



# Devine ✨ Nix

[www.Devine-Nix.com](http://www.Devine-Nix.com)

Michael Nix 413.772.0328 [mnix@NixWorks.com](mailto:mnix@NixWorks.com)  
P.O. Box 400, Greenfield, MA 01302

Chris Devine: Violin, Mandolin, Guitar, Flute

Michael Nix: Guitar, Mandolin, Banjar, Banjo

Energetic and entertaining music for violin, guitar, mandolin, and the Banjar -- a seven string classical banjo. Their repertoire features virtuoso arrangements of traditional classical music, a world tour of musical traditions, American banjo music, vintage jazz, and multi-genre original compositions.

"Felicitous music making... radiant... subtle..." *Joseph Marcello, The Recorder*

"Lively, full of energy, high octane; the spirit is infectious..." *Marvin J. Ward, Classical Voice of New England*

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Chris Devine and Michael Nix perform energetic and entertaining music for violin, guitar, mandolin, and the Banjar -- a seven string classical banjo. Their repertoire features virtuoso arrangements of traditional classical music, a world tour of musical traditions, American banjo music, vintage jazz, and multi-genre original compositions.

Devine and Nix bring together decades of international concert touring, recording, and composing in many genres. They are founding members of world chamber music trio The Pioneer Consort.

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Chris Devine is a musician of diverse talents, performing on electric and acoustic violin, mandolin, guitar, flute, saxophone, and keyboard. He studied with internationally known concert violinist Julian Olevsky. As a session musician he has appeared on over 100 CDs in many different styles of music, including classical, jazz, pop, country, and folk. Chris toured Europe and Russia as a featured soloist with Blackmore's Night, starring the influential guitarist Ritchie Blackmore of Deep Purple, and also appeared on their gold CD "Fires at Midnight".

Michael Nix has performed traditional classical repertoire, new classical, and original music on guitar, lute, banjo and mandolin, in concert halls throughout the United States and Asia. He has composed solo music, songs, chamber music, symphonic works, electronic music, and opera. Nix designed the seven-string Banjar, combining elements of the classical five-string banjo, the lute and the classical guitar.

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## **Performer Bios**

Chris Devine is a musician of diverse talents, performing on electric and acoustic violin, mandolin, guitar, flute, saxophone, and keyboard. He received his Bachelor of Music degree in violin from the University of Massachusetts, where he studied with internationally known concert violinist Julian Olevsky. As a session musician he has appeared on over 100 CDs in many different styles of music, including classical, jazz, pop, country, and folk. As a composer, he is a contributor to the Fresh Music Library, an international commercial music supplier and has written the music and lyrics to three musicals sponsored by the Massachusetts Arts Lottery. His compositions and performances have been aired on Nickelodeon, Comedy Central, and PBS. Chris toured Europe and Russia as a featured soloist with Blackmore's Night, starring the influential guitarist Ritchie Blackmore of Deep Purple, and also appeared on their gold CD "Fires at Midnight". He has also been appearing with The Bobby Darling Show, a Northeast-based music and comedy quartet.

Michael Nix has performed traditional classical repertoire, new classical, and original music on guitar, lute, banjo and mandolin, in concert halls throughout the United States and Asia. He has composed solo music, songs, chamber music, symphonic works, electronic music, and opera. Nix designed the seven-string Banjar, combining elements of the classical five-string banjo, the lute and the classical guitar. His awards and commissions include an assignment by The Ann Sorvino Dance Project, for a dance work commemorating the 9-11 tragedy. He was resident composer and string master at Shakespeare & Co. in Lenox, MA. Nix was awarded grants to perform "New Music From the Northeast"; a program of original music and works by composers from New York and New England. He was selected as Massachusetts Music Teacher's Association composer of the year. Nix is currently on the Massachusetts Touring Program, and as a lute and guitar soloist he was on the New Hampshire Touring Program. He was a featured performer for the Connecticut Classical Guitar Society's Andres Segovia outreach program. In the mid 1980's, Nix formed Mythos, a flexible chamber ensemble performing newly composed and older chamber music. Nix wrote the libretto for a children's opera, "Liombruno" with music by Salvatore Macchia, premiered at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He he performed at the Bushnell Hall in Hartford CT, commemorating a 1931 Andres Segovia performance.

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## Review Quotes

"Felicitous music making... radiant... subtle"

*Joseph Marcello, The Recorder*

"Lively, full of energy, high octane; the spirit is infectious"

*Marvin J. Ward, Classical Voice of New England*

## Artist Reviews:

### Chris Devine:

"Thrilling solos and a charming stage presence..."

Berlin Taggespiegel

### Michael Nix:

"Breathtakingly beautiful."

Peter Mix, Acoustic Musician magazine

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## Sample Repertoire

### *New Music*

Barton Cove

Michael Nix

Wintersong

Michael Nix

Choro

Michael Nix

Duo for Violin and Guitar

Chris Devine

### *Argentine Tango*

El Choclo (c.1905)

A.G.Villoldo

Nostalgias (1935)

Juan Carlos Cobián

La Cumparsita(1916)

G. Rodriquez

### *Brazilian Choro*

Tico Tico

Zequinha Abreu

Não me Toques

Zequinha Abreu

Brasileririnho

Waldyr Azevedo

Pretencioso

Pixinguinha

Abracando Jacare

Pixinguinha

### *Classical Repertoire*

Two Part Inventions

J.S. Bach

Rondo Alla Turca

W.A. Mozart

Mandolin and Guitar Duos

Raffaele Calace

Duos for Two Mandolins

Giovanni Battista Gervasio

Harmonious Blacksmith Variations

Handel

### *Folk Influenced Music*

Lord Inchiquin/Carolan's Concerto

Turlough O'Carolan

### *Jazz*

Summertime

George Gershwin

Goin/Places

Venuti/Lang

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## Technical Requirements

Size of Group: Two

Space Requirements: Devine - Nix performs a program requiring space for two musicians standing and seated. At times they will use a small guitar amplifier, or a PA system.

Set Up and Rehearsal Requirements:

Space: 8' x 8' set up space at minimum.

Technical:

-Sponsor should provide two (2) chairs with flat seats and no arms set at a height of 19" from the floor.

-If PA is provided:

PA: 2 vocal mics , 3 highest quality instrument mics suitable for violin/mandolin, guitar/banjo,

Each performer will have a vocal mic. The guitarist will each have 1 instrument mic, and the violinist will have two, one positioned for violin, and one positioned for mandolin.

-If Devine - Nix provides sound reinforcement, one (1) 120 volt 20 amp source at the site will be needed for the sound system.

Lighting:

-General warm to neutral stage lighting, sufficient to read music.

-House up enough for performers to be able to see the audience, with the ability to dim and darken lighting.

## Devine • Nix Technical Requirements, p. 2

### Set up time:

-Set up time is 1.5 hours.

-If Sponsor provides PA a sound check of 30 min. will be added to set up time.

-If The Pioneer Consort provides sound reinforcement please allow 1 hour for set up and warm up time. (Shorter set ups are possible for festival and First Night settings if we can work with your tech people ahead of time.)

### Sale of Recordings

Devine - Nix would like to offer recordings, books and scores, DVD's, and art reproductions for sale at the performances. This will require a small table in a suitable public place-lobby or rear of concert hall. NixWorks can provide the table if necessary.

### Dressing Room

-One (1) room must be secure while performers are on stage. Must be within easy access to washroom facilities. Temperature of room should be from 68-72 degrees.

### Lodging (Optional)

-Lodging and breakfast may be provided by sponsor at times. Lodging may be in a hotel/motel, or a room provided by the sponsor, with access to a hot shower.

### Food and Drink

-Two 12 oz. bottles of bottled spring water, and two cups of hot herbal (non caffeinated) tea, and hot caffeinated coffee should be available in the dressing room.

-(Optional) A light sandwich fare (turkey) should be available before the performance, and a meal provided following the performance.