

Kevin Kastning & Balázs Major: *Kismaros*

release date: July 24, 2018 on Greydisc Records



Kevin Kastning attended Berklee College of Music in Boston, and has studied privately with guitar legend Pat Metheny. Kevin has composed over 200 works for various solo and chamber group instrumentations. Kevin has recorded various albums with Alex de Grassi, Michael Manring, Mark Wingfield, Carl Clements, Sandor Szabo, and others.



Kevin is the inventor of the **36-string Double Contraguitar** (see photo at right), **30-string Contra-Alto guitar** featured on this album. Kevin is also an artist endorser for multiple instrument and recording equipment companies worldwide, and resides in Massachusetts.

PRESS

- ❖ *Otherworld*, Kevin's 2015 solo album, was the No.1 album in the world on the iTunes Classical charts for late September 2015.
- ❖ "Kevin Kastning is a revered guitarist and celebrated acoustic guitar wizard." - *JazzTimes Magazine*
- ❖ "Kevin Kastning earns his spurs once again as the reigning modern guitarist in the country." - *Midwest Record Magazine*
- ❖ "Kastning is a pioneer in modern acoustic guitar composition." - *Yankee Magazine*
- ❖ "Kevin Kastning is the new figure of the American guitar scene; it is not an exaggeration that he is the most modern guitarist now in the US." - *Gondola Magazine* (Hungary)
- ❖ "Kevin is an amazing player; completely original." - Dominic Miller (guitarist with Sting)
- ❖ "Kevin Kastning keeps expanding as a guitar phenomenon...." - *AcousticMusic.com*
- ❖ *Watercolor Sky*, Kevin's 2014 release with Carl Clements: 2014 Album of the Year (*AcousticMusic.com*)
- ❖ *Even this late it happens*, Kevin's 2017 album with Carl Clements, is named as one of the best albums of 2017 by *All About Jazz* magazine.



Balázs Major is a percussionist and drummer, appearing on dozens of albums in Europe and the US. In 2007, his first solo drum concert was released on DVD to great European critical acclaim. He is one of the most respected and in-demand percussionists in his home country of Hungary. Balázs brings a unique artistry of sensitivity and creativity to each project, as can be heard on *Kismaros*. Balázs currently resides in Vac, Hungary.

THE STORY

Though they have toured together and recorded two previous trio albums, *Kismaros* is the first duo record by Kevin Kastning and Balázs Major. It was recorded during Kevin's 2018 European tour. The album was recorded in a single day on-location in the concert hall in Kismaros, Hungary on 15 May 2018. The duo compositions on the album are not presented as guitar with percussion accompaniment; rather both instruments (30-string Contra-Alto guitar, and world percussion) are presented as compositional equals. Each composition is an entirely new environment of 30 strings, world percussion, and cymbals.

ARTIST: Kevin Kastning & Balázs Major

ALBUM: *Kismaros*

RELEASE DATE: July 24, 2018

LABEL: Greydisc **CATALOG #:** GDR3542

GENRE: Classical, Acoustic, Jazz, New Age, Ambient, Avant-garde, World

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