

# Early Romantic Guitar Recordings and Artists

The following are the editor's pick for best CD recordings and artists of Early Romantic 19th Century guitar, covering classical guitar music from about 1775-1860. CD's which contain pieces outside this time frame and style are generally excluded, unless the recording includes ground-breaking, rarely recorded important pieces. Recordings on period instruments or replicas are preferred. The selections here represent the editor's personal opinion for recommended CD's in this style.

If you have a CD to recommend, please send the editor your review in the format the others are listed, and it will be considered. If you are a vendor or artist with a CD for sale, send the editor a free copy to evaluate. The editor reserves the right to decide, based exclusively on personal taste, which ones to list and exclude.

A lot of the Naxos CD's are listed because at \$5-\$8 per CD, they are affordable for personal collection, and they are basing their pricing on actual cost, rather than an arbitrarily inflated cost. The sound quality and artistry are the highest standards available. Artists include top tier guitarists, many of whom have won the GFA or other prestigious competitions, such as Jeffrey McFadden, Adam Holzman, Jason Vieaux, etc.. - all under the artistic direction of Norbert Kraft, who is himself a top concert guitarist.

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## Newest CD Review

**Fernando Sor - Minuets - Agustín Maruri** It is an interesting and effective concept to feature on one disk all of Sor's Minuets (complete except for one theme & variation work which isn't really a strict minuet, and some duplicated opus #'s). These pieces are charming miniatures, 35 pieces in all, between 1 and 3 minutes in length. Some of the minuets are gems indeed and familiar to most classical guitarists. It is also interesting to note that many of the minuets date to Sor's early period in Spain in the classical period and style. The instrument used for this recording is especially noteworthy: a Lacote 1840 guitar, in pristine condition and restored by Ignacio Rozas. The instrument sounds clear, sweet, and robust - but different from today's classical guitars - more like the instruments used in Sor's day - and indeed typical of the guitar Sor played later in his career. Maruri took great care in assuring the note value corrections were done properly, researching the material, and is adept on this CD at bringing out the top voice over the harmony - especially important on Sor with 2-4 part writing.