The Eastern Washington Department of Music presents

William Boulé
Senior Guitar Recital

In partial collaboration with Jacob Johnson

Thursday April 28, 2016
7:30pm
Music Building Recital Hall

Presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements for
Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts, Music (Guitar)

Studio of Professor Michael Millham
Program

McCormick
William Boulé, steel string guitar

Prelude from Cello Suite No. 1
J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)
William Boulé, classical guitar

Nuevos Estudios Sencillos:
Omaggio a Mangore’ Vivace
Omaggio a Prokofief
Leo Brouwer
b. (1939)
William Boulé, classical guitar

Lay This Body Down
Arr. Alex de Grassi
b. (1952)
William Boulé, steel string guitar

Layover
Michael Hedges
(1953-1997)
William Boulé, steel string guitar

Turning: Turning Back
Alex de Grassi
b. (1952)
William Boulé, steel string guitar

Drifting
Andy Mckee
b. (1979)
William Boulé, steel string guitar

Heavy Traffic
Alex de Grassi
b. (1952)
Jacob Johnson, Jake Cunningham, Aaron McCullough
Douglas Gade, Gerrod Kroll
Program Notes

McCormick- This piece is derived from British Isles folk influences as are many of de Grassi’s pieces. Before finishing his degree in economic geography at U.C. Berkley, Alex was a street musician in London. His eclectic sounding compositions are due in large part to his frequent traveling. Alex is renown as a finger style guitar master performing and hosting workshops both in the U.S. and internationally.

Prelude from Cello Suite no. 1- Though this piece was originally intended to be performed on cello, Andres Segovia popularized this prelude as a guitar transcription in the early 20th century (though this is not his specific arrangement). For ease of playing on the guitar, the key has been changed to D from the original key of G.

Nuevos Estudios Sencillos:
II. Omaggio a Mangore’ Vivace
IV. Omaggio a Prokofiev- Both of these pieces are part of Leo Brouwer’s ‘New Simple Studies’. Juan Leovigildo Brouwer is an Afro-Cuban composer, conductor, and guitarist who’s work is renown as standards in the world of classical guitar. His works are studied by most serious classical guitarists of today because of the technical aspects and unique musical influences he brings to his compositions.

Lay This Body Down- This is an arrangement of a once common spiritual. This hymn would typically be sung at burials. De Grassi adds his own musical ideas to this piece to the extent of making it seem like his own composition. The sparse but tasteful percussive elements at both the beginning and end of the piece are to emulate footsteps through a graveyard.

Layover- Michael Hedges was one of the most influential guitarists of the 20th century. Bridging the gap between rock music, 20th c. composition, and classical guitar, his innovative style gained instantaneous popularity, and contributed many unique techniques to the guitar lexicon. String stopping—a unique technique involving the right hand, in which fingers are used to dampen strings at specified times is one of his trademarks. In the world of finger style guitar, Hedges is regarded as an extremely influential figure.

Turning: Turning Back- This is one of Alex de Grassi’s first and by far, most influential compositions. The piece is over seven minutes long and was originally composed with the idea of improvisational development.

Drifting- This piece was composed by one of the most iconic modern finger style guitarists by the name of Andy McKee. The piece uses a two hand slapping technique with loads of percussive elements. It is by far his most recognizable tune. The guitar is played in a ‘tapping’ style unique to how most play the six-stringed instrument.

Heavy Traffic- This guitar quartet, composed by Alex de Grassi, has four separate parts. There is no shortage of dissonance and syncopation in this work. The gripping voicing of the chords makes the piece a bit unique and enjoyably different.