



MINNEAPOLIS GUITAR QUARTET

BENJAMIN KUNKEL

Born in Mankato, Minnesota, Benjamin Kunkel has the distinction of being the newest member—and the first native Minnesotan—of the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet. Benjamin is an active solo and chamber musician, appearing in concert across the United States, frequently collaborating with the acclaimed Minneapolis-based choral group, The Mirandola Ensemble. Recently, he has been featured with the Minnesota Guitar Society, Cleveland Classical Guitar Society, Cleveland Composers Guild, Greater Cleveland Flute Society, Heights Arts, and Chamber Music Midwest.

Benjamin is a passionate advocate of new music and works closely with composers to premiere their works and expand the classical guitar's repertoire. Benjamin earned his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Minnesota and his Master of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music, studying with renowned guitarists Jeffrey Van and Jason Vieaux, respectively. At CIM, he twice was awarded the Rosalia Ablan Memorial Prize in Guitar. A dedicated teacher, he is currently on the faculty of Century College and St. Joseph's School of Music.