



KCA International Guitar Series
Proudly Presents

SÁNDOR PAPP



IN CONCERT

INTRODUCTION

As winter draws in, the KCA International Guitar Series 2025 comes to a close with a short series of recitals by the Hungarian classical guitar maestro Dr. Sándor Papp.

Sándor is someone I count as a dear friend, and he is one of the kindest, most generous souls one could hope to meet. We first met on an international competition jury at Dolný Kubín in the heart of the Slovak mountains, around 15 years ago, and just 'clicked'. We are incredibly opposite in virtually every way, perhaps just sharing a very similar sense of humour... plus a love for the pursuit of excellence in all its forms.

Over a fifteen-year period our careers have intertwined regularly in many Central and East European countries as well as here in the UK. Oddly enough, my co-conspirator in this guitar series (and indeed in life), the Polish classical guitarist Aleksandra Sapok, attended the same competition and festival at Dolný Kubín, as a highly-regarded teenage competitor! I remember Sándor remarking on her tonal quality and technical ability when she was only 16 or 17. Now we will all be in the same room again, as equals, 1,500 miles away from our first meeting – and next March we will do it all again in Hungary when we take our duo on tour in Europe.

Hungary is an amazing country, and one in which I have had wonderful times over the years. It has an impressive record in classical music for a country whose population is barely larger than that of London, producing such names as Franz Liszt and Béla Bartók. In 1965, it also produced tonight's performer – Dr. Sándor Papp.

Ben Salfield
Head of KC Artists

1ST HALF

A. Rodríguez (b. 1955)	Canción y danza
B. Kováts (1920-2005)	Suite Goldoni
M. Giuliani (1781-1829)	Variations on the Folia of Spain Op. 45
F. Sor (1778-1839)	Introduction and Variations on a Theme by Mozart Op. 9
F. Torroba (1891-1982)	Madroños, Nocturno
F. Tárrega (1852-1909)	Gran Vals
G. Piñero (1905-1986)	Del Tiempo E'Ñaupá
J. Morel (1931-2021)	Danza Brasileira
A. Barrios (1885-1944)	Maxixe



2ND HALF

H. Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)	Chôros No. 1
W. Walton (1902-1983)	Bagatelles
A. Yupanqui (1908-1992)	Gato, Cruz del Sur
I. Albéniz (1860-1909)	Asturias
P. Abreu (1848-1880)	Quejas
J. Cardoso (b.1946)	Téma Negro
A. Lauro (1917-1986)	Aire De Joropo
F. Bustamante (1915-1979)	Misionera

CLASSICAL
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ABOUT THE PERFORMER

Guitarist Sándor Papp was born in 1965. He started his music studies as a pupil of András Tüske and later as a student of István Androvicz and István Papp in the Zoltán Kodály Secondary School of Music Art at Debrecen. Afterwards he achieved his degree at the Bratislava Academy of Music in 2007 as a student of Josef Zsapka.

Early in his career he took part in masterclasses in Greece, Spain, Bohemia and Slovakia with such maestri as Roberto Aussel, Wolfgang Lendle, David Russell, Alirio Diaz and Gianfranco Volpato.

In 1990 he achieved huge international recognition after qualifying for the final of the international guitar contest in Paris. He has performed across the world, including in Australia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, the UK and the USA. In his 1998 concert tour of Australia he was head of the jury for the Adelaide International Guitar Competition. He is currently on the jury for the Classical Guitar World Cup 2026.

Numerous World Premieres of guitar music are linked with his name, including compositions by Letlier (Chile) and Charlton (Australia) as well as the well-known work Nuovo Capriccio by Hungarian István Sziget. He regularly gives concerts and courses in Hungary as well as abroad. He is the artistic director of the International Guitar Week of Encs and the International Guitar Festival Gyöngyös and a member of the Nobilart Association. He was a founder of the Debrecen Guitar Quartet. He was a teacher of the guitar at the Béla Bartók Secondary School of Music Art.

From 1991 until 2019 he taught at the Béla Bartók Music Institute of Miskolc University, and since 2019 he has been the Director of the Institute.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

Next year we have not fewer than five series of concert performances on the KCA International Guitar Series!

Wieczorek Guitar Duo (Poland)

4-7 March 2026

Maurizio Baudino (Italy)

6-7 May 2026

Andrea Dieci (Italy)

1-4 July 2026

Eleftheria Kotzia (Greece)

3-5 September 2026

Bálint Bress (Hungary)

11-14 November 2026

Classical Guitar World Cup 2026 Gala Concert

28 November 2026

In addition, look out for occasional one-off recitals throughout the year. You can keep-up-to-date with our promotions by following us on Facebook @KCAPromotions or joining our mailing list on the website at www.kernowconcerts.co.uk

