

Michael Leopold holds both an undergraduate degree in music and a master's degree in historical plucked instruments from American Universities as well a degree in lute and theorbo from L'Istituto di Musica Antica of the Accademia Internazionale della Musica in Milan, Italy. Originally from Northern California and after living in Milan, Italy for 16 years and Canada for 5 years, he now resides in the United States. He has performed both as a soloist and as an accompanist throughout Europe, Australia, Japan, South America, Mexico, Canada and the United States.

Michael has played with a number of leading Italian early music groups, including Concerto Italiano, La Risonanza, La Venexiana and La Pietà de' Turchini and several American period-instrument ensembles. He has also collaborated with several orchestras and opera companies, including Orchestra Verdi di Milano, Opera Australia, San Francisco Opera, Barcelona Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Washington National Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Gulbenkian Música, Houston Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Charlotte Symphony, Nashville Symphony, Cincinnati Opera and Portland Opera. His performances in operas have been noted in various reviews, "Michael Leopold was a standout on theorbo, providing some of the most sensitive and heartfelt musical moments of the evening," (Kathryn Bacasmot, *Chicago Classical Music* 1 May 2012. *Teseo, Chicago Opera Theater*) and "High marks especially to the marvelous theorbo, lute and baroque guitar specialist, Michael Leopold, whose recitatives added dazzling color." (Harvey Steiman, *Seen and Heard International* 7 November 2011. *Xerxes, San Francisco Opera*). He can be heard in recordings on the Stradivarius, Glossa, Naïve, Linn, Avie, Centaur and Naxos labels.