

Luiz Mantovani, guitarist

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Luiz Mantovani's performances have been described by *The New York Times* as "powerful, beautifully shaped and just practically flawless." A winner of the coveted Pro Musicis International Award, his awards also include the first prize at the Boston Modern Orchestra Concerto Competition (2001) and top prizes at the Schadt String Competition in Pennsylvania (1999) and at the Radio MEC - Ministry of Education and Culture - National Music Competition in Rio de Janeiro (1997).

Mr. Mantovani's has appeared as a soloist and a chamber musician in his native Brazil, the U.S., Europe and Asia. He has performed in such halls as Weill Recital Hall/Carnegie Hall in New York, Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, Jordan Hall in Boston, Hong Kong City Hall, Salle Cortot in Paris and Sala Cecília Meireles in Rio de Janeiro. As a soloist with orchestra, he has performed with the New Russia Symphony Orchestra, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, Petrobrás Sinfônica and Orquestra Sinfônica Municipal de São Paulo, among others. A member of the Brazilian Guitar Quartet since 2004, he has recorded with them Isaac Albéniz's *Suite Iberia* for Delos International, considered by the critics as one of the most remarkable recordings of this work.

Luiz Mantovani is the first and only guitarist to receive the prestigious Artist Diploma from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, the conservatory's highest award for artistic excellence. A recipient of a Saint Botolph Foundation grant and a Rabb Presidential Scholarship from the New England Conservatory, he was also awarded an Apartes Scholarship from the Brazilian government. He holds a Master's degree with honors from NEC and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Rio de Janeiro. His guitar teachers were David Leisner, Nicolas Barros and Antônio Guedes.

In addition to his performance career, Luiz Mantovani teaches at the State University of Santa Catarina, in Florianópolis, Brazil.