

BIO – Dr. Jim Dickson

Dr. Jim Dickson is the classical guitar instructor at the University of Prince Edward Island. Jim has over 40 years of experience as a classical guitar performer, teacher, and composer. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in guitar performance from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the University of South Carolina. He has given solo concerts in the southeast and southwest United States and on Prince Edward Island. Jim has attended and performed in master classes with renowned guitarists Manuel Barrueco, Michael Lorimer, Jesus Silva, Manuel Lopez Ramos, Aaron Shearer, Hector Garcia, Alexandre LaGoya, and Andres Segovia.

Dr. Dickson is an accomplished composer, having written a wide variety of works including cantatas, orchestral works, numerous pieces for a wide variety of instruments, and a concerto for guitar and chamber orchestra. His orchestral work "The Practice Room" was premiered by the South Carolina Philharmonic in 1998. PEI's contemporary ensemble Eklektikos has commissioned two of his most recent works.

In addition to his classical guitar work, Dr. Dickson served with the Army Air Defense Center band in El Paso, Texas for three years. This experience gave Jim the opportunity to play jazz guitar and percussion in concert and marching bands. Dr. Dickson also plays the 5-string banjo and has toured regionally with bluegrass groups. Originally from North Carolina, Jim has lived in the maritimes for the past 23 years and can't imagine living anywhere else.