

Eliot Fisk began to study the guitar motivated by the his brother Matthew, born with Down's Syndrome. While the imagined family singing sessions to a guitar accompaniment never turned into anything, the instrument slowly became the focus of his life.

Ten months spent in Sweden attending elementary school in 1965-6 produced the necessary catalyst to learn Swedish fluently and to begin to practice the guitar seriously. This passion burst into full flame when on his return to his native Philadelphia Eliot began to study with the remarkable (and mostly self - taught) William Viola, whose love of the guitar was life long although his musical activities were mostly limited to teaching on Saturdays in a guitar store in Philadelphia.

In 1974 Eliot met and began to study with his idol Segovia and at Yale University (1972-77) supplemented those encounters with guidance from the great harpsichordist and scholar Ralph Kirkpatrick. Following his graduation from Yale *summa cum laude* and a successful debut at Alice Tully Hall in New York in 1976, Eliot Fisk began a professional career that has taken him around the world as soloist and chamber musician performing in leading concert halls on 5 continents.

Eliot has created an enormous amount of new music for the guitar through innumerable transcriptions and many new works in all genres by eminent composers, written for and dedicated to him. His numerous recordings have achieved critical and public acclaim.

He has enjoyed a long career as an educator particularly at the *Universitaet* "Mozarteum" in Salzburg, where he teaches in 5 languages, and at the New England Conservatory in Boston, where in 2006 he founded the highly successful Boston Guitar Fest. Many of his students have become great leaders in the musical world and continue his efforts to combine the great romantic tradition with the best of modernity.

Together with his wife, virtuoso guitarist Zaira Meneses, he recently founded the *Eliot Fisk Guitar Academy* (EFGA) which aims to project his legacy of interdisciplinary musicianship and humanitarian aspiration around the world. More specifics at www.eliotfisk.com.