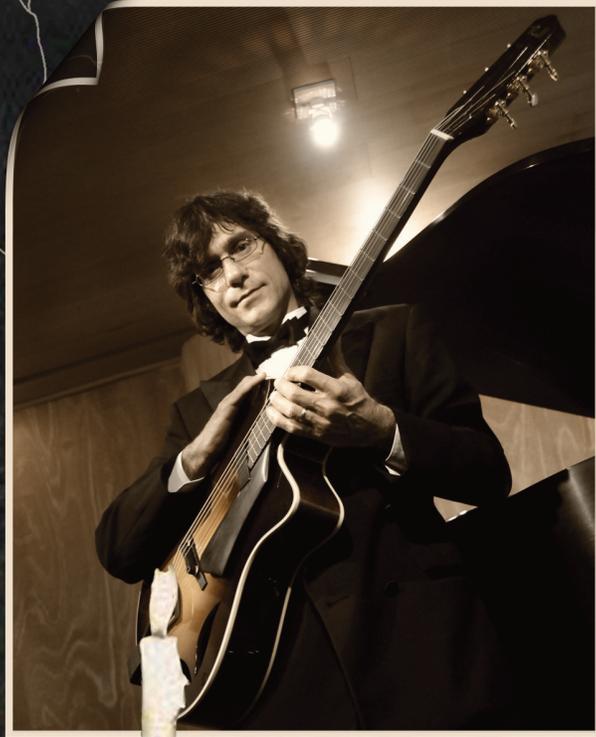


# FRANK VIENOLA'S HOT CLUB

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS  
OF DJANGO REINHARDT



“Vignola’s [gypsy jazz] solos forged the music’s path...”

– *The New York Times*

*Carnegie Hall* Tribute to Hot Club violinist Stephane Grappelli

March 27th  
8PM

Berkner Hall

with

Bucky Pizzarelli

“Vignola dominated the night...with unbelievable speed and a liquid, ringing tone in the Reinhardt style, ...exhibiting his acoustic mastery in exhilarating single string runs, complex flurries, and astounding full-register riffs. When speed and clarity were demanded, Vignola stunned. He upped the ante with a solo rendition of Reinhardt’s ‘Nuages.’”

– *Downbeat*

*Jazz at Lincoln Center*: Django Reinhardt/Charlie Christian Tribute

VOICE: 201-263-9200

FAX: 201-358-8784

Michigan Office: 734-622-8337

Nashville Office: 615-225-8087

[info@therootsagency.com](mailto:info@therootsagency.com)

[www.therootsagency.com](http://www.therootsagency.com)

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# FRANK VIGNOLA'S HOT CLUB

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF DJANGO REINHARDT



Few jazz legends have a more exotic mystique than **Django Reinhardt**, the Belgian-born gypsy guitarist and banjo player who led the legendary Parisian ensemble known as *Quintet of the Hot Club of France* in the 1930s and 40s. By the time of his death in 1953, at age 43, he was recognized as one of the three or four most important jazz guitarists in history, and his influence has reverberated from Les Paul, one of his great champions in the 1940s, to Willie Nelson in his nostalgic mode.

**Reinhardt's** achievement was all the more stunning in view of the fact that, as a teenager, he lost the use of two fingers on his left hand in a fire and was forced to develop a new technique to play the guitar. Leading the quintet, **Reinhardt** and his guitar became the driving rhythmic force behind its propulsive music, pulling it forward with a wild manic acceleration. In transcending his handicap, **Reinhardt** developed a rapid-fire single-note style that was as extravagantly expressive as it was speedy. His lightning runs alternated with ballad passages whose stinging vibrato quivered with an intense, almost over-rich, emotionality.

## FRANK VIGNOLA'S HOT CLUB

In celebration of **Django Reinhardt's** 100th birthday, guitar virtuoso **Frank Vignola**, a leading proponent of **Reinhardt's** *gypsy jazz* style of playing, has assembled a topnotch quintet for a searing tribute to one of his earliest musical influences.

**Frank Vignola's Hot Club** evolved organically from twenty years of commitment to the **Django** legacy, including *gypsy jazz* appearances with musicians from Bireli LaGrene and Babik Reinhardt (**Django's** son), to Mark O'Connor and Tommy Emmanuel, as well as a five-year stint with **Reinhardt** friend and enthusiast Les Paul. **Vignola** has performed at innumerable tributes to **Django Reinhardt** and other original *Hot Club of France* members, at venues like Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, as well as with the Boston Pops and New York Pops Orchestras. His renowned *gypsy jazz* expertise also landed him the position of founding Music Director for the annual *Django Reinhardt New York Festival* in New York City.

Only a musician the caliber of **Frank Vignola**, an accomplished and influential guitarist in his own right, could dare tackle the monumental task of honoring the centennial of the legendary **Django Reinhardt**.

[www.frankvignola.com](http://www.frankvignola.com)

(Django Reinhardt excerpt from *The New York Times*)