

*Selected piano solos of Anne Ku, who writes*

*"While visiting my sister in Maui, I witnessed the most beautiful sunset followed by a full moon. This short piece is designed to reflect the simplicity of such a wondrous natural phenomenon. The seven planets aligned themselves on Friday, the 5th of May 2000, thus inspiring the pentatonic sounding Pentamine. The faster Summer Solstice at Sunset was later transcribed for solo guitar by the Indonesian guitarist Jubing. Before long it became cold again in London, feeling like a Winter in July and in October when Autumn Shivers."*

*Fantasia pour guitar et piano (1957)*

Born in Basel, Swiss composer Hans Haug studied the piano and the cello. Haug was influenced by Andrés Segovia, who commissioned and performed his works. He dedicated the Fantasia for guitar and piano to the guitarist Luise Walker whom he met at the Geneva Competition in 1956.

*Salsa Brasileira from the Happy Hour Sandwich*

The Austrian composer Gerald Schwertberger originally wrote the four part "Happy Hour Sandwich" for a Japanese pianist Mrs. Katayama and later re-arranged it for an Italian guitar piano duo. Apart from the second piece Sentimental Romance, the themes of the first (Prelude – Sauce Tartare), third (Potato Rag), and fourth (Salsa Brasileira) were previously used within his didactic books for piano, violin, and cello, which were intended to motivate young students in their studies.

*Fantasia for guitar and piano, Opus 145 (1950)*

Resisting against following the family tradition of a banking career, Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco pursued the piano in Florence where he was born. After meeting Segovia in 1932, he began writing works for the guitar. Finished in 1950, his two-movement fantasia for guitar and piano was dedicated to Segovia's first wife, pianist Paquita Madriguera.

### **Robert Bekkers**

**(<http://www.dutchguitar.com>)**

Born near Eindhoven in the Netherlands, Robert Bekkers took lessons in the French horn and trumpet before turning to the guitar. After a diploma in electronics, he attended the Conservatory of Maastricht where he received his teaching and performance degrees in classical guitar. A scholarship enabled him to study abroad under Angelo Gilardino in Italy.

Robert has appeared as a soloist and with other groups in Indonesia, Curaçao, and Oman, among other countries. In addition to a demanding teaching schedule, he performs with his violin guitar Duo Magenta. Most recently, he gave master classes in North Cyprus where he also served as a judge for the 2003 Eastern Mediterranean University Guitar Competition

### **Anne Ku**

**(<http://www.anneku.com>)**

Born in Brunei of Chinese parents, Anne Ku grew up on Okinawa where she was active as an accompanist and organist. In her final year at Duke University, she performed Debussy's L'isle Joyeuse in the Gina Bachauer Masterclasses with Claude Frank. In 2001, Anne started a series of intimate concerts to introduce her music to local audiences in London. She released her first CD "In Pursuit of Flexibility" containing 80 minutes of her piano solo compositions and arrangements in March 2002 at concerts in the Netherlands.

Most recently, she gave a piano guitar duo concert with Robert Bekkers in North Cyprus, where she was also invited to give a piano master class and a workshop on sightreading.