

# AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR

## Everything Changes at Once

### **Guiding Light**

Everything Changes at Once is a multimedia composition intended to give students and teachers a series of simple, meaningful assignments to develop into an expressive community art project. It was originally created for use nationwide during the isolating times of Covid-19. The project includes a guitar orchestra piece composed of 13 different ostinato parts, each part varying in technical difficulty from easy beginner options to more advanced upper position parts. In addition to the music, there are a series of assignments designed to help students open up, to share their perspective and feelings. To make this project most relevant to your community and your time, you (both students and teachers) are encouraged to create your own questions that explore a concept or issue most important to the group at the current moment.

The project is supremely flexible. Teachers can assign all or some of the ostinato parts for students to record. Students can participate in most of the assignments even if they do not have a guitar at home. Students will need access to a device such as cell phone, tablet, or computer. Teachers will compile all submission audio and video to create an audio/video piece. Consider soliciting help from A/V resources at your school or in your community. The end result will be a “music video” including guitarists making music, expressing their hopes and fears, and showing the community what their world looks and sounds like right now.

It is also possible to rehearse and perform this piece live if you choose. Students can contribute live voice narrative and images can be projected during the performance.

For reference, you can watch the premiere recording of Everything Changes At Once, from May 2020, involving students from 29 US cities, online here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLbFBI5UChI>

## How does it work?

1. Create a dissemination and submission process that is most comfortable for teacher and students, i.e. Google Drive, Canvas, Google Classroom, Dropbox etc...
2. The four assignments (1. Photo Hunt, 2. Found Sound, 3. Interview Question, 4. Guitar Ostinato) can be given out however the teacher prefers, in any order, or all together. Choose appropriate ostinatos for your students' technical level. You do not have to assign all 13 parts. One student can record more than one part if you would like. Try to assign a variety of parts if possible. Assign all necessary materials with a deadline for student submission of files. A midi rendering of the score can be heard [here](#). Though the final version can change in structure and will include student voices and sounds.
3. Once audio and visual recordings and photos are submitted, the teacher and/or students can begin to build the piece however they choose to structure it. Using a DAW (digital audio workstation like garageband, logic, reaper, audacity, Pro Tools etc..) voices and found sounds can be placed throughout the work, ostinatos can be placed in any order and stacked or adjusted based on how you think the piece should sound. Once the audio is structured, it's time to add a visual element using video and photos submitted by students. Using iMovie or the like, tell a visual story with the images.

## Questions?

The goal for Everything Changes at Once is to encourage students to create their own visual story and soundscape that gives them the opportunity to show how they feel alongside beautiful guitar playing. Execution of the various technical elements can be challenging, like putting the piece together in a DAW.

Please feel free to reach out to composer and Education Director [Travis@Austinclassicalguitar.org](mailto:Travis@Austinclassicalguitar.org) with any questions. And we would encourage the teacher to look for opportunities to collaborate with audio visual students or experts in your community when working on this project.