



Pablo Sainz Villegas in Portland



Spanish guitar Pablo Sainz Villegas performs at Portland Classic Guitar Series.

The soul of the Spanish guitar runs in [Pablo Villegas](#)'s blood. Born and raised in La Rioja, Spain –the country with unique and deep ties to his chosen instrument– Villegas is known for a sound so rich and full that it does not need amplification, and distinguished by performances as charismatic as they are intimate. With his singing tone and consummate technique, his interpretations conjure the passion, playfulness, and drama of his homeland's rich musical heritage, routinely drawing comparisons with such legendary exponents of his instrument as Andrés Segovia.

At just 15 he won the Andrés Segovia Award, launching a succession of international wins that include Gold Medal at the inaugural Christopher Parkening International Guitar Competition. The first guitarist to win El Ojo Crítico, Spain's top classical music honor, Villegas also became the youngest of his generation to appear with the New York Philharmonic, in an auspicious debut under the late Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos at Avery Fisher Hall.

He has since performed for both the Dalai Lama and the Spanish royal family, and it was he who gave the world premiere of *Rounds*, the first composition for guitar by five-time Academy Award-winner John Williams. A born communicator, the guitarist explains: "Music is a social tool, and opening people's hearts, and helping them connect to the inner life of the emotions, is my mission."

Virtuosic playing characterized by its vividly shaded colors and irresistible exuberance...

—*The New York Times*

MUSIC
PORTLAND

Sun, January 22, 2017

Venue

Newark Theatre, 1111 SW Broadway,
Portland, OR 97205

[View map](#)

Phone: 503-248-4335

Admission

[Buy tickets](#)

More information

[Portland'5 Center for the Arts](#)

Credits

Presented by Portland'5 and Portland
Classic Guitar