

2004 STETSON INTERNATIONAL GUITAR WORKSHOP

*From the participants, faculty, and audience members . . .*

Thank you so very much for helping to make my experience at Stetson nothing short of wonderful. You work so hard in so many ways, and it really shows in the polished way that your festival runs. As I have told everyone that has asked me why I chose to apply for your festival: there wasn't a festival in the U.S. that could compare with the Stetson this year (or most years!). Anyway, thank you again.

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AMAZING time at the workshop. Again!!! It's like a dream being there...wonderful music, friends, instruction, conversations, etc., etc....(most of us don't even want to leave)

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This was Classical Guitar Heaven. You all nurture and encourage future guitarists.

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While it seems like only yesterday that I was there, here it is almost two weeks later and I am just now writing. It was another memorable year at Stetson and I want to thank you for all you did to make that possible. You make so many lives easier than imaginable. Just as in years past, I am already anxious for next year to be here!

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You guys are the greatest for putting on such a marvelous workshop.

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I can't tell you how inspired I was by your festival. My feet have not touched earth yet. I still find myself humming *Motown*; the memory of sitting in the middle of all those guitars playing to such a receptive audience will be with me forever. I'm already planning to come back next year, as were several of the other 'older types' who were there for the first time also. You both work very hard to make the atmosphere inviting and inclusive to all ages and all levels of playing skills. My heartfelt thanks to you and Steve for providing such a wonderful experience!

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Just wanted to thank both of you for your Herculean efforts coordinating and hosting the guitar workshop. I had a fantastic time.

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I loved all of the concerts. Last night's with Roland Dyens and Eduardo Fernandez playing together was a 'treat of treats.' Thank you (Stephen and Patrece) and all the artists for sharing their inspiration and gifts that stirred my heart and soul.

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*From the participants, faculty, and audience members . . .*

Thank you so very much for all that you do so well for so many and with such generosity, grace and good humor. As always, this year's Workshop was a delight in an infinite number of special ways - artistic and personal. And once again, thank you so very much for the care and warmth you so selflessly share with us all.

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Thank you for such a wonderfully special week at the guitar workshop. I just dream about it all year until it finally comes. My whole family benefits from it and every year we learn about music and life and we get to know such special people and artists.

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I had a wonderful time at Stetson and I thank you for all your hard work that you did to make this thing happen.

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Although we could not hang around this year for the whole workshop, we did get to see your (Stephen's) performance and the Canadian Guitar Quartet on the first night. Then we caught the participant recital and the guitar orchestra on the final night. (Great jacket, by the way) Your entire performance was wonderful, but I have to say the Dyens piece absolutely blew me away. I hope we will see you in Pensacola some time soon.

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Thanks so much for allowing my son to perform in the participant's recital. That, along with the incredible instructors he had for his master classes, and the honor of performing a Dyens piece while Roland Dyens was in the audience made this a pretty spectacular guitar experience for him. The workshop is a highlight of his year and you and Patrece and all of your able and committed volunteers really make it a wonderful event for everyone, participants, audience and performers. You guys are a real treasure to Stetson, the entire State of Florida, and most of all to the classical guitar world. Hope to see you next year.

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I just wanted to tell you what a great time I had at the workshop. You still run the tightest and best ship in the business.

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Stetson and Deland took on a higher, more meaningful, purposeful, magical air while the Workshop was going, there was something wonderful to do and hear and it raised the mentality and spirits.

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*From the participants, faculty, and audience members . . .*

Just arrived home, I wanted to thank you again. It is always wonderful to be there! Steve's leadership and your (Patrece's) organization make it a wonderful festival...

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Once again, thank you and thank you again for such a lovely festival this year - as always.

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Many, many thanks to you for the very special care you and your family extended to me during my stay in DeLand.

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This was my first time attending. All six days were outstanding from the superb artist faculty concert series to the participants concert which included the Stetson Guitar Orchestra performing *A Tribute to Motown*, the highlight of the evening. Master classes, seminars, round table discussions and the Luthiers Exhibit were all outstanding and informative. The receptions that followed the evening performances were great opportunities to visit with old friends and a chance to make new friends. One of the other highlights of the week was the beautiful and relaxing dinner provided at The Grant Bly House and hosted by Stephen and Patrece Robinson. Thank you seems like so little to say to all who helped make this Workshop come together. It was one of my best vacations ever. Thank you, thank you, *thank you!*

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