

The Richter Uzur Duo

"The interplay between the two is playful yet stunning... It grooves, it sings, it's fresh and exciting; this music has it all."

— *Guitar International*

"From Led Zeppelin to Bartok, from The Beatles to Rimsky-Korsakov, from Gershwin to their own unique tunes... the music sashays all over the planet and back again, satisfying audiences all the while."

— Wes Brustad, State Theatre

Guitarist Brad Richter and cellist Viktor Uzur are consummate performers and accomplished composers who have each played around the globe to critical acclaim and international awards. Trained in two of the most lauded musical institutions — The Royal College of Music and The Moscow Conservatory, respectively — they approach the concert stage with effortless virtuosity, soulful musicality and self-effacing humor. Together, the Richter Uzur Duo combines elements of classical music, rock and Eastern European folk, all played with a native sense of vernacular, integrity and charm, producing a sound that is all their own. Their signature repertoire pairs exquisite originals with blazing improvisations and iconic works by composers such as Bartok, Gershwin, Rimsky-Korsakov and Saint-Saens.

The Richter Uzur Duo has played hundreds of concerts in North America, South America, Europe and Asia and has a rapidly widening circle of communities around the globe that invite them back again and again. In the U.S. the duo is perhaps best known through its regular appearances on NPR's Performance Today — North America's most listened to classical music program — as well as frequent national and international broadcasts on the Armed Forces Radio Network and programs such as PBS's WoodSongs and NPR's Classical Guitar Alive, which named their debut CD 'Best New Release' in 2010.

While it is unusual for two accomplished composers to write music together, Richter Uzur has found a unified voice, molding two idiosyncratic creative minds into a single bold expression. Together, Brad Richter and Viktor Uzur have composed and arranged the most expansive collection of music for cello and guitar duo in existence. The result is fine art music of ferocious energy and orchestral complexity. Their Duo Concerto for Cello and Guitar, commissioned by the Jackson Symphony in Michigan, premiered in May 2012. Like all of the Duo's music, the Duo Concerto is a seamless blend of musical cultures brimming with flash and drama. The new concerto is the centerpiece of an evening length program with symphony that will be touring beginning in 2014.

The Richter Uzur Duo are outspoken advocates for the arts and arts education, Brad Richter as the Executive Director of Lead Guitar, a not-for-profit that establishes guitar programs in public schools nation-wide, and Viktor Uzur as professor at Weber State University and director of the Bonneville Chamber Music Festival. Whenever possible the Duo includes school or community outreach events with their performances.