



Biography

Alfredo Muro was born in Lima, Peru. At the age of ten, he began teaching himself to play the guitar and he progressed rapidly. He was soon awarded a scholarship to study with **Maestro Jose Pepe Torres** at his Guitar Academy.

At age thirteen, Mr. Muro took the top prize in a nationally televised competition, featuring musicians from more than one hundred schools. In 1971, he won the year-long TV program, "Trampoline to Fame".

Mr. Muro continued his studies with two of the greatest Peruvian guitar masters, **Octavio Ticona** and **Carlos Hayre**, gaining mastery of harmonic theory and the rich variety of Peruvian folklore. After four years of intense studies he moved to the United States to broaden his musical skills studying with great masters Manuel Lopez Ramos, Frank Costa and John Doan.

Mr. Muro had the honor of representing Peru at the 16th Annual International Guitar Festival -2005 in Lima and for the second time at the 5th Annual International Guitar Festival-2007 in Arequipa. These juried events featured artists from 13 countries, including Spain, Germany, Sweden, the United States, Argentina and Japan.

In the year of 2008, Mr. Muro was invited to participate at the Entre Cuerdas International Guitar Festival in Chile and at the First International Guitar Festival in Junin de los Andes in Argentina.

While on tour in Europe, Mr. Muro played with his group Oro Del Peru for the late **Pope John Paul the Second** at a "Special Audience" at the Vatican.

Over the years he has been invited to participate in many international guitar seminars, and has been selected for Master Classes with some of the World's premier guitarists, such as **Manuel Lopez Ramos** (Argentina), **Carlos Barbosa-Lima** (Brazil) and **Alfredo Escande** (Uruguay). In addition, Mr. Muro has appeared on numerous recordings, stage, radio, and television programs.

Mr. Muro has presented concerts in the Italy, Canada, Brazil, Argentina and Peru, and in many venues throughout the United States. In 2007, he had the privilege to be the featured artist at the **Kennedy Center for the Millennium Concert Series** in Washington D.C. and at **Benaroya Hall** in Seattle.

Mr. Muro is not only an accomplished soloist, but is also an arranger and composer. His work as an accompanist has also won critical acclaim. In 1999, Mr. Muro released a solo CD, "Journey Through The Strings" to rave reviews, with the honor of having international artist Jose Feliciano endorse the CD. Mr. Muro has released four other CD's: "The Musical Sea", "Alfredo Muro and Friends Live at St. Gertrude Monastery", "Alma Brasileira" and his latest solo guitar works "Alma Brasileira, Volume 2". Another important project in progress is the publication of his transcriptions of selected Brazilian solo guitar works and his new CD "Latin Impressions" to be released March 2009. His **Repertoire** ranges from classical music to Latin American and Spanish music, and from the Beatles, Baden Powell and Jobim, to Bach and Handel. Mr. Muro has a special love of Brazilian music. He has studied and mastered the intricate styles of Choro, Samba, Frevo, Bossa Nova and Afro-samba and interprets many South American composers such as **Villa-Lobos**, **Barrios** and **Lauro** with aplomb.

In March of 2005, Mr. Muro was selected for the **Jack Rosenberg Memorial, Musician of the Month Award**, by the **Jazz Society of Oregon** in their Jazzscene magazine. The Centinela Newspaper in Portland, Oregon, featured Mr. Muro as the "**Hispanic of the Month**". The Hispanic Yellow Pages Directory introduced him as the "**Pride of the Hispanic Community**".

Mr. Muro and his wife reside in Portland, Oregon.



Venues

Italy

Special Audience for the Pope John Paul II at the Vatican
City Hall of Grotta Ferrata
Casa Blasi, Frascati

Peru

ICPNA, Cuzco
ICPNA, Arequipa
ICPNA, Lima
International Guitar Festival, Lima
San Agustin University, Arequipa
International Guitar Festival, Arequipa

United States

Kaul Auditorium, Reed College, Portland, Oregon
Jazz at the Zoo, Portland, Oregon
Art Museum, Portland, Oregon
Portland Jazz Festival, Portland, Oregon
Bite Festival, Portland, Oregon
Old Church Jazz Festival, Portland, Oregon
Marylhurst University, West Linn, Oregon
Performing Arts Center, PCC, Sylvania Campus, Portland, Oregon
Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon
Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
Lewis & Clark College, Portland Oregon
Chemeketa Community College, Salem, Oregon
Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon
Cinco de Mayo Festival, Portland, Oregon
Art Museum, Seattle, Washington
St. Gertrude Monastery, Cottonwood, Idaho
La Pena Cultural Center, Berkeley, California
Organization of American States, Washington, DC
Portland Guitar Society Festival, Portland, Oregon
Benaroya Hall, Seattle, Washington
Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
Brazilian-American Cultural Institute, Washington, DC
Colorado Springs Guitar Society, Colorado
Canon Rose Acoustic Society, Canon City, Colorado
Juan de Fuca Festival of the Arts, Port Angeles, Washington



Venues

Brazil

Toca do Vinicius Cultural Center, Ipanema
Clube do Choro de Brasilia
Allianca Francesa, Copacabana

Chile

Entre Cuerdas International Guitar Festival, Santiago
Conservatory of Music-Universidad Austral, Valdivia

Argentina

First International Guitar Festival, Junin de los Andes



Composers

Sor * Carcassi * Albinoni

J.S. Bach * Handel * Tarrega * Rodrigo

Albeniz * Granados * Moreno Torroba

De Falla * Villa-Lobos * Barrios * Lauro

Morel * Nazareth * Pernambuco

Bonfa * Powell * Nogueira * Piazzola

Myers * Lecuona * Brouwer

Thelonius Monk * Jobim



Critical Acclaim

"This charismatic guitarist played classical and South American music with a distinct passion for Brazilian music. His love for, and understanding of Brazilian music was quite evident in the impressive remainder of the program. Alfredo's playing was brilliant and exciting."

*Jim Bosse, Founder and President of the
Southern Colorado Guitar Society - November 2007*

"Alfredo Muro proves there are no frontiers between classical and pop music. He glides, in a very elegant way, between the two types, from Villa Lobos, Prelude #3 to Tom Jobim, "Eu seu que vou te amar", "I know I will love you", from Joao Pernambuco, "Sons de Carrilhoes", "Sounds of Chimes", to Luiz Bonfá, "Manha de Carnaval", "Morning of Carnaval". I am honored he included two of my songs on his Alma Brasileira (Brazilian Soul volume 2), and I listen to them with as much delight as I listen to the other songs. Congratulations, Alfredo, for your good taste, technique and sensibility".

Carlos Lyra- October 2006

Alfredo Muro - The percussive rhythms of the samba and bossa nova bound from Alfredo Muro's guitar. Join us as we take a musical journey to South America with a guitar virtuoso living right here in Portland.

OPB ArtBeat - January 2006

A scholar of Latin American styles, an adept practitioner of the classical repertoire for Spanish guitar and a master of Afro-Peruvian and Afro-Cuban rhythms, Muro has in recent years dedicated himself to Brazilian music. He plays all styles with skill and feeling, though; his attack precise and dramatic, his touch elegant, the effect both sophisticated and soulful. To play the music of Brazil "without an accent," as they say, requires Muro to know the classical tradition and other modern influences as well as the country's folkloric styles. That range allows him to move seamlessly from the compositions of Heitor Villa Lobos to the percussive sambas of Baden Powell, from the lyrical beauty of bossa nova to the energetic, undulating rhythm of early 20th-century choro style. That crossover ability is founded as much on rhythmic feel as musical knowledge.

The Oregonian- October 2006

Alfredo Muro has been described as a Latin virtuoso, but his musical styles and tastes are far more versatile, ranging from standard classical repertoire to jazz. His forte is South American music in its many guises: folk, jazz, Brazilian, classical. Whatever the style, it's the emotional content of his music that carries the day.

Portland Guitar Society - Summer 2006

Alma Brasileira, Volume II, Alfredo Muro, guitar. Muro is one of Portland's finest musicians, especially as it pertains to Latin jazz. Here, he brings his vibrant sound out with a beautiful Latin sampler - ranging from sambas, waltzes, and other Brazilian styles - his nylon-stringed guitar at the forefront. Muro has always been a wonderful solo artist, and he gives himself plenty of room to show his technique and his innate sense of melody without accompaniment, as on the lovely ballad, "Minha Namorada," where he begins with a lengthy guitar solo before the rhythm comes in. The Peruvian guitarist shows his range throughout this disc, the second of four dedicated to "Brazilian Soul." From lush lullabies ("Abismo Das Rosas") to solo rhythmic ("Lamentos do Morro"), to pensive takes on bossa nova ("Manha de Carnaval"), Muro runs the gamut of South American compositional favorites. Much time is focused on Muro's solo pieces, but the strength of his quartet, with Carlton Jackson on drums, Brian Healey on bass, and Dave Fischer on percussion, gives even more life and depth to the songs. Muro is a Latin treasure in the Northwest and this disc shows his strengths and range.

Jazzscene - CD review- December 2006



Critical Acclaim

"Alma Brasileira" the first in a planned series of four discs, presents a range of styles and moods, from the lyrical beauty of the early bossa nova, "Gente Humilde", to hard-edged Afro-sambas. Muro's mastery of and passion for the music rings in every note. Muro illustrates on "Choro Tipico," with its undulating rhythm and catchy melody that the guitarist articulates with precision and expressive timing. The best Brazilian popular music also requires the ability to improvise, and Muro pounces on that aspect of Powell's "Afro-Brazilian Suite," where improvised lines ride forceful polyrhythms over dark minor chords. This new CD is just a snapshot of the Brazilian music Muro plans to present. It's refreshing and vital. Bring us more.

*Lynn Darroch. Oregonian A&E,
October 28, 2005*

Appreciated in the entire world, the Brazilian music owes its prestige not only to its creators, but to the musicians that love Brazilian music and lend it their talent. This is the case of Alfredo Muro, a fabulous Peruvian instrumentalist that, in this cd, offers us a refined brazilianism, with no accent. After listening to "Alma Brasileira" (Brazilian Soul), we are left with a desire to give him a standing ovation, to hug him, and to tell him in his ear: "Thank you very much".

Carlos Alberto Afonso - 2005

"Sometimes there can be too much of a good thing. Guitar virtuoso Alfredo Muro's concert dubbed "three Hundred Years of Guitar Music" more than satisfied that definition: Starting at 8 pm., the music didn't let up 'til around 10:30, and it may have continued after I absolutely had to leave the Rose City Park United Church. That said, if your derriere had to suffer, at least your ears were content, because Muro, peruvian born former child prodigy, is a spectacular technician. His style is one of being intriguingly enigmatic without any loss of clarity, with lots of well-spun inner voices, well-defined outer ones, and a wild palette of tonal and textural colors.

Willamette Week (Grant Menzies) - 2003

"World-style guitar: Guitarist Alfredo Muro exhibits his intricate technique and original compositions, which have taken him all over the globe. Muro gave up a law practice in Lima, Peru, and moved to the Pacific Northwest to pursue a life of music –an excellent choice, as anyone who has heard his fluid, impassioned guitar style will affirm."

The Oregonian - 2001

"The music of Alfredo Muro elevates the guitar to a higher plane than most I've had an opportunity to hear. It is moody and melodic. It is richly eloquent as it tells the story of this instrument that is all –too- often hidden in the background in today's music. This collection in particular, caresses our sense of musicality and inspires the beauty that is still very much a part of this world, despite our hectic life style and mounting responsibilities. I so enjoy listening to Alfredo's guitar work as it brings me to that place that only really inspiring music can bring one. And when you realize that you've listened to the last piece on this CD, you want to hear it all again. And again. It feels good. Well done, my friend."

Jose Feliciano - 1999

"He is a talented guitarist (Muro's)...sensitive soul vibrates through the strings of his guitar. He will go very far in the arts."

Manuel Lopez Ramos - 1990

"Hispanic of the Month".
The Centinela Newspaper - 2005

"The Pride of the Hispanic Community."
Hispanic Yellow Pages - 2005



Repertoire

Classical

Baroque

Spanish

South American Classical

Latin Jazz

Mainstream Jazz

Brazilian

**Samba, Bossa Nova, Cancao
Afro-samba, Maxixe, Frevo**

South American Folklore

Chamber Music