

Matthew Rohde

Classical guitarist Matthew Rohde, described by the preeminent American virtuoso Eliot Fisk as a “spontaneous young master,” has performed in Brunei, Bethlehem, Boston, and many other places in between. He even performed for the president of China once. A particular devotee of the music of Latin America, he has regularly shared the stage with such musicians as Grammy-nominated pianist Clarice Assad, guitarist Thiago Colombo de Freitas, and singer Gabriela Pelosi. His debut solo album is scheduled for release later this year on the Tresona label.

Matthew is devoted to education, particularly in communities otherwise cut off from the mainstream. He once spent more than a year teaching music throughout the West Bank, in Palestine. (It was also in Palestine that Matthew, an avid dancer of the Argentine tango, earned the claim to fame of organizing the first-ever tango workshop and social dance in the history of the country.) Matthew now runs Kithara Project, a nonprofit organization that oversees comprehensive year-round guitar education programs for at-risk youth in a low-income development in Boston and in a shantytown in Mexico City. Matthew has also taught masterclasses at universities and conservatories across the US and Latin America, and his students have been awarded scholarships to major conservatories in the US and Europe. Matthew completed his studies at Yale College; the Yale School of Music; the Conservatoire Nationale de Musique et Danse in Paris; and the Accademia Chigiana in Siena, Italy. His teachers have included maestros Benjamin Verdery, Oscar Ghiglia, and Roland Dyens. Matthew also holds a Master's degree in International Affairs from Sciences Po, in Paris. He is conversant in Spanish, French, Portuguese, Italian, and Arabic.