PROPOSED: MM in Classic Guitar and Historical Plucked Instruments

OVERVIEW: The proposed MM degree would combine one year of study on classic guitar with Nicholas Goluses, plus one year on either lute or another historical plucked instrument (Baroque guitar, Romantic guitar) with Paul O’Dette. The degree would require a recital on one instrument in the first year, and on the other in the second year (similar to the MM in Woodwind Doubling).

RATIONALE:
This program is ideal for Eastman due to our unique strengths. Prof. Goluses's guitar studio is recognized as one of the most successful in the world. The opportunity to work with Prof. Paul O’Dette in addition will be irresistible to guitarists.

There are no other programs that we know of anywhere in the world that are officially offering this program. We imagine that the profile of guitarists that would be attracted to this program would be the quintessential Eastman student—strong both technically as well as intellectually curious and historically informed.

No additional faculty or courses will be required to put this program in place. We would anticipate the first year to start with Classic Guitar major lessons and secondary lessons on Romantic Guitar, Baroque Guitar, or Lute depending on the student’s area of individual focus. The second year would emphasize major lessons on a historical plucked instrument (after a first year of secondary lessons on that instrument to get the student up to speed). The customized curriculum would be tailored to the profile of each student, especially with regard to music history offerings, while meeting the degree requirements for our MM degree. Two semesters of performance practice will complement study of the historical plucked instrument.

Matthew Ardizzone has offered to provide advertising in Soundboard (GFA Quarterly) to get the word out about our new program. We anticipate admitting our first students in September 2018, after completing the necessary accreditation process.

Submitted jointly by Nicolas Goluses and Paul O’Dette