

Mitch Weverka
Press Biography (long version)
www.mitchweverka.com

Born in California but raised in Fort Worth, Texas, Mitch Weverka began playing guitar at age seven, receiving most of his instruction from Bolivian guitarist/artist Oscar Valdez. He holds performance degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music (B.M.) and Southern Methodist University (Artist Certificate). He also studied in Cremona, Italy where he lived for three years in his early twenties. His principal teachers were Robert Guthrie, Giovanni Puddu, Matteo Mela and John Holmquist. While in Italy he received a Diploma of Merit from the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena where he studied with Oscar Ghiglia and, received a diploma from the Accademia Chitaristica al Teatro Cingio in Parma. As a student, he performed in many master classes for a long list of touring artists.

Mitch has been a finalist in a number of international contests, winning top prize at four: the 6th Festival Internazionale della Chitarra (2001 Siracusa, Italy), The East Carolina Guitar Competition (2001 Greenville, North Carolina), The Oswald Rantucci Guitar Competition (1997 Buffalo, New York), and the Rovere d'Oro International Music Competition (1997 San Bartolomeo, Italy). Since that time he has enjoyed an active performance career as a recitalist having performed throughout the United States and Italy.

Mr. Weverka returns regularly to Italy where he has been a faculty member at festivals such as Corsi di Fine Estate in Matinata, Puglia and the Mediterranean Guitar Festival in Cervo, Liguria. He has performed at the Classical Minds Guitar Festival at the University of Houston (TX), the TSU Guitar Festival in Nashville, TN. He has been a guest of such organizations as the Dallas Classic Guitar Society, the Cincinnati Guitar Society, the Ice House Cultural Center, Guitar Houston, Guitar Fort Worth, the Katy Guitar Guild and others. He has also been broadcast live for National Public Radio affiliates in Nashville and Houston. In 2008 he performed at the "Tank Collective" in New York City, a venue that specializes in new music. He also has performed with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra in their presentation of the Mahler symphony cycle.

Having had students win prizes in numerous competitions Mitch has enjoyed considerable success as an instructor. He has studied developmental and cognitive psychology at Texas Christian University through the Foundations of Education program directed by Sherrie Reynolds Ph.D.. Currently, he teaches independently at his private studio on the south side of Fort Worth.

Being very active in the development and promotion of guitar activity in the North Texas area, in 1998 he founded the Fort Worth Guitar Guild, an organization in which he still takes an active role. In 1999, through the Guitar Guild, he initiated the Library Recital Series at the Southwest Regional Library, which has provided a formal yet nurturing environment for young emerging guitarists in North Texas. In 2004/05 he served as artistic and executive director of the Dallas Classic Guitar Society. Since 2006 he has directed the Guitar Guild Music Festival.