

***For Immediate Release***

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**GRAMMY-NOMINATED GUITARIST MANUEL BARRUECO JOINS MAESTRO ANDREW SEWELL AND THE WISCONSIN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA FOR MASTERWORKS III**

**The Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra** (WCO), led by Maestro Andrew Sewell, will continue its 2007-2008 *Masterworks* series with Grammy-nominated Manuel Barrueco, guitar, as the guest artist for the concert on Friday, February 22.

Manuel Barrueco is internationally recognized as one of the most important guitarists of our time. His unique artistry has been continually described as that of a superb instrumentalist and a superior and elegant musician, possessing a seductive sound and uncommon lyrical gifts.

His career has been dedicated to bringing the guitar to the main musical centers of the world. During three decades of concertizing, he has performed across the United States from the New World Symphony in Miami to the Seattle Symphony, and from the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic to New York's Lincoln Center. He has appeared with such prestigious orchestras as the Philadelphia Orchestra and with the Boston Symphony under the direction of Seiji Ozawa, in the American Premiere of Toru's Takemitsu's *To the Edge of Dream*. In addition, he appears regularly with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and with San Francisco Performances.

His international tours have taken him to some of the most important musical centers in the world. Highlights include the Royal Albert Hall in London, Musikverein in Vienna, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Philharmonie in Berlin, Teatro Real in Madrid, and Palau de la Musica in Barcelona. In Asia he has completed close to a dozen tours of Japan and made repeated appearances in Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Barrueco's tours of Latin America have included performances in Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Puerto Rico. He has also performed as a guest soloist with other international orchestras such as the Russian State Symphony, Helsinki Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, NHK Symphony, New Japan Philharmonic, Auckland Symphony in New Zealand, and the radio symphonies of Munich and Frankfurt.

Manuel Barrueco began playing the guitar at the age of eight, and he attended the Esteban Salas Conservatory in his native Cuba. He immigrated with his family to the United States in 1967, as political refugees. Later, he completed his advanced studies at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, where he now shares his love for music with a small number of exceptionally gifted young guitarists from all over the world.

**Concert tickets** are \$19, \$35, \$55, and \$62, with discounts for seniors, students and youth. To purchase single tickets for this and other WCO concerts, contact the Overture Center Box Office at 608-258-4141 or visit [www.overturecenter.com](http://www.overturecenter.com).

A **pre-concert dinner and talk** will be held in Overture Center's Wisconsin Studio before the concert and will be hosted by public radio personality Jim Fleming. Attendees will have an opportunity to learn more about the evening's program from Maestro Sewell. The dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. and tickets are \$32 for adults and \$15 for youth. Reservations may be made by contacting the WCO at (608) 257-0638 before Monday, February 11, 2008.

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