BIO

Cameron O’Connor, whose playing has been described as “stunning and emotive” (*Eugene Register-Guard*), enjoys a diverse career in solo, chamber, contemporary, and popular music. Recent highlights include solo and duo recitals throughout Japan; performing as a guest artist at the *Loyola Marymount, Corvallis, Siempre la Guitarra*, and *Northwest* GuitarFestivals; chamber music and opera appearances with Eugene Opera and musicians of the Oregon Symphony; as a chamber music soloist at the New World Symphony in Miami (for which the *South Florida Classical Review* noted that he was “especially effective in the quick and diabolical figures”); appearing as a guest artist and performing duos with Sharon Isbin at the Aspen Music Festival and School; performing with Michael Tilson Thomas and the New World Symphony; and appearing under the baton of Chinese composer Tan Dun in his Eastern-tinged*Concerto for Six,*for which the *New York Times* reviewed that “O’Connor fluttered on his guitar strings in a manner reminiscent of a pipa player’s technique.”

His performances have been featured in film, from James Franco’s *Don Quixote* to *Some Kind of Spark* (a documentary made on The Juilliard School’s Music Advancement Program)to Scott Tennant’s instructional *Pumping Nylon,* and on radio broadcasts such as Portland All Classical Radio, KPFK’s *Global Village,* Seattle’sKingFM, and American Public Media’s *Performance Today.* Other career highlights include an invitation to perform at the 9/11 Memorial in New York-- a ceremony which featured then-Vice President Joe Biden, serving as part of the Worcester Chamber Music Society’s Fellowship Ensemble, and as a guest artist at the Aspen Music Fesival, performing as soloist and in duets with Sharon Isbin. Additionally, he has been a prizewinner in ten international competitions, including the Frances Walton and Tokyo.

As a composer, O'Connor's music has gained international recognition; his *Three Northwestern Scenes* was chosen for a performance at the 21st Century Guitar Conference in Ottawa, Canada, and his *Perturbation Variations* was awarded “Outstanding Winner” at the Changsha International Guitar Festival. A strong believer in the importance of the accessibility of arts for the American public, Cameron has spearheaded several events, such as free concert demonstrations at elementary schools and libraries, and the Royal High School Band Alumni Concert Fundraiser (the funds of which benefit music students), which have brought classical music to new audiences. As a teaching fellow with educational programs, such as the McCabe, Music Advancement, Instrumental Music, and Thornton-Gluck Fellows, he has performed in numerous non-traditional venues, from hospitals to juveniles halls; he also presented twenty hours’ of interactive demonstrations in public schools during a recent engagement in Washington State. He furthermore performs regularly as a musician in pit orchestras throughout the Los Angeles area on electric guitar, mandolin, and banjo. His articles and music are published by LACG Editions ([lacg.net](http://lacg.net)), and his recordings are available on iTunes.

Cameron graduated *cum laude* from California State University Northridge, where he studied guitar under Ron Borczon and Steve Thachuk, and lute under Ronald Purcell. He received his Master Of Music degree from the Juilliard School in New York City, where he was a student of Sharon Isbin; and as a graduate teaching assistant and student of William Kanengiser, he recently received his doctorate from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. Upon completion of that degree, the Thornton School chose him as Outstanding Graduate.He is currently a full-time faculty member of Oregon State University. www.cameronoconnor.com