



Vladislav Bláha studied at the Brno Conservatoire with Arnost Sadlik before going to the Liszt College of Music in Weimar, Germany, where he graduated as a student of Roland Zimmer. In 2004 he received Doctor of Arts degree after study on the Academy of Music in Bratislava, Slovakia. Masterclasses with Costas Cotsiolis, Abel Carlevaro and, with the aid of British Council Fellowship, study in England with Gordon Crosskey (Royal Northern College of Music) and John W. Duarte in London completed his formal learning.

Bláha achieved international recognition as winner in four international guitar competitions in: Volos, Greece, Esztergom, Hungary, Kutna Hora, Czech Republic and Markneukirchen, Germany. He was awarded a bronze medal by Radio France International Competition in Paris.

Bláha has given concerts in most European countries, Royal Festival Hall and Conway Hall in London, Radio France in Paris, etc., in addition to USA, NZ, Chicago, LA, Dallas, Portland, Miami, etc., Asia, Japan, Indonesia, Vietnam and Latin America, Cuba, Mexico, Peru. His richness of expression, together with his brilliant virtuosity and stylish interpretation give cause for much critical acclaim throughout the musical world. He has released various CD, radio and television recordings.

He is Professor of guitar at Conservatoire and on Janáček Academy of Music, Music College in Brno, he frequently gives masterclasses on music colleges and performs on festivals in the USA, Japan, Mexico, Germany, Austria, England etc.

Bláha's repertoire includes concertos for guitar and orchestra by: J. Rodrigo (*Concierto de Aranjuez*, *Fantasia para un gentil hombre*), M.M. Ponce (*Concierto del Sur*), C. Kohout (in F, E, A) A. Vivaldi (in D, C), W.A. Mozart (in B), A. Carulli and J. Haydn. Twenty-seven composers from 16 countries have been so inspired by Bláha's performances, that they have dedicated works to him (J.W. Duarte: *Moraviana*, N. Koshkin: *Usher Waltz*, pieces by M. Tesar, F. Kleynjans, A. Tučapský, M. Štědroň etc.).

Bláha performs regularly together with other international recognized musicians: Violin-Guitar Duo - Jaroslav Sveceny, violin (Vivaldi, Loeillet, Paganini, Handel, Bach, etc.)

# VLADISLAV BLÁHA

Brno Instrumental Trio, violin, guitar and accordion, and in duo with Jaromír Zámečník, accordion (Vivaldi, Piazzolla, Janáček, Štědroň, Martinů etc.).

Bláha is president of the Czech Classical Guitar Society and since 1992 Director of the International Guitar Festival and Courses BRNO.

## RECORDINGS

Bláha has recorded seven solo CD's, and another 6 CD's as soloist with other musicians.

**CD/MC PRONTO (1991) - SUITES BY BACH & WEISS** – J.S. Bach: Suite BWV 995, S.L. Weiss: Suites N.I and N.XIV

**CD PEHY (1993) - THE SPANISH GUITAR** – Rodrigo, Llobet, de Falla, Granados, Albéniz

**CD ROTON (1996) RT 001-2131 – CZECH GUITAR WORKS** – Eben, Tučapský, Tesar, Stedron, Matys, Zámečník, Rak, Janáček

**LP PANTON (1987) CD ROTON (1998) – RT 002-2131: – CONCERTOS FOR GUITAR AND ORCHESTRA BY PONCE AND KOHOUT** – M.M. Ponce: *Concierto del Sur*, K. Kohout: *Concierto in E-Major* – world première recording

**CD ROTON (2000) – RT 003-2131: CITHARA POETICA** – Tesar, Novák, Martinček, Bodorová, Rak, Koshkin, Kleynjans – world première recordings

**CD ROTON 004-2131 (2001): AMERICANA – WORKS BY J. W. DUARTE**

**CD PIVOX 2004: GUITAR WORKS BY MILOŠ ŠTĚDRŮN**

## VLADISLAV BLÁHA - SELECTED PRESS COMMENTS

*"All through the recording Bláha's playing and tone is exemplary. I recommend this recording whole-heartedly..."*

November 2003,  
CLASSICAL GUITAR MAGAZINE,  
England

*"Vladislav Bláha gave it a remarkable performance."*

October 2002,  
CLASSICAL GUITAR MAGAZINE

*"Bláha, who had impressed his audience at his previous appearance, surpassed himself this week. He ranks with the best of the best among today's group of exceptional classical guitarists."*

March 2002,  
THE GREEN BAY NEWS – CHRONICLE

*"It was a surprise for us to hear such a great guitarist, whose name should become even more famous in the guitar world. He has a solid technique and a deep appreciation for music. We hope to see him during his next concert tour of Japan in June 2002, and we can't wait for this occasion."*

March 2002,  
CLASSICAL GUITAR MAGAZINE

*"Bláha's performance reveals a great sense of precise rhythmical and melodic interpretation of the pieces. In view of musical impressiveness and general lucidity of Duarte's compositions and Vladislav Bláha's performing mastery, this recording stands a good chance of getting recognition among experts as well as being popular among general public interested in music."*

March 2002, Hudební Rozhledy –  
MUSIC VIEWS MAGAZINE,  
Czech Republic

*"...performed impressively aptly in a most polished way"* (about CD - Cithara Poetica)  
December 2001, GENDAI GUITAR -  
MAGAZINE, Japan

*"Vladislav Bláha, always a resourceful guitarist, has picked out some very appealing music, and it is unnecessary to say that he plays it with his usual high professionalism and polish."*

October 2001, Colin Cooper,  
CLASSICAL GUITAR MAGAZINE,  
England,

*"An altogether excellent CD with top class playing and excellent recording quality."*

August 2001, Steve Marsh,  
CLASSICAL GUITAR MAGAZINE,  
England,

*"An enthusiastic audience at Saltash Library recently gave a good reception to Czech guitarists Vladislav Blaha, one of the leading players on classical guitar. He demonstrated skill and sensitivity for the music."*

November 2000, GAZETTE, England

*"Vladislav Blaha may be less well-known to the public than Elliot Fisk, John Williams or Norbert Kraft but he yields nothing to them in either technique or musicianship. One could admire his striking facility and the wide range of colors he could summon at will, always in the service of the music."*

March 2000,  
RESORTER REPORTER, USA

*"The final event in this year concert schedule featured a superb classical guitarist from Brno, Vladislav Blaha. ...this interpretation to be definitive one."*

March 2000,  
GREEN BAY NEWS, USA

*"Concert of Vladislav Blaha was a musical experience of the highest artistic statement. His musical expression is exact until the smallest detail."*

February 2000, BURGHAEUSER  
ANZEIGER, Germany

*"Richness of emotionality, outstanding virtuosity and exact stylistic interpretation - this we listened during his concert."*

July 1999, NOWINY GLIWICKIE, Poland

*"A superb concert. Highest virtuosity and delicacy sound nuances are his priorities..."*

August, 1999, SCHWEINFURTER  
TAGBLATT VOLKSZEITUNG, Germany

*"Vladislav Blaha is splendid musician, master of his gentle instrument."*

May 1998 CHICAGO,  
THE VOICE OF NATION, USA.