

VENTURA COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS



LAUREL PROJECT

**FACULTY & GUEST ARTIST
CONCERT SERIES**

**MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
12:00 PM**

**Anastasia Malliaras
SOPRANO**

**Taso Comanescu
GUITAR**



Ventura
COLLEGE

**VC PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER**
YUNKER AUDITORIUM
4700 LOMA VISTA RD
VENTURA, CA 93003

THE LAUREL PROJECT

DUO APOLLON

Anastasia Malliaras, soprano

Taso Comanescu, guitar

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VENTURA COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
HELEN YUNKER AUDITORIUM

"Lascia ch'io pianga" from *Rinaldo*.....G.F. Handel
"Tornami a vagheggiar" from *Alcina* (1685-1759)

"Ave Maria".....Charles Gounod / J.S. Bach
(1818-1893) / (1685-1750)

"La Maja de Goya" from *Coleccion de Tonadillas*.....Enrique Granados
"Una Limosna por El Amor de Dios" (1867-1916)

Greek Folk Songs.....Traditional
"Kaneis Edo Den Tragouda"
"Mak Poule"
"Argosvineis Moni"
"Tzivaeri"

Selections from *7 Canciones Populares españolas*.....Manuel de Falla
"El paño moruno" (1876-1946)
"Nana"
"Polo"

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Known for her warm and bright timbre, Greek-American soprano **Anastasia Malliaras** has performed leading roles in opera houses across the country. This spring, Anastasia will debut with Opera Mississippi as Pamina in *The Magic Flute*. She has performed with Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Central City Opera and the iSing! International Festival. She has achieved recognition in the Loren L. Zachary Competition, the Irene Dalis Vocal Competition, and the MET Opera National Council Auditions. She has also been featured as the soprano soloist in *Messiah* with the Dream Orchestra of Los Angeles and has performed with the Los Angeles Symphony. A USC graduate, Anastasia is also the co-founder of Duo Apollon, whose debut album, *Folksongs*, is available from Navona Records. www.anastasiamalliaras.com



American guitarist **Taso Comanescu** is renowned for his nuanced performances and diverse repertoire. An in-demand soloist, ensemble artist, and instructor, Comanescu has toured globally, performing across the United States, Europe, and Asia. In the 2023-2024 season, he headlined a solo recital at the Los Angeles Guitar Festival with Pepe Romero, Antonio Rey, and Adam Del Monte. His debut album, *Epitaphios*, features music from around the world, while his second album, *Renaissance | Baroque*, offers transcriptions for lute, vihuela, theorbo, and baroque guitar. Taso has also collaborated with tenor Charles Castronovo. He holds degrees from Pepperdine University under Christopher Parkening and the University of Southern California under Scott Tennant. Taso has been a Pepperdine music faculty member since 2011. Additionally, he performs with the Greek Rebetiko Trio and the rock band Blind Sparrow.

[@tasocomanescu](https://www.instagram.com/tasocomanescu) | www.TasoGuitar.com

SPECIAL THANKS

Anthony Mansueto
Brent Wilson
Alex Aguirre
Gabriel Aragon
Jamie Birkett
Brian Hotchkin
David Howarth
Alanm Magana Gonzalez
Sandy Mason
Janeene Nagaoka
Tyson Sauthoff
Laura Solis
Vanessa Stotler
Jeanne Tanner

SUPPORT

If you would like to help support programs like these, please consider making a donation to the VC Foundation Music Fund. Gifts in any amount are a vital part of promoting Ventura's homegrown talent. You can donate online, or via text message (text "VCMusic" to 41444).



VENTURA COLLEGE
PERFORMING ARTS

Ventura College's Department of Performing Arts prepares students to pursue careers in music, theatre, and dance. Students have the opportunity to study with a highly qualified and recognized faculty in a variety of ensembles including Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Music Ensembles, College Chorus and Singers, VC Musical Theatre & Opera, Jazz Band, and VC Theatre.

For more information, visit our website:
www.venturacollege.edu/performing-arts

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Mon, Oct 7, 12:00 pm

Laurel Project presents: Fortuna Wind Quintet

Oct 10–13, Thurs/Fri at 7:30pm & Sat/Sun at 3pm
"Sunday in the Park with George"

VC Music Theatre (Brent Wilson, director)

Sat, Oct 26, 3:00pm

VC Orchestra (Ashley Walters, conductor)

Sun, Oct 27, 3:00pm

**VC Chamber Music (Ovanes Arakelyan
& Nick Akdag, directors)**

Thu, Nov 7–Nov 10, 7:30pm (3pm on Nov-10)
"The Miraculous Journey of Edwin Tulane"
VC Theatre Arts (Nathan Cole, director)

Mon, Nov 12, 12:00pm

Laurel Project (Artists TBA)