

The Guitar Story

----- Arts Express instructors -----



Fernando Sor

Our story will begin in the 18th century with the six string guitar and the music of **Fernando Sor** (1778-1839), a Spanish guitarist and composer who presented concerts in Spain, France, England and Russia. He started the trend toward calling the guitar the *Spanish Guitar*.

Francisco Tárrega (1852-1909) is considered the founder of the modern technique for playing the classical guitar. The guitar he played was made by **Antonio de Torres** (1817-1892) and was larger than the guitar played by Sor which made it better suited for the concert hall. **Andrea Segovia** (1893-1987) is responsible for spreading the popularity of the guitar and for encouraging composers to write music for it.

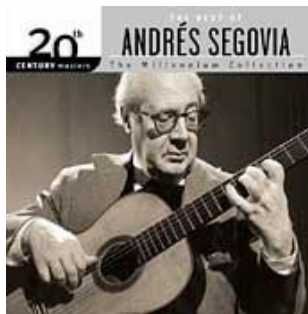


Francisco Tarrega



Antonio de Torres

From the mid 19 century to the present, the guitar has grown in popularity throughout the world. The guitar is capable of expressing the music of all cultures. In the 20th century, there have been many new developments such as steel string guitars, amplified guitar, solid body guitar and guitar of many shapes. Today, we will investigate some of the many types and styles of guitar: *classical, jazz, blues, Latin, flamenco, electric, and pop*.



Jon Sharp is currently pursuing graduate studies in classical guitar at San Jose State University. He also enjoys teaching and performing in the San Jose Area of California.

He has performed at the San Jose Tapestry for the Arts Festival, Alameda Guitar Festival and at numerous smaller venues and private events in the Bay Area.

Jon also teaches Adult Education classes in guitar with the East San Jose Union High School District. He is a Board Member of the South Bay Guitar Society and is Chairperson for the 4th Annual South Bay Guitar Society Annual Festival at San Jose State University in 2008.



Jon
Sharp

Ben
Zussman



Benett Zussman is a native the Bay Area and has been a member of the South Bay Guitar Society since 1995. He earned his BA in Music Performance and an MA in Improvised Music from San Jose State. As a soloist and ensemble player he has performed throughout California and Hawaii. Ben teaches guitar at Foothill and DeAnza colleges and has an active teaching studio in Los Gatos teaching acoustic, electric and bass guitar.