



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, January 3, 2008

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### **Guitarist Michael Anthony Nigro to Perform at Free Central Library Program**

*February 3 Concert Series Program will Feature Music of South American Composers*

**SAN DIEGO** – The second concert of the 2008 Winter/Spring Concert Series of the City of San Diego Public Library will feature classical guitarist Michael Anthony Nigro. The program will be held Sunday, February 3 at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St., in downtown San Diego.

The program is entitled “Dances and Impressions of South America and Beyond,” and is varied from folkloric dances and songs to sophisticated works full of colorful impressionism. The program will include the following works for solo guitar:

**Eduardo Falú**, Carnavalito

**Antonio Lauro**, Natalia

**Adolfo Luna**, Flor del Valle (chacarera)

**Jorge Cardoso**, Milonga

**Abel Carlevaro**, Aires de Malambo

**José Luis Merlin**, Suite del Recuerdo; Catedral de los pájaros; Insectos, pájaros y nubes

**Leo Brouwer**, El Decamerón negro

**Julio Sagreras**, El Colibrí (Imitación al vuelo del picaflor)

Michael Anthony Nigro showed an interest in the guitar at an early age and began playing by the age of 12. After several years of lessons with local teachers and self-study, he attended the prestigious Indiana University School of Music where he graduated with his Bachelor of Music Degree in 2000 under the direction of Ernesto Bitetti. After moving back to his native Southern California, he attended California State University, Fullerton and earned a Master of Music degree under the tutelage of David Grimes. He is presently in the Doctor of Music program at Claremont Graduate University studying guitar with Jack Sanders.

Mr. Nigro’s debut recording, *Homage to Piazzolla; Argentine Dances, Songs, and Rhythms*, was released on the label Music & Arts. The American Record Guide stated, “It’s a pleasant collection of spiky Argentine rhythms interspersed with soulful milongas. Nigro has a big sound, a smooth tone, and sure-footed interpretive instincts.” He recently recorded a new CD on Balcon Records, *Guitar Sudamericana*, featuring the music of Heitor Villa-Lobos, Antonio Lauro, Jorge Cardoso, and many other South American composers.

As a performer and teacher, Mr. Nigro has done concerts and master classes at many esteemed colleges and prominent guitar societies. Bates College in Lewiston, Maine writes, "Nigro's sound was warm and smooth on certain sections and became more pronounced on fast sections

requiring physical dexterity. These pieces from Villa-Lobos demonstrated Nigro's greatest strength: his ability to create varying tones of both warmth and brightness using the full range of the instrument." In past tours, he has traveled through the Midwest where he performed at the Bloomington Indiana Classical Guitar Society, St. Louis Public Library Concert Series, Oklahoma Public Library Concert Series, and the Kansas Library Concert Series. In the Northwest he has performed at The Jefferson Guitar Society in Ashland, Oregon, Marylhurst University in Portland, Oregon, the Maple Valley Public Library in Seattle Washington. On the East coast he has performed at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York, and the Olin Arts Center at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine.

In his local Southern California, he has performed at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Long Beach, The Long Beach Classical Guitar Society, several community colleges, and many other local churches and community events.

Mr. Nigro is an active member of the guitar community; he is co-founder of the Long Beach Classical Guitar Society, independent reviewer of Soundboard Magazine, and sought after teacher and performer. He is presently on the faculty at Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, California where he is the head of the guitar department.

The concert is free and open to the public. Free parking is available at the Five Star Parking lot adjacent to the Library on Broadway and 8th. In addition, parking meters are not enforced on Sundays, and other pay parking lots are available in the vicinity of the library.

For further information, please call the Library's Art, Music and Recreation Section at 236-5810, or visit the Library web site at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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