

Kenton Youngstrom

Kenton Youngstrom, guitarist, composer, and educator is the first in a long line of prize-winning students of Jim Smith at the University of Southern California, where, while earning his Bachelor's and Master's degrees, he studied composition with Donald Crockett, arranging with Darniell Pershing and film scoring with David Raksin. His eclectic performing career has taken him around the world, including appearances as a soloist with orchestra (Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Jewish Symphony, New Haven [CT] Symphony, Jacksonville [FL] Symphony, Redlands Symphony), as an orchestra member (Los Angeles Opera, Long Beach Opera), tours with the Falla Guitar Trio (Dubrovnik [YUG] Festival, Radio France [FR], Hong Kong [CN], Geneva, [CH], throughout the US, Canada and Mexico), concerts and recitals with numerous jazz notables (pianists Taylor Eigsti and Dave Brubeck, flutist Hubert Laws, bassist Putter Smith and drummer Paul Kribeck), leading an international jazz big band (Cannes [FR] Film Festival), singing and performing on *vihuela* with his own Mexican *conjunto* (Tournament of Roses Parade), and playing with the Margo Rey rock group (Nokia Theater [CA], Mahaffey Theater [FL]). Producing credits include the Falla Guitar Trio's Concord Records LP, *Virtuoso Music for Three Guitars*, which won a Record of the Year Award from Stereo Review magazine. Recent compositions include the score of *Behind the Mask of Zorro* (History Channel), *Kengyadu - Three Movements for Guitar Trio and Orchestra* (co-written with Gyan Riley and Dusan Bogdanovic) and *Mary Pickford - A Life on Film* (Milestone Films). Recent arrangements include Falla's *Noches en los Jardines de España* for the Falla Guitar Trio and orchestra, Corea's *Children's Song No.6* for Quarteto Nuevo, Bach's *Musical Offering* for the Red Quartet, jazz selections for the Pasadena Jazz Orchestra and the movie *7 year ZigZag* (Next Step Studios). He is on the faculty at the Colburn School of Performing Arts, Pepperdine University and Pasadena City College.