Nathan Cornelius, classical guitar

Nathan Cornelius pursues a multifaceted career in performance, composition, and teaching. An award-winning solo and chamber guitarist, he performed Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s Concerto No. 1 with the Bethel University Orchestra on their 2013 tour of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Much of his repertoire focuses on major works from the 20th century, aiming to give audiences a fresh experience of the guitar through these modern masterpieces. As a composer, Cornelius searches for the hidden beauty in sounds both familiar and unfamiliar. By taking listeners with him on this journey through sonic landscapes, he seeks to open to their ears to new colors, textures, and ultimately, new ways of hearing. He is the co-founder of Nebula Ensemble, a group dedicated to creating and performing new chamber music throughout Colorado.

Cornelius is deeply interested in the connections between music and the visual arts as they embody the values of a civilization, and he hopes to compose music that both reflects his Christian faith and expands the imagination of the culture. He has received various awards for his art history research and his ceramic creations, for which he operates the online shop SfzCeramics. When not absorbed in his creative ventures, Cornelius enjoys exploring the landscapes of the Rockies through nature photography and mountain climbing. He is a graduate teaching assistant at the Lamont School of Music, where he is currently pursuing a Master of Music degree in composition and guitar performance. He also maintains a private guitar studio in the Denver area.

Repertoire samples:

Benjamin Britten, Nocturnal after John Dowland: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRhiR-98Mzc

Joaquín Rodrigo: Invocación y Danza: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcZmFcr2vJE

More at Nathan’s YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCicZ-DDG7JhVuWv29UWO3fg

Sample program:

Selections from Ten Etudes Giulio Regondi (1822-1872)

Nocturnal after John Dowland Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Julia Florida – Barcarola Agustin Barrios (1885-1944)

Invocación y Danza Joaquin Rodrigo (1901-1999)
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