

Program for July 20, 2008 10:30 am

Welcome message from Felix Wurman:

Welcome to the twenty fourth convention of the Church of Beethoven. Twenty four distinct programs made available to New Mexicans in as many weeks.

What, you may ask in ever-diminishing numbers, is the Church of Beethoven? The recipe calls for measures of these: an exciting concert, a poetry reading and even a celebration of pure silence! Oh, and did I mention, the best coffee in town? In short: one-stop shopping for the perfect Sunday morning. This is all underwritten by your generous donation. We ask for a minimum of \$10.00. Your money goes directly to the artists and other people that make these weekly events possible. Speaking of other people, I would like to take this opportunity to thank them now. They are: **David Sinkus**- owner of the Filling Station, **Katie Maasen** and **Rachelle Theresa Crosby** our baristas, **Carlee Uhrich**-program editor and printer and **Cindy Young**- videographer. Thank you all so much.

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (November 21, 1877-April 9, 1933) was a German composer of considerable fame in the early twentieth century, best known for his choral works, lieder, chamber and orchestral music, works for the piano, and especially his compositions for organ and harmonium. Born in Oberndorf am Neckar, Germany, Sigfried Karg studied music at the Leipzig Conservatory, where he would become a staff member in 1919. In the early part of his career, his agent suggested he add Elert to his surname.

Notable influences of his work include composers Claude Debussy, Aleksander Scriabin, and Arnold Schoenberg. His favorite instrument to compose for was the Kunstharmunium, a versatile French creation that allowed him the range of colors he preferred. Karg-Elert's works, especially those written for organ, enjoyed reasonable popularity in the United States, the United Kingdom, and France. His performance skills were less admired, and his single tour of the United States in the early 1930s was not well-received. He succumbed to a long illness in 1933, and is buried in Leipzig. The popularity of his compositions declined for a period before a successful revival in the late 1970s.

Program

Music: Three Vocalises by R. Vaughan-Williams Ruth Bacon, soprano Patrice Howard, clarinet

Poems: "Firme" and "Bailando en Sombras" Maria Leyba, poet

Music: Sonata Opus 140 (Appassionata) by Sigfrid Karg-Elert Christine Saari, flute

Celebration of Silence: two minutes

Poems: "Collecting Names" Maria Leyba, poet

**Music: Sonata for flute and continuo in e minor bwv 1034 by Bach Mvt.3 and Mvt.4.
Christine Saari, flute and Felix Wurman, cello**