

## Program for August 3, 2008 10:30 am

### Welcome message from Felix Wurman:

"Welcome to the twenty-sixth convention of the Church of Beethoven. Twenty-six distinct programs made available to New Mexicans in as many weeks. We've reached middle age as an organization. Half way to one year! Today we have a typically diverse program for you. Le Chat Lunatique has a following around town for their gypsy-inspired music. Rachel Ciraldo performed for us alone on flute last week and this week brings her guitarist husband to perform Piazzolla. In addition our poet, Diane Thiel, author of eight books of poetry, will read.

We are proud to announce a "satellite" event in Santa Fe. On Saturday August 9, 2008 at 10:30 am we will convene at El Museo Cultural De Santa Fe (1615 Paseo De Peralta # B Santa Fe, NM 87501) in the Rail Yard District. The program is designed to complement the opening of the farmer's market which is located just a stone's throw away. The program will feature bass LeRoy Lehr of the Metropolitan Opera and, from London, pianist Melita Kolin. Also on the program, Mirabai Starr reading Rumi. We will convene as normal on Sunday here at the Filling Station and hear the same program. So, tell your Santa Fe friends to check the website for up-to-the minute details."

### Program

Poems: "Excerpts from Echolocations" Diane Thiel, poet

Music: Histoire du Tango: "Bordel 1900" and "Nightclub" by Astor Piazzolla  
Nicholas and Rachel Ciraldo, guitar and flute

Celebration of Silence: two minutes

Poems: "Counting Two" Diane Thiel, poet

Collection: Mon ami, can you spare a franc?

Music: Le Chat Lunatique

Muni Kulasinghe, violin/vocals John Sandin, guitar/vocals  
Jared Putnam, bass/vocals Fernando Garavito, drums/vocals

### Today's Artists

Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico to Sri Lankan parents, Muni Kulasinghe spent his formative school years in the sunny southwest and summers sojourning in serendipitous Sri Lanka. At 7 years old, he began the violin because he wanted to be like his older sister. By 18, in addition to tripping with aforementioned parentals, he'd traveled extensively with the Albuquerque Youth Symphony, including destinations like London and Mexico City. He even, to his own shock and awe (and a bit of horror), had been selected as a senior concerto winner where he performed in front of 2,000 of his closest friends at the University of New Mexico's Popejoy Hall.

At Colorado College, he was lucky enough to fall in with the Bowed Piano Ensemble, a well known group in the world of experimental music, with whom he toured much of Western Europe (twice!). In Oslo, Norway, during their first tour they were even on the same bill as Herbie Hancock! Upon his return stateside, he rejoined friends in the Buntport Theater in Denver, with whom he put on plays, including a comic musical re-working of "Titus Andronicus", for which he wrote and played most of the music. He also rejoined another friend, Thaddeus Phillips of New York, to create and perform "The Earth's Sharp Edge" at La MaMa Theater in NYC and the Painted Bride in Philadelphia (among other venues). For one year he again left these august shores to play gypsy swing in Montpellier, France. He learnt a great deal about cheese, wine and not brushing his teeth. At present, Muni can be found in Albuquerque once again, engaged in studies of Ethnomusicology at UNM and playing dirty, filthy, mangy and lascivious Gypsy Swing with the ever so lovely Le Chat Lunatique

1) *Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz*  
*de Arbañal y Ramirez de Santillan*  
*From Resistance Fantasies*

2) *"Resistance Fantasies"*  
*"If You Don't Have a Dog,*  
*Your Neighbor Will Not Bitch"*

3) *"Counting Two"*