

# Mak Grgič

Guitarist



Touted as a “gifted young guitarist” by the *New York Times*, and “a guitarist to keep an eye on” by the *Washington Post*, 2-time Grammy®-nominated artist **Mak Grgič** [GER-gich] is a star on the worldwide stage. An expansive and adventurous repertoire attests to his versatility and wide-ranging interests. From the ethnic music of his native Balkans to extreme avant-garde and microtonal music, his roles as soloist, collaborator, and Grammy-nominated recording artist are fueled by curiosity, imagination, and boundless energy. As a testament to his versatility and wide-ranging appeal, in 2018 **Mak** was invited by legendary singer-songwriter k.d. lang to perform as the opening act for the North American leg of her *Ingénue Redux* Tour.

An avid new music proponent, Mak has commissioned a multitude of new works for solo guitar and guitar with ensemble. Some of these include works by Michael Gordon, Julia Adolphe, Nina Senk, Leon First and Cengiz Eren, to name a few. In fall 2022, he premiered and toured a newly commissioned guitar concerto by Michael Abels, composer for the Oscar-winning motion picture *Get Out*, while future concerto commissions include those by

composers Vito Zuraj, Austin Wintory and Christopher Tin.

As both soloist and collaborator, **Mak** averages eighty-five performances a year — nearly two bookings per week. He is a founding member in two duos—the Flamenco-style “Duo Deloro” with Adam Del Monte, and the new music-focused “FretX Duo” with Daniel Lippel, guitarist of the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE). As Young Artist in Residence with the Da Camera Society of Los Angeles, he founded “DC8,” an octet declared “an inspiring addition to the contemporary music landscape in Los Angeles [*Los Angeles Times*].” Other collaborations include the JACK Quartet, The Assad Brothers, violinists Augustin Hadelich, Curtis Stewart, Martin Chalifour and Chee Yun, and cellists Jay Campbell, Joshua Roman, John Sant’Ambrogio, and Clive Greensmith, formerly of the Tokyo String Quartet.

Highlights of the 24/25 season include appearances with the Pacific Symphony, Charleston Symphony, Boise Philharmonic, Sedona Symphony and the East Coast premiere of “Borders,” by Michael Abels with the American Composers Orchestra in Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall.

Born in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in 1987, **Mak** studied guitar in Zagreb with the revered Ante Cagalj at the Elly Basic Music Academy. By the age of 14, he was balancing his world champion status in karate with his love for the guitar. Following an injury to his left thumb, he made the decision to focus solely on a career in music, going on to complete a bachelor’s degree with Alvaro Pierri at the University for Music and Performing Arts in Vienna. In the fall of 2017, he began the Artist Diploma program at USC, the first guitarist in the university’s history to be admitted to this elite program. Mak currently holds a full-time teaching position at University of South Carolina.

*Mak Grgić* is also proud to be involved with the Bosana Foundation, an organization that raises money for Bosnian youth. He also regularly awards education-furthering scholarships to select students across South America.

[www.makgrgic.com](http://www.makgrgic.com)

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*“...a superb, finely detailed reading that showed Grgić is a guitarist to keep an eye on.”*

**THE WASHINGTON POST**

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