

Jason Corbett, B.F.A, M.Mus.

guitarist, composer & improviser



Amidst 21st century guitar performance, armed with only a nylon-string guitar, Jason Corbett is not afraid. Believing in the minimalism of simply using two-hands and a guitar, Jason is capable of creating all the sound, colour, and groove needed to make beautiful music in a solo setting.

After a long period of musical study, eventually earning his Masters in Music Performance in classical guitar, he has begun to find his voice as a guitarist, composer, and improviser. Combining styles such as contemporary music, jazz, eighties rock and electronica, he composes pieces that reflect the qualities of the natural landscape of his Vancouver Island settings contrasted by the ongoing tribulations experienced by humankind.

Musically, the sound evokes the shimmer and resonance of a small orchestra, performed on one guitar with no overdubbing. The music is composed with much openness for improvisation, earned silence, and popular music nuances such as bass riffs, percussive hits, and memorable hooks.

"The guitar has always been one of my best-friends. I love the simplicity and elegance juxtaposed with the extreme complexity and darkness that a piece of wood and six-strings can produce. It's a challenge that gets me out of bed every morning, and becomes a ritual in one's life, which at times can be more important than the actual music produced. The musical outcome is the fun part!"

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Jason Corbett earned his Bachelor in Music Performance at Concordia and McGill University, where he worked with Dr. Gary Antonio and Roddy Elias. He then studied with Dr. Alexander Dunn at the University of Victoria, earning his Masters in Music Performance in classical guitar.

A twentieth-century music aficionado, he promotes playing new works by Canadian and international composers. He has composed numerous works for guitar-related ensembles as well as projects involving improvisation. He is currently involved in Duo Sable with Kelly Best, performing jazz and pop standards with all the elegance and minimalism that a duo reveals.

In the past, he has worked as a music therapist at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, Beckley Farm Lodge in Victoria, and the Langley Senior Centre. He has also performed as Music Director at the YWCA for children in Montreal, and has taught guitar for many years.

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jc@jasoncorbett.com

Teaching Experience:

1994-2005: Private Guitar Instruction

- Individual instruction for all ages and styles.

2003-2005: Teacher Assistantship for Music 111 at University of Victoria

- Taught classes and private tutorials as well as graded assignments.

2003: Music Therapist at Langley Adult Day Centre

- Designed day-programs involving music, theatre and physical activities.

2002-2003: Music Director at YWCA Garderie de Mon Coeur (Montreal)

- Taught and created music classes for pre-school children.

2000-2002: Music Performance for the Royal Victoria Hospital

- Performed classical guitar in the Palliative Care Concert Series and children songs in the Children's Unit.

Major Performances:

- March 2005- Solo Recital at Philip T. Young Recital Hall-Graduation Concert
- February 2004- Solo Recital at Philip T. Young Recital Hall
- November 20, 2003 - Solo Classical Guitar Concert at Christ Church Cathedral supporting Downtown New Music Series
- March 11, 2002 - Solo Classical Guitar Concert at Pollack Hall as part of McGill Student Soloists
- November 30 and December 1, 2001 – Solo Guest Appearance with McGill Symphony Orchestra
- March 7, 2001 – Performed *Modern Guitar and Film no.06243* as part of Art Matters, a Festival of Fine Arts

Education:

2003-2005: University of Victoria: Masters in Music Performance

2002-2003: Concordia University: DIA- Graduate Arts Administration Diploma

2001-2002: McGill University- Licentiate in Music Performance

2001: Université de Sainte-Anne- French Bursary Program

1998-2001: Concordia University- Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music Performance)

1994-1998: University of Manitoba- Bachelor of Art (Drama Major)

References:

Dr. Gary Antonio- Professor at University of McGill and Concordia

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Roddy Ellias- Professor at Concordia University

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Alexander Dunn- Professor at University of Victoria and Victoria Conservatory

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