



## **Alvaro Henrique**

Alvaro Henrique's path to becoming a performer was pretty unlikely. Alvaro started out as a painfully shy teenager who had trouble interacting with other people. Even saying good morning to people he met regularly, like the doorman at his school, was a daily challenge he often loosed.

His father thought that maybe playing an instrument would help. Alvaro wasn't interested until he heard the acoustic guitar playing melodies. A few days later he started his first classical guitar lessons.

Luckily, Alvaro entered a private music school that highly encouraged him to perform. So, from the early start he notice that music could be his way to communicate and connect with people. He could express what he felt - what everyone feels and needs to say - with music instead of with words.

Therefore, music is for Alvaro Henrique a true language he uses to talk to people. His artistic work is all rooted on this, be it researching the musical expressiveness (as he did on his master in music dissertation), be it programing recitals that connect audiences with a world of emotions and stories that spark ideas, conversation, and meaning.

Henrique's recital programs typically include a host of plucked instruments covering a fascinating range of history and cultures. He plays the early vihuela, the Baroque theorboed guitar, the romantic guitar, and of course the modern classical guitar. His flexible repertoire allows for programs that can mix 5 centuries of music and cultures. Alvaro Henrique has also premiered works by a number of composers such as Mario Ferraro and Ernest Mahle. He plays works by Villa-Lobos, Scarlatti, Tárrega and Guerra-Peixe as well as surprising transcriptions of works by Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky.

As a soloist with orchestra, Henrique has performed in Brazil with the Orquestra do Teatro Nacional Claudio Santoro and the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro's String Orchestra, as well as in Finland with the Vaasa Sinfonietta. He has premiered 5 concerti, and worked with conductors Julio Medaglia, Ville Mankkinen, and Angelo Cavallaro.

With a special interest in art for social change, Alvaro's projects have included commissioning works centered on social issues. Examples include Jean Goldenbaum's concerto May All Dictators Fall (inspired by the Arab Spring) and Jorge Antunes' Brasilia 50 (a fifty-movement work for guitar and pre-recorded sounds which describes historical events that took place from 1960 to 2010). Committed to helping audiences find meaningful connections to music, Alvaro frequently presents community engagement and educational concerts at schools, community center and senior residencies.

Known for both the humor and drama of his performances, along with his engaging speaking with audiences from the stage, Henrique has toured 15 countries and has released 2 solo albums and a DVD.



Alvaro Henrique holds a bachelor's degree from Universidade de Sao Paulo, a master's degrees from the Universidade de Brasilia and a Kunstliche Ausbildung degree from the Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg (Germany). He studied with Franz Halasz, Alvise Migotto, Bohumil Med, and Zilmar Gustavo Costa.

Music can be much more than a pleasant soundtrack. It can be a language that talks directly to the human soul. Alvaro Henrique's recitals, concerts and recordings displays music primarily as a communication force, and each project has a message in it.