

Crossing Strings - ClassicalFingerstyle Guitar Duo

Press Release:

"Markus Schlesinger catapults himself and his Classical Fingerstyle Guitar Duo to the top of the European fingerpicking scene."

"Carina Maria Linder is rooted in classical music and chamber music, yet she steps beyond her field to perform and sing folk or blues with great empathy and virtuosity."

— CONCERTO Magazine 6/22, Austria's specialist magazine for jazz, folk, blues, and world music

A duo that, at first glance, could not be more different, where two seemingly completely distinct worlds collide. Comprising Carina Maria Linder, who dedicated herself to classical guitar at the tender age of 8 and has achieved remarkable success in various international guitar competitions as part of a classical guitar duo, and Markus Schlesinger, an internationally touring fingerstyle guitarist and founder of the Vienna Fingerstyle Festival, who complements this duo with his sophisticated original compositions and groovy arrangements of well-known songs.

The program from these two professionals in their respective fields is a diverse mix of original compositions, self-arranged classical, jazzy, and pop evergreen pieces, and two voices that round out the performance with both impulsive intensity and playful lightness. By bridging two seemingly opposing worlds, this duo engages in a multifaceted symbiosis of classical, jazz, and popular music, aiming to transport the audience to completely new and unfamiliar musical realms.

The crossover duo has toured with their debut album "Intersections" through Australia, Belgium, Hungary, Austria, Germany, and Switzerland, and offers annual three-day guitar workshops in Bad Radkersburg and Lower Austria. For more information, please visit: <https://www.crossing-strings.com>

Biography:

Markus Schlesinger is an internationally touring guitarist who has dedicated himself to fingerpicking for years as a musician, seminar leader, and founder of the Vienna Fingerstyle Festival. He masterfully combines bass, chord, and melody playing on his guitar, enchanting the audience time and again. His virtuoso repertoire ranges from sophisticated original compositions and jazz arrangements to blues and folk, as well as fingerstyle arrangements of popular songs. Through entertaining anecdotes and lively interaction with the audience, his stage program sometimes takes on a cabaret-like quality. In recent years, his concert activities have taken him through Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Italy, and Switzerland. Markus Schlesinger is not just a musician with soul, but also a master of his craft.

Carina Maria Linder is an Austrian guitarist and instrumental educator. She laid the foundation for her artistic career by completing a music school education under Mag. Erich Lippitsch. She subsequently studied at the Carinthian State Conservatory with Prof. Mag. Helmut Weinhandl, graduating with distinction. She completed her master's degree at the Anton Bruckner Private University in Linz under Univ. Prof. Mag. Martin Schwarz and has been a faculty member at the Gustav Mahler Music School in Klagenfurt since 2017. Since then, she has served as a jury member for "prima la musica" and a mentor for students at the Gustav Mahler Private University in the subject of "Teaching Practice." She has achieved international competition success in classical guitar duos, lauded by prominent figures for their sound aesthetics, musical sensitivity, and unique expressiveness. She has also received masterclasses and perfection courses from great masters such as Paolo Pegoraro, Giampaolo Bandini, Anabel Montesinos, Judicael Perroy, and many more. Through soulful sounds, subtle colors, and musical passion, she transforms the concert hall into a place of inspiration.