

2008  
March 9

### **Welcome! Message from Felix Wurman.**

*'Welcome to the fifth convention of the Church of Beethoven. Today we depart from our time-tested formula just a little. We won't sing a song. Instead, we will let our guest artist do whatever the heck he wants. Our guest artist is Matt Haimovitz who graciously agreed to add this concert to his busy schedule (he plays the Kimo tonight). We've had a grand time doing muti-cello stuff with him, so thanks again, Matt. Alongside Matt we're very honored to have poet Jessica Lopez reading two of her own: "My Aging Face" and "Billie's Blues Are Mine". Wow, this is fun!'*

*What is the Church of Beethoven? The Church of Beethoven has all the best qualities of: 1. a typical Sunday service 2. an exciting concert and 3. the best coffee shop in town. In short, the perfect Sunday morning. I hope you agree.*

*On a serious note we have determined that a minimum donation of \$10 will keep us in business. Of course there are those who cannot afford that amount so we ask those who can afford more to help take up the slack. Thanks in advance!"*

### **The Artists:**

After graduating from Harvard College in 1996, and with the termination of his contract with Deutsche Grammophon, **Matt Haimovitz** became dissatisfied with the traditional career path of a modern classical musician. He began exploring non-standard classical and non-classical repertoire more intensively, and began a program of concerts in unusual venues. A 2002 North American tour that attracted international attention saw Haimovitz performing J.S. Bach's cello suites in night clubs and other highly untraditional venues in a wide variety of towns and cities across the United States. This was followed in 2003 by Haimovitz's *Anthem* tour, in which he brought a variety of American compositions to a similar variety of audiences, including his rendition of Jimi Hendrix's famous improvisational rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" In 2000, Haimovitz founded his own record label, Oxingale, which has released CD recordings of his own recital programs, as well as music performed by others.

From 1999 to 2004, Haimovitz was a faculty member at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Since 2004, he has taught at McGill University as well as the Domaine Forget academy for the arts in rural Quebec.

**Jessica Helen Lopez** is a two-time member of the City of Albuquerque Poetry Slam Team '06/'07 and is a current member of the Lobo Poetry Slam team set to perform and compete at the College Union Poetry Slam Nationals '08. She is a single mother of a precocious five-year-old daughter and is currently a senior at UNM studying Creative Writing and Communications. Lopez has performed and taught poetry throughout New Mexico and across the country. Some of her published works include, *New Mecca: An Anthology*, *Open Mic America*, *Feminist Now*, *Instant Pussy* and the forthcoming local slam poetry compilation, *A Bigger Boat*. Lopez also hosts the monthly Poetry & Beer open poetry mic and slam at the Blackbird Buvette Bar and Grill on Central Avenue. Fortunately for her, many Buvette patrons and poets feel an obligation to buy her pints of beer as she takes the MC stage. Lopez gladly accepts such charity.