J.L Turina. It reached number one on the Billboard Traditional Classical Albums Chart. Adam Levin as a member of the guitar trio, The Great Necks, released an album on the Frameworks label with original arrangements by Sibelius, Bach, Marqués, Villa-Lobos, and Scriabin. Levin released an album in 2019 with his duo partner and violinist, William Knuth, called Wild Dance (Naxos Label). This is the first of three volumes of arrangements by guitarist/arranger, Gregg Nestor. Vol. 1 showcases works by Foss, Szymanowski, Gershwin, Ravel, Ponce, and Korngold. Both the trio and duo albums reached the top ten on the Traditional Classical Billboard Chart. Levin's critically acclaimed discography also includes his debut album, In the Beginning [ALR, 2009], Music from Out of Time [La Comunidad de Madrid, 2010], and Fuego de la Luna [Verso, 2011], the latter showcasing the complete guitar works of Spanish-Cuban

composer Eduardo Morales-Caso, a composer whose music Levin has championed since the launch of his career.

An avid chamber musician, Levin has performed with orchestra, string quartet, and various instrumental and vocal duo combinations. His chamber ensemble, Duo Sonidos ([www.duosonidos.com](http://www.duosonidos.com)), has been celebrated for bringing a fresh interpretation of chamber music to wide-ranging audiences across the globe while expanding the repertoire for violin and guitar through new commissions. They will feature newly commissioned works by Brazilian composers Egberto Gismonti, Clarice Assad, Sergio Assad, and João Luiz in 2023. Levin is also a member of The Great Necks Guitar Trio ([www.thegreatnecks.com](http://www.thegreatnecks.com)) with guitarists, Matthew Rohde and Scott Borg. Together they are exploring previously unthinkable orchestral works on three guitars. Finally, Levin's newest musical partnership is with virtuoso Israeli mandolinist, Jacob Reuven ([www.duomantar.com](http://www.duomantar.com)). Together, they explore original and arranged Israeli music. Their album, *Music from the Promised Land* (Naxos, 2021) reached number one on the Billboard Traditional Classical Album Chart. In 2022 and 2023, they will premiere newly commissioned double concertos by Israeli composers Avner Dorman, Ziv Cojocar, and Ittai Rosenbaum. They will also be performing world-premiere arrangements of Piazzolla's *Seasons* as well as commissioning several composers to compose new *Seasons*. Duo Mantar and The Great Necks Guitar Trio will team up to perform Beethoven's monumental *Violin Concerto* for mandolin and guitar trio, followed by a revolutionary and fresh arrangement of Beethoven's *Grosse Fuga* for three guitars.

As an ambassador of the guitar, Levin is dedicated to sharing the guitar in underserved and unconventional spaces. He has raised money for hurricane victims and was awarded the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship to conduct hundreds of hours of innovative community work in Boston public schools, prisons, and rehabilitation centers. Demonstrating his long-term commitment to music

advocacy, Levin founded Kithara Project ([www.kitharaproject.org](http://www.kitharaproject.org)), a non-profit organization whose mission it is to improve the lives of children and youth through the classical guitar. They currently run four year-round community-based guitar education programs in Boston, Albuquerque, and Mexico City, enrolling approximately 130 students.

A native of Chicago's North Shore, Levin holds bachelor's degrees from Northwestern University in music performance, psychology, and pre-med. Levin completed his master's degree in guitar performance at New England Conservatory in Boston. His esteemed teachers have included Eliot Fisk, Oscar Ghiglia, Gabriel Estarellas, Anne Waller, Mark Maxwell, and Paul Henry. Levin is faculty-in-residence at Boston Guitarfest, professor of guitar at the University of Rhode Island and UMass Boston. Levin also serves as artistic director of the annual University of Rhode Island Guitar Festival ([www.uriguitarfestival.org](http://www.uriguitarfestival.org)) and the Rhode Island Guitar Guild ([www.riguitarguild.org](http://www.riguitarguild.org)). Levin is an Augustine Artist and performs on a guitar by luthier Stephan Connor and Dominique Field ([www.adamlevinguitar.com](http://www.adamlevinguitar.com)).



Renowned worldwide for his musical integrity and effortless brilliance, Israeli mandolin player **JACOB REUVEN** is one of the most sought-after virtuosos of his instrument. Reuven's broad musical horizons encompass everything from baroque to contemporary music, bringing an exuberance matched with uncompromising musical standards to all he does.

Studying under the guidance of Prof. Simha Nathanson at the Beer Sheva Music Conservatory, and later Prof. Motti Smidt at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, Reuven mastered the interpretations of repertoire for solo violin, consequently becoming the first mandolin player to ever perform violin repertoire on a mandolin with an Israeli orchestra.

His precision and technical mastery, matched by his transcendental performances, have brought Reuven a worldwide following and recognition. He has performed as a soloist at various prestigious international festivals including Dresden Music Festival, Potsdam Sanssouci Music Festival, and Festival Mandolines de Lunel, and he has played under the baton of conductors such as Zubin Mehta, Mstislav Rostropovitch, Antonio Pappano, Mendi Rodan and Zsolt Nagy. Nationally, Reuven has performed as a soloist with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, and the Israeli Sinfonietta, among others.

A highly regarded mandolin pedagogue, Reuven is a professor at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, and a director of the Beer-Sheva Music Conservatory. He plays a custom-made mandolin by Israeli luthier Arik Kerman, and is a founder of the award-winning Kerman Mandolin Quartet and the 16 Strings duo ([www.jacobreuwen.com](http://www.jacobreuwen.com)).

## **Boyer College of Music and Dance**

The Boyer College of Music and Dance offers over 500 events open to the public each year. Students have the unique opportunity to interact with leading performers, composers, conductors, educators, choreographers and guest artists while experiencing a challenging and diverse academic curriculum. The Boyer faculty are recognized globally as leaders in their respective fields. Boyer alumni are ambassadors of artistic leadership and perform with major orchestras, opera and dance companies, teach at schools and colleges and work as professional music therapists, choreographers and composers. Boyer's recording label, BCM&D records, has produced more than thirty recordings, five of which have received Grammy nominations.

[boyer.temple.edu](http://boyer.temple.edu)

## **The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts**

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts consists of the Boyer College of Music and Dance, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, the George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater and the Temple Performing Arts Center. The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts engages gifted students with nationally and internationally recognized faculty scholars and professionals. A hallmark of the School of Theater, Film and Media Arts is the Los Angeles Study Away program, housed at historic Raleigh Studios. The George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater engages visiting performers, guest artists, set designers, playwrights and other Broadway professionals. The Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC), a historic landmark on campus, is home to a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat auditorium and 200 seat chapel. More than 500 concerts, classes, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

[arts.temple.edu](http://arts.temple.edu)

## **Temple University**

Temple University's history begins in 1884, when a young working man asked Russell Conwell if he could tutor him at night. It wasn't long before he was teaching several dozen students—working people who could only attend class at night but had a strong desire to make something of themselves. Conwell recruited volunteer faculty to participate in the burgeoning night school, and in 1888 he received a charter of incorporation for "The Temple College." His founding vision for the school was to provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, regardless of their backgrounds or means. The fledgling college continued to grow, adding programs and students throughout the following decades. Today, Temple's more than 35,000 students continue to follow the university's official motto—*Perseverantia Vincit*, or "Perseverance Conquers"—with their supreme dedication to excellence in academics, research, athletics, the arts and more.

[temple.edu](http://temple.edu)

Temple University 2022-2023 Season  
Upcoming Events

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**Saturday, January 28 at 5:30 PM**

Master's Recital: Christopher Hettenbach, conducting  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Sunday, January 29 at 3:00 PM**

Faculty Recital: Joyce Lindorff, harpsichord  
*Part of the 2023 Annual Keyboard Department Festival*  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Monday, January 30 at 7:30 PM**

Faculty Recital: Charles Abramovic, piano  
*Part of the 2023 Annual Keyboard Department Festival*  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Wednesday, February 1 at 4:30 PM**

Jazz Master Class: Tamir Hendelman  
Howard Gittis Student Center

**Wednesday, February 1 at 5:30 PM**

Keyboard Student Recital  
*Part of the 2023 Annual Keyboard Department Festival*  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Wednesday, February 1 at 7:30 PM**

Keyboard Student Recital  
*Part of the 2023 Annual Keyboard Department Festival*  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Wednesday, February 1 at 4:30 PM**

Jazz Master Class: Tamir Hendelman  
Klein Recital Hall

**Wednesday, February 1 at 7:30 PM**

Jazz Guest Artist: Tamir Hendelman  
Klein Recital Hall

**Thursday, February 2 at 2:00 PM**

Master Class: Joyce Lindorff, harpsichord  
*Part of the 2023 Annual Keyboard Department Festival*  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Thursday, February 2 at 3:00 PM**

Dance Studies Colloquium: Mark Franko  
Gladfelter Hall 10th Floor Lounge

**Thursday, February 2 at 4:30 PM**

Rite of Swing Jazz Café  
Temple Performing Arts Center Lobby

**Friday, February 3 at 7:30 PM**

Faculty Recital: Sara Davis Buechner, piano  
*Part of the 2023 Annual Keyboard Department Festival*  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Saturday, February 4 at 1:00 PM**

Faculty Workshop: Joann Kirchner and Grace Yun, piano  
*Part of the 2023 Annual Keyboard Department Festival*  
Rock Hall Auditorium

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All events are free unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change without notice.

For further information or to confirm events, please call 215.204.7609

or visit [www.boyer.temple.edu](http://www.boyer.temple.edu).