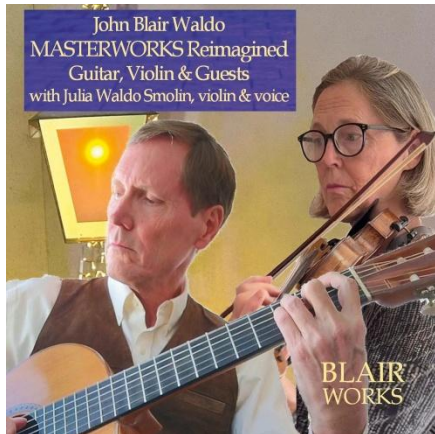


# Masterworks Reimagined – Guitar, Violin & Guests

*John Blair Waldo*



**For Immediate Release · May 15, 2026**

**Masterworks Reimagined – Guitar, Violin & Guests**

*John Blair Waldo*

**Label BLAIR WORKS - Formats Digital, CD, USB  
PRO ASCAP**

## *A historic first*

1. Prelude, BWV 1006 (Arr. Violin & Guitar) [feat. Julia Waldo Smolin] – J.S. Bach 6:06

Bach's Prelude from Partita BWV 1006 performed by guitar and violin **in unison**. “No publicly indexed recording shows the *Prelude, BWV 1006* performed by **violin and guitar in unison**” (Copilot AI, 5/2/2026).

- [1. Prelude, BWV 1006 \(Arr. Violin & Guitar\) \[feat. Julia Waldo Smolin\] – J.S. Bach 6:06](#)

*Masterworks Reimagined – Guitar, Violin & Guests* is a collection of intimate, modern chamber re-imaginings shaped with clarity, warmth, and a deep respect for the original scores. The program spans Bach, Beethoven, Schubert, Tárrega, and Handel, alongside an original work, *Destiny*. The instrumentation – from violin and guitar to voice, cello, positive organ, and organ pedal – creates a fresh palette that highlights the emotional core of each piece. The album explores how familiar masterpieces transform when voiced through guitar, violin, voice, cello, and organ colors. Each arrangement by John Blair Waldo reveals new counter-lines, textures, and expressive possibilities, offering a fresh perspective on timeless repertoire while preserving the emotional core that has made these works endure. The result is a program that feels both historically grounded and quietly innovative, inviting listeners into a space of reflection, lyricism, and intimate musical dialogue.

## Masterworks Reimagined – Guitar, Violin & Guests

### Featured Collaborators



#### **Julia Waldo Smolin - Violin & Voice**

Julia Waldo Smolin performs extensively in multiple genres. A classical violinist, she has been featured symphonically with not only violin, but voice as well. She performs with orchestra in San Francisco, and appears regularly with the popular ensemble Elixr at Caffe Trieste. Julia is the sister of John Blair Waldo and is featured with both violin and voice on Masterworks Reimagined.



#### **Mark Roark Chartier - Positive Organ**

Mark Roark Chartier has been a frequent collaborator with John Blair Waldo. Their landmark release, *Positively Beautiful* with guitar and positive organ showcases Chartier's mastery of not only performance and composition, but he also literally built the Positive Organ featured on the release. Waldo and Chartier feature here a remastering of their bestselling *Pathétique*, by Beethoven.



#### **Catherine Moilanen - Cello**

Catherine Moilanen is a versatile orchestral performer and teaches stringed instruments in her active teaching studio. She is not only a string player, but a worship music director and accompanist as well. She is also featured on with cello on John Blair Waldo's album of his guitar originals, *Suite Gentle Memories*. Catherine performs here on cello with works by Bach and Handel.

## **John Blair Waldo Classical Guitarist**

Based in the Michigan Upper Peninsula, John Waldo is an experienced professional who has performed for scores of concerts and events. His performances have been called "exquisite" "sublime," "fabulous," and "impeccable."

John Waldo has performed with the Springfield Symphony on Public Radio of the Ozarks, as soloist with the Stanton Strings of Springfield, Missouri, and the Trinity Recorder Consort of Madison, Wisconsin. He has made multiple appearances on network-affiliated television and performed live "In the Spotlight" on Wisconsin Public Radio.

Waldo's collaborative recording, *Positively Beautiful – positive organ and classical guitar*, has been broadcast on classical music stations throughout North America. He is a member of the Grammy Academy® and the Guitar Foundation of America. He studied with Peter Lingen, and Javier Calderon while earning his MBA at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Waldo draws inspiration from a wide range of artists, from Andres Segovia to Sharon Isbin and David Russell.

### *Press & Reviews*

"Mr. Waldo's musical performance was technically perfect and created an aura of peace and tranquility throughout our audience." – *Nature and the Arts* series, Springfield Conservation Nature Center

"A delightful recording of rare tone colors and repertoire..." – *ClassiQuest*

"I do love your CD & we are featuring it..., very easy to listen to..., it rewards careful listening very well." – WQUB Radio, Quincy, Illinois

Pre-releases:



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1. Prelude, BWV 1006 (Arr. Violin & Guitar) [feat. Julia Waldo Smolin] – J.S. Bach 6:06

Bach's Prelude from Partita BWV 1006 performed by guitar and violin recorded **in unison!** “No publicly indexed recording shows the *Prelude, BWV 1006* performed by violin and guitar in unison” (Copilot AI, 5/2/2026). A bold

reimagining of masterworks for guitar, violin, cello, and organ, blending historical reverence with modern intimacy.

[1. Prelude, BWV 1006 \(Arr. Violin & Guitar\) \[feat. Julia Waldo Smolin\] – J.S. Bach 6:06](#)



2. Funeral March for the Death of a Hero (Arr. Voice & Guitar) [feat. Julia Waldo Smolin] - Beethoven

Beethoven's rarely heard miniature becomes a poignant dialogue between voice and guitar. The vocal obbligato line adds expressive weight, allowing the music's solemn dignity to unfold with exquisite grandeur.

[2. Funeral March for the Death of a Hero \(Arr. Voice & Guitar\) \[feat. Julia Waldo Smolin\] – Ludwig van Beethoven](#)

**Hi-Res Assets**

Available at [JohnWaldo.com/Press](http://JohnWaldo.com/Press)

*Video · Destiny by John Blair Waldo*

**Performance Clip**

[Destiny - Original work by John Blair Waldo](#)



**Companion Release**

**Late May / Early June 2026**

**Relaxation Renditions Multi-Album**

**USB-A&C Collector's Edition**

A premium collector's USB companion release. Pre-order details and drop date to be announced in May 2026.

**Press Contact & Media Inquiries**

**Name:** John Blair Waldo **Email:** [jwaldo3@gmail.com](mailto:jwaldo3@gmail.com) **Phone:** (417) 838-7557

**Sync & Licensing**

**Email:** [jwaldo3@gmail.com](mailto:jwaldo3@gmail.com) **PRO:** ASCAP **Publisher:** John Waldo