
SONUS

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Founded in 2020 | Inaugural Newsletter
Volume 1, No. 1 – February 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Roldán
Alejandro Cremaschi
Alberto Cavallero
Gabriella Cavallero
Beth Quimby Fischer



A Message from Founder & Artistic Director

Nancy Roldán

Dear Sonus Friends and Music Lovers around the world,

Far away and long ago in Argentina, I had the great honor of meeting and interviewing renowned Argentine composer Carlos Guastavino. It was a dream come true. In 2020, as I revised and further investigated my writing on his life and work, I was inspired to share it with more of the world.

Little did I know that just months later, the Sonus International Music Festival would become a reality, and we celebrated Guastavino's life and work with our first virtual Music Festival. It took effort, enthusiasm, and collaboration from the executive committee, combined with talent and generosity from artists all over the world. It was yet another dream come true. Bringing this beautiful organization to life continues to fill me with gratitude; that I am surrounded by bright, dedicated people devoted to the improvement and beautification of our world.

In a spirit of continued gratitude, I look forward to the realization of many more events and festivals. Music and Guastavino's inspiration continue to guide me with the Sonus International Music Festival as well as with a special project I hope to complete and announce in 2021.

Thank you so much for what we accomplished together in 2020. I invite you to dream and create in 2021 as you continue practicing random kindness and senseless acts of beauty, investing your heart in everything you do individually or with loved ones and colleagues, or whenever you and I get together with kindred spirits to create beautiful and meaningful events to share with the world. Visit our website often, let us know what you are doing, and stay in touch.

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**Sonus-IMF is a
nonprofit organization.
Contributions are
tax-deductible as
permitted by law.**

100 Years Ago Piazzolla & Guastavino

Begins airing

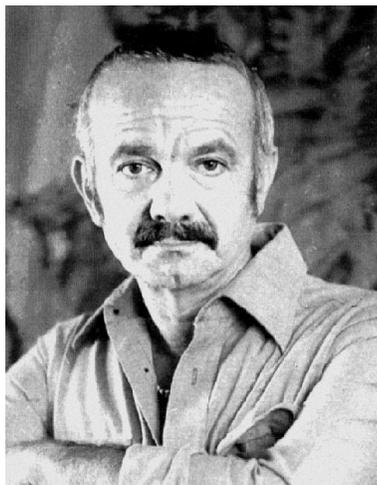
March 11th, 2021, 8:00pm EST

A Musical Tribute

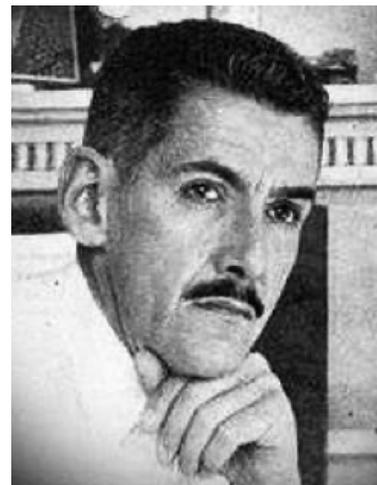
commemorating the birthdays of
beloved Argentine composers
Astor Piazzolla (b. March 11, 1921)
Carlos Guastavino (b. April 5, 1912)

via YouTube/Facebook

Visit www.sonusinternationalmusicfestival.org
for more information



Astor Piazzolla



Carlos Guastavino



SAVE THE DATE!

Inspiring programs • Interviews
Tango
Composition Competition Finals



Virtual Festival concerts and
events will be streamed live via
Facebook/YouTube
Please check our **website**
often for updates!

2021 Carlos Guastavino Composition Competition

To support and encourage the composition of music inspired by folk or national traditions

Open to composers ages 20 – 40 as of April 5, 2021

CATEGORIES

Piano Solo // Duo Ensemble with Piano

GUIDELINES

Will be posted on the [website](http://www.sonusinternationalmusicfestival.org) February 28th, 2021

News from Sonus Artists

José Miguel Cueto (USA)

José sold his 1920 Stefano Scarpella concert violin, and found a new partner, a 1910 Carlo Carletti violin. He is greatly looking forward to sharing its voice with audiences in future performances.

Andrew Gerle (USA)

Andrew finished a unique semester at the Manhattan School of Music, teaching and serving as musical director for a brand new movie musical, filmed and recorded by students in isolation. He also finished a commission for NY-based Mirror Voices Ensemble of a new work for two voices and piano, Mind Reader. Andrew is on the 2021 competition committee.

Lilia Salsano (Argentina)

In December 2020, Lilia released her latest CD on Spotify, "Poesia," with compositions by Carlos Guastavino. Lilia is the Sonus contact in Argentina.

Salvatore Sclafani (Italy, Belgium)

Salvatore has been preparing an article about Ginastera, piano performance and Argentinian folk elements for an online academic review, under the patronage of the French Ministry of Culture. He also interviewed Belgian pianist Eliane Reyes and Italian pianist Gabriele Baldocchi for tgmusic.it. Salvatore is the Sonus contact in Italy.

Fernando Viani (Germany)

In October 2020, Fernando traveled to Cyprus to adjudicate the Avantgarde Piano Competition. In November, his students performed virtually at the Beethoven Festival, held at the Konservatorium Bern. The Festival closed with the participation of the Konservatorium Faculty. Fernando and his colleague, pianist/composer Nazanin Piri, premiered her work titled "Vier Bruchstücke zu Beethoven" for two pianos. Fernando is the Sonus contact in Germany.



Back to the heart of music

Gabriella Cavallero, Associate Producer

This past year was a whirlwind – a storm of roller-coaster emotions, scares, disappointments, and also surprises, inspiration, and unexpected invention. I am deeply passionate and devoted to the arts – I'm an actor, director, dialect coach, and teacher – and our world of performing, telling stories together on stages and sharing them with audiences was shockingly rocked to its core. As many of you know, the performing arts suffered deeply during this time and entire seasons at theatres, symphony halls, opera houses, and dance companies around the world went dark. Artists and all the people involved in the performing arts were left completely out of work and, after an initial panic, had to be hugely inventive in order to survive this interminably long dry spell.

I personally went from feeling like I needed to help uplift and encourage my friends to continue creating, to not wanting to get out of bed and wanting nothing to do with zoom performances of any kind. I discovered that everything I do is extremely body-based and that without physical contact and proximity, the work and teaching I love so much feels very empty. Then I was invited to do several virtual projects and I saw that those 'shows' brought many people in homes all over the country a lot of joy. In the midst of this odd time, I went back to my musical roots – having grown up with musicians and being surrounded with music 24/7. I will always argue that nothing reaches the heart like music. And as an artist, that's what I seek to do the most, to open hearts. So when I was asked to help create a music festival to spread the music that I grew up listening to, crying to, and being joyfully inspired by, I said YES.

In only a few months, some fast magic happened to create the Sonus Festival. Long trips were made from country to country to unite duos, crash courses in self-recording had by all, myriad interviews recorded to share stories about Guastavino and our festival artists around the world. Executive Director and pianist Alejandro Cremaschi then masterfully edited hours upon hours of puzzle pieces into seven festival nights that made us very proud. The recordings are now available for your enjoyment by clicking on the photos below or at this link : <https://www.sonusinternationalmusicfestival.org/2020-festival-calendar>

We would love you to listen to the short programs when you can. If you don't know the music of Carlos Guastavino, you are in for a surprise and a treat. And as we continue on our masked, separate journeys for more months, I hope this music will bring you joy and healing, as it did for me.

How we did it

Behind the Scenes of a Virtual Music Festival

Alejandro Cremaschi, Executive Director

This past October we at SONUS had the pleasure to present our first online Festival that focused on the life, work and music of the outstanding Argentine composer Carlos Guastavino. With the participation of 17 artists and musicians from around the world, and in seven consecutive days, SONUS broadcasted pre-recorded concerts, interviews and a panel via Facebook and YouTube to enthusiastic audiences world-wide. For many, these broadcasts were their first contact with the inspiring beauty of Guastavino's music.

Creating these broadcasts demanded significant work from all of us: long planning meetings, learning and recording the music under difficult circumstances created by the pandemic, putting together an attractive website and all the graphic material from scratch, planning and conducting interviews with each participating artist, creating Facebook advertising campaigns, and, last but not least, many, many hours of video editing, proof-reading and subtitling.

How did we manage to put it all together? What motivated these 17 artists to embark on this project? The answer is simple: we all believe in the power of music and the arts, and how important they are in these trying times. We are all passionate about sharing this higher call, and refuse to let adversity lessen our passion. In fact, at least for me, this past Festival represented a high point of 2020, a time when I felt truly "me" again, in a year full of anxiety and uncertainty.

I invite you to connect with us in 2021. If you haven't yet watched our 2020 broadcasts, all seven programs are available in our website at www.sonusinternationalmusicfestival.org. I hope you will join us during our second Festival in October 2021!



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newsletters!



Special thanks to Susan Reynolds for providing Sonus with these photos.



In Memoriam

We recently lost two dear friends who were passionate performers of tango. We will deeply cherish our memories of making music with them.

Raúl Jaurena – Bandoneón Master

Uruguay 1941 - USA 2021

Constantino "Tino" Bastidas – Tango Dancer

Born in Huancayo, Peru
Died in Arlington, VA, age 65





2020 Festival Memories

Click on the picture to hear our 2020 Festival concerts



How concert receptions are held during 21st century pandemics.
From top left: Andrew Gerle, Pablo Lavandera, Alberto Cavallero, Valeria Solarz
Middle: Gila Goldstein, Daniel Glover, Beth & Daniel Fischer, José Cueto & Nancy Roldán
Bottom: Alejandro Cremaschi, Enrique Graf, Solange Merdinian, Gustavo Ahuali