



Christopher Rude - Guitar Instructor

Originally from St. Paul, Minnesota, Christopher Rude is one of the area's most experienced guitar instructors. In 1990, after four years of traveling and studying music in Europe, Christopher returned to the U.S. and started a small private studio in Winter Park, Colorado. After a few years, he moved to the La Crosse area to study guitar at the University of Wisconsin under Dr. Richard Pinnell. Upon Cum Laude completion of his Bachelor's degree in Guitar Performance, he was invited to pursue a Master's degree at the Lamont School of Music in Denver, where he was awarded multiple scholarships and completed two teaching assistantships under world-renowned maestro Ricardo Iznaola.

In addition to performing in many solo and ensemble concerts and recitals, Christopher has entertained professionally for many years. Throughout the 1990's, he collaborated with local artists in La Crosse, providing vocals and guitar for rock and acoustic ensembles. At the same time, the classical guitarist began refining his craft as resident artist, performing weekly in Picasso's Cafe at the Sampson Art Gallery. His seasoning continued at the Inverness Hotel and Resort in Denver, where he was engaged to perform every night for affluent guests of the Resort's "Four Diamond" marquee restaurant, the Swan. Over the years, Christopher has also been in demand at weddings, receptions, celebrations, corporate events, fund-raisers and wine tasting events, consistently drawing equal praise for both his professional demeanor and his polished style.

As a student of the classical guitar, Christopher has participated in and attended lessons, performances and master classes offered by a long list of world-class

performing artists including Christopher Parkening, Manuel Barrueco, Paul Galbraith, Sergio and Odair Assad, Sharon Isbin, Javier Calderon, Masakazu Ito, Makita Kushkin, Jonathan Leathwood, Nuccio D'Angelo, Lorenzo Micheli and John Feeley. The influences of these masters on Christopher's development as a skilled and refined artist and teacher are undeniable.

Above and beyond his training as a classical guitarist, Christopher has also earned substantial experience as a public school teacher in two subjects. He served for five years as full-time Choir Director and general music teacher for two inner city schools in the Denver area, receiving his Colorado K12 Music teaching certification from the Metropolitan State College of Denver in 2007. Utilizing yet another area of his expertise, Christopher currently teaches Spanish full-time at Melrose-Mindoro High School in Melrose, Wisconsin. He pursuit of permanent Wisconsin licensure in both K12 Vocal Music and K12 Spanish is nearly complete.

Having recently relocated to the Coulee Region, Christopher Rude brings with him a depth and breadth of teaching experience rarely combined in one individual. Over nearly 20 years, he has perfected his studio techniques, producing hundreds of skilled guitarists along the way. His approach to studio teaching carefully balances the pursuit of creative discovery with the rigors of musicianship. The key to his success is designing lessons specifically personalized and differentiated for the individual needs and desires of each student. If you are looking for an experienced, skilled and dedicated professional guitar teacher for yourself or your children, look no further.