



“A stunning, vivid performance of those famous pieces we all love, played in an unfamiliar way.”

“No negotiation on their ensemble playing; it’s rock-solid unison” Bilthoven, 2010

“A piece of heaven!” Bussum, 2010

“Enjoying a command performance by guitarist Robert Bekkers and pianist Anne Ku” live on Houston Public Radio, 2007

“Highlight of my summer entertainment!” London, 2003



Piano and guitar as orchestra America Tour

from October 2010 to March 2011

The Bekkers Piano Guitar Duo from the Netherlands will be visiting the USA. Dutch guitarist Robert Bekkers and Brunei-born Chinese pianist Anne Ku have two different programs (traditional and contemporary) to whet everyone’s appetite. They will also be offering guitar and piano workshops and lecture-recitals on piano/guitar repertoire.

Spearheading the way for the revival of piano and guitar as duo, Bekkers and Ku have been actively working with instrument makers, composers, and chamber musicians to develop a powerful blend. The combination of the modern piano with Robert’s custom-built guitar guarantees an ensemble that is greater than their instruments.

The piano and guitar were commonly heard in the early part of the 19th century. Composers such as Hummel, Giuliani, and Carulli wrote and performed for this combination, but their works are rarely played today because of acoustic imbalance and other technical challenges.

The guitar remained in the background until Segovia championed the instrument for the concert stage. He and his pianist wife inspired 20th century composers like Ponce and Tedesco to write for this magnificent combination.

Even more possibilities exist in the 21st century. The Bekkers Duo has premiered new works composed for their duo in Spain, Italy, Maui, and throughout the Netherlands. This has resulted in a unique program of new and exciting music which they plan to record for their next CD.

To expand the piano guitar repertoire even further, Bekkers has arranged many famous pieces for this polyphonic ensemble: Handel’s the arrival of the Queen of Sheba, Vivaldi’s Four Seasons, Mozart’s Eine Kleine Nachtmusik, and Bach’s Badinerie, to name a few.

In the footsteps of Segovia’s international tours, the Bekkers Duo perform guitar concertos, often transcribed by the composers themselves. These include Rodrigo’s Fantasia for a Gentleman and Aranjuez Concerto, and Vivaldi’s Guitar Concerto in D.

Program suggestions

our choice of exciting music

Traditional Repertoire with a selection of original music and transcriptions, very well received by the general audience because of its exposition of virtuosity and familiarity.

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba,
George Friedrich Händel

Winter from the Four Seasons,
Antonio Vivaldi

Spanish Dance from La Vida Breve,
Manuel de Falla

Concierto de Aranjuez
Joaquin Rodrigo

Grand Potpourri National
Hummel and Giuliani

Total duration circa 1 hr 30

PLUS
selected solo works for guitar, and
original compositions for piano

For a full contemporary program, we are looking to collaborate with a local violinist with an affection for new music. Otherwise we suggest a blend of traditional music with new works of Dutch contemporary composers.

VIOLIN, GUITAR, PIANO
Trio for violin, piano and guitar
Jacob ter Veldhuis

Falling on Lobsters in the Dark
Paul Richards

Rendering 7
Gijs van Dijk

PIANO GUITAR DUO
Fire from the five elements
Heleen Verleur

Seven Haikus
Joke Kegel

Abstract and Dance
Gijs van Dijk

Snarenspel
Wolfgang Wijdeveld

Total duration circa 1 hr.

Photo credit:
Serge van Empelen

Bethanienklooster,
Amsterdam



Want to know more? Please check us out!

Watch selected videos

<http://www.pianoguitar.com/video/>

Read the latest blog

<http://concertblog.wordpress.com>

Listen to our new CD "Summer"

<http://www.pianoguitar.com/cd/>

Master class, workshop, lecture, individual lessons:

- "How to get the maximum volume from your guitar"
- "Sight reading for the piano"
- "Personal online branding, social media networking, blogging, and other goodies"
- "House concerts for art music: multiple stakeholders, audience development, and sustainability"

CONTACT INFO

www.pianoguitar.com

duo@pianoguitar.com

skype: analyticalq

Tel: +31 30 291 0214 or +44 208 090 8326



Photo credit:
Serge van Empelen

Availability and plan of travel

depart Amsterdam on or after 16th Oct.

Concerts:

22 October: **Newton, MA**
23 October: **Hampton, CT**

1 week in **Phoenix, AZ**
1 week in **Houston, TX**
weekend Nov: **San Francisco, CA**
weekend Nov: **Los Angeles, CA**
November: **Maui Hawaii**

