

CAMI Columbia Artists Management Inc.

1790 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 **MARK ALPERT**, Vice President
Tel: (212) 841-9568 Fax: (212) 841-9552 Email: malpert@cami.com

SHARON ISBIN

Acclaimed for her extraordinary lyricism, technique and versatility, GRAMMY Award winner Sharon Isbin has been hailed as "the pre-eminent guitarist of our time." Winner of the Madrid, Toronto, and Munich Competitions, and *Guitar Player's* "Best Classical Guitarist" award, Ms. Isbin gives sold-out performances throughout the world in the greatest halls including New York's Carnegie and Avery Fisher Halls, Boston's Symphony Hall, Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, London's Barbican and Wigmore Halls, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Vienna's Musikverein, Paris' Châtelet, Munich's Herkulessaal, and Madrid's Teatro Real. She has served as Artistic Director/Soloist of festivals she created for Carnegie Hall and New York's 92nd Street Y, and the acclaimed national radio series *Guitarjam*. A frequent guest on NPR's *All Things Considered* and Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion*, she has been profiled on *CBS Sunday* and A&E television, and was a featured guest on Showtime Television's hit series *The L Word*. On September 11, 2002, Ms. Isbin performed at Ground Zero for the internationally televised memorial. She is the featured soloist in the soundtrack of Martin Scorsese's Academy Award winning film, *The Departed*. She has been profiled in periodicals from *People* to *Elle*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and the *New York Times*, as well as on the cover of more than 40 magazines.

Ms. Isbin's catalogue includes over 25 recordings, from Baroque, Spanish/Latin and 20th Century to crossover and jazz-fusion. Recently signed to SONY Masterworks as an exclusive recording artist, her debut CD *Journey to the New World* features Joan Baez in songs, and Mark O'Connor in the premiere of his suite for violin and guitar. Ranked as the #1 bestselling classical CD on Amazon.com, it is a fixture on the top *Billboard* charts. Her *Dreams of a World* soared onto top classical *Billboard* charts, edging out *The 3 Tenors*, and earned her a 2001 GRAMMY, making her the first classical guitarist to receive the award in 28 years. Her recording of concerti written for her by Rouse and Tan Dun received a 2002 GRAMMY and Germany's Echo Klassik Award. She received a 2005 Latin GRAMMY nomination for "Best Classical Album" and a 2006 GLAAD Award nomination for "Outstanding Music Artist" for her *Billboard* Top 10 Classical disc with the New York Philharmonic of Joaquin Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* and concerti by Manuel Ponce and Heitor Villa-Lobos. This marks the Philharmonic's first-ever recording with guitar, and follows their Avery Fisher Hall performances with Ms. Isbin as their first guitar soloist in 26 years. *Baroque Favorites* with the Zurich Chamber Orchestra remained on the *Billboard* Top 10 Classical Chart for 16 weeks, and her *Journey to the Amazon* with Brazilian percussionist Thiago de Mello and saxophonist Paul Winter received a 1999 nomination. She is featured on Howard Shore's 2008 GRAMMY nominated soundtrack CD for *The Departed*.

Other CDs include *Wayfaring Stranger* with mezzo Susanne Mentzer, and Aaron Kernis' *Double Concerto* with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO). Her eight best-selling titles for EMI/Virgin Classics include *J.S. Bach Complete Lute Suites* and concerti by Rodrigo which the composer praised as "magnificent." She performs on the GRAMMY Foundation's *Smart Symphonies* distributed to five million families.

Sharon Isbin has expanded the guitar repertoire with some of the finest new works of the century. Her *American Landscapes* CD with the SPCO features concerti written for her by Corigliano, Schwantner, and Foss. Others who have written for her include Tower, Diamond, Rorem, Kernis, Shore, and Brouwer. In 2003 she premiered Duarte's *Joan Baez Suite*, and in 2005 she premiered a duo by rock guitarist Steve Vai in their joint concert during her week of performances in Paris' Théâtre du Châtelet.

Ms. Isbin has appeared as soloist with over 160 orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, National Symphony, Baltimore, Detroit, Houston, Dallas, Pittsburgh, Minnesota, St. Louis, Nashville, New Jersey, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Phoenix, Utah, and Honolulu Symphonies. She has also appeared with the Zurich, Scottish and Lausanne Chamber Orchestras, the London Symphony, Orchestre National de France, BBC Scottish, Gulbenkian, Prague, Milan, Mexico City, Jerusalem, and Tokyo Symphonies. Festival appearances include Mostly Mozart, Aspen, Ravinia, Grant Park, Interlochen, Santa Fe, Mexico City, Bermuda, Hong Kong, Montreux, Strasbourg, Paris, Athens, Istanbul, Ravenna, Prague, and Budapest International Festivals.

Sharon Isbin began her studies at nine in Italy, and later studied with Andrés Segovia, Oscar Ghiglia, and Rosalyn Tureck. She received a B.A. and Masters from Yale, is the author of the *Classical Guitar Answer Book*, and directs guitar departments at the Aspen Music Festival and The Juilliard School.