Patrick Roux

Guitarist and composer
Professor of guitar, Conservatoire de musique du Québec in Gatineau, Canada
Music faculty member, University of Ottawa, Canada (1993–2026)
Faculty member, Domaine Forget International Music and Dance Academy, Charlevoix, Québec, Canada

Patrick Roux graduated from the Conservatoire de musique du Québec in Gatineau. A Canada Council for the Arts scholarship recipient, he continued his studies with David Russell, Manuel Barrueco and other leading musicians. He won the National Guitar Competition of Canada in 1989 and has received prizes in international competitions, including the Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition.

Alongside his career as a performer and teacher, Roux developed a deep commitment to composition. His works, published by Les Productions d'Oz, are performed around the world. A founding member of several ensembles, including the acclaimed Canadian Guitar Quartet, he has toured extensively in Canada and abroad. His ensemble recordings include Les Scènes de Quartiers, winner of the 2006 Trille Or Award for Best Instrumental Album. In 2017, he released his first solo album, devoted entirely to his own music.

A guest soloist with numerous orchestras and chamber ensembles, Roux has given the world premieres of many works, including his own concertos. He has appeared regularly on CBC/Radio-Canada and has performed for dignitaries including the Queen of Jordan and the Prime Minister of Canada. In 2025, he received the Classical Guitar Canada Hall of Fame Award for his contribution to the advancement of classical guitar in Canada and worldwide.

Patrick Roux teaches at the Conservatoire de musique de Gatineau and the Domaine Forget International Music and Dance Academy. He also taught at the University of Ottawa from 1993 to 2026. He is the founder and Artistic Director of the Guitar Alla Grande Festival.

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Patrick Roux was born in Marseille, France, in 1962 and moved to Canada in 1967. He began his musical studies at the Conservatoire de musique du Québec in Gatineau in 1979. Studying with Jean Vallières, he earned his Premier Prix diploma in 1984, awarded unanimously by the jury.

With a scholarship from the Canada Council for the Arts, he continued his studies with David Russell in London. He also attended masterclasses with Manuel Barrueco, Leo Brouwer, Hubert Käppel, Alexandre Lagoya and Roberto Aussel, among others.

Roux won First Prize at the National Guitar Competition of Canada in 1989 and Second Prize at the Montélimar International Guitar Duo Competition in France in 1992. In 1983, he was awarded Third Prize at the Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition, becoming the first Canadian guitarist to reach its finals.

In the early 1990s, composition became central to his work. The duo Les Deux Amis and the ensemble Contretemps/Go, founded in 1992, inspired a distinctive new repertoire, documented on the two albums that followed. Published by Les Productions d'Oz, his music is now performed internationally by leading artists.

A founding member of the Canadian Guitar Quartet, Roux performed with the ensemble for twelve years, touring Canada, the United States, South America and Europe. The quartet recorded three albums during this period, including Les Scènes de Quartiers, devoted to his music and winner of the 2006 Trille Or Award for Best Instrumental Album. His 2013 album Comme un tango brought together acclaimed international performers in a programme devoted entirely to his compositions.

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Roux also co-founded the G8 Guitar Octet, which has toured extensively in Europe and Canada. The octet released Between Two Continents in 2012 and, with the Orchestre symphonique de Gatineau, gave the world premiere of Roux's concerto for eight guitars and orchestra of the same name in 2015. In 2017, he released Les Scènes panoramiques, his first solo album, featuring only his own compositions.

A frequent performer on CBC/Radio-Canada's French- and English-language networks, Roux has appeared as guest soloist with renowned orchestras and chamber ensembles, giving the premieres of all his own concertos. In 1999, with Ottawa's contemporary music ensemble Espace Musique, he gave the world premiere of Violet Archer's Four Dialogues for Guitar and Chamber Orchestra. He has also performed for the Queen of Jordan, the Princess of the Netherlands, the Prime Minister of Canada and the Governor General of Canada. In 2025, Classical Guitar Canada presented him with its Hall of Fame Award for his contribution to classical guitar in Canada and worldwide.

Patrick Roux has taught guitar at the Conservatoire de musique de Gatineau since 1985 and at the Domaine Forget International Music and Dance Academy since 1996. He was a member of the music faculty at the University of Ottawa from 1993 to 2026. He is also the founder and Artistic Director of the Guitar Alla Grande Festival, established in 2006.

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