

2008
March 16

Welcome! Message from Felix Wurman.

'Welcome to the sixth convention of the Church of Beethoven. This thing's going better than anyone thought it would! Thanks for your support everyone. It means the difference between go or no-go. Today we return to our time-tested formula after last week's cello love-fest. This morning we'll hear Gabriel Gordon play the complete Sonata No.1 by Bach. Our resident poet Anthony Hunt will read William Carlos Williams and e e cummings (why do poets have weird names). We'll sing Amazing Grace and celebrate silence for two minutes. Are we having fun yet?'

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!'

Program:

Music: Sonata No.1 for Violin in G minor BWV 1001 by Bach
Adagio, Allegro

Poem: 'Spring and All' by William Carlos Williams

Anthem: 'Amazing Grace' Singing led by Chad. (Words on back of page.)

Celebration of Silence: (2 minutes)

Poems: 'somewhere i have never traveled, gladly beyond' by e e cummings

'Listening by the Drava' by Anthony Hunt

Music: Sonata No.1 for Violin in G minor BWV 1001 by Bach
Siciliana, Presto

The Artists:

Gabriel Gordon graduated from New York's High School of Performing Arts, and was a founding member of Philadelphia's DaPonte Quartet. He has had many leadership roles in orchestras like the American Symphony, the Bronx Opera, The Haddonfield Symphony, The Bridgeton Symphony, and the South Jersey Symphony. Other regular performances were with the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra, Philomusica, Philharmonia Virtuosi, and the Philadelphia Pops. He has performed chamber music with Emmanuel Vardi, Lynn Harrell, Mark Johnson of the Vermeer Quartet, Lillian Kallir, Stanley Babin, Eleanor Lawrence, Seymour Bernstein, and the Cassatt Quartet as a substitute first violinist for the Seal Bay Music Festival. Mr. Gordon is currently a member of the New Mexico Symphony, and is in the finals for the Concertmaster position of the Santa Fe Symphony. He has studied with Jascha Brodsky, Eugene Drucker, Isadore Cohen, Laura Hamilton, and Jonathan Strasser. A conductor as well as a violinist, Mr. Gordon is also currently the conductor of the Albuquerque Youth Symphony, and Music Director of the Old York Road Symphony.

Anthony Hunt, a retired professor of English, taught courses in literature, writing, and pedagogy for thirty years at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez. For much of that time his academic research was focused on Gary Snyder's evolving masterpiece, *Mountains and Rivers Without End*, a monumental long poem written over a period of 40 years (1956-1996). In 2004 his study of Snyder's poem culminated in *Genesis, Structure, and Meaning in Gary Snyder's 'Mountains and Rivers Without End,'* a book-length critical study published by the University of Nevada Press. The book traces myriad sources of the poem's themes and structure, including Nô drama; East Asian landscape painting; the rhythms of storytelling, chant, and song; Jungian archetypal psychology; world mythology; Buddhist philosophy and ritual; Native American traditions; planetary geology, hydrology, and ecology. Anthony and his wife Susan have just returned to Albuquerque to take up permanent residence here; both hold advanced degrees from UNM.