

Piano Guitar Duo

Robert Bekkers, guitar Anne Ku, piano
Saturday 25 November 2006
Utrecht Central Library, 3rd floor

- **Sonata No. 1 Opus 21** *Moderato* Ferdinando Carulli (1770 - 1841)
Adagio
Rondo Allegretto
Finale

Born in Naples young Carulli first learned the cello and then taught himself the guitar. He started publishing his first works for guitar in 1807. After a stay in Vienna, Carulli settled in Paris. He composed a famous method (opus 27) and about 400 works for guitar, many of which were duos for the piano and guitar.

- **Potpourri on famous opera themes (1810 – 1814)** Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778-1837)

Son of a local musician in Pressburg (now Bratislava), Hummel was a child prodigy who studied under Mozart, Clementi, and Haydn. He was extremely famous during his lifetime as a virtuoso pianist, composer, teacher, conductor, concert organiser, and theatre director. He wrote this entertaining Potpourri for Giuliani and Beethoven.

- **Variationen Opus 113 (65)** *Theme & variations* Mauro Giuliani (1781-1829)
Polonaise

After the Italian guitar virtuoso Giuliani settled in Vienna in 1806, he greatly influenced the progress of the instrument, as a teacher, performer and composer. He left Vienna in 1819, spending some four years in Rome before retiring to Naples, where he performed guitar duets with his daughter before he died in 1829. Giuliani wrote over 150 works for guitar.

- **Fantasia Opus 145** *Andantino* Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco (1895 - 1968)
Vivacissimo

Born and raised in Tuscany, Castelnuovo-Tedesco later immigrated to America where he became famous as a film composer in Hollywood. His students included the composers Henry Mancini and John Williams. He wrote this Fantasia in 1950 for the guitar maestro Andrés Segovia and his second wife, the pianist Paquita Madriguera.

- **Sonatina** *Allegretto* Federico Moreno-Torroba (1891 - 1982)
Andante
Allegro

Born in Madrid, Moreno-Torroba was very active in composing, conducting and impresario work, particularly for writing Zarzuelas (light Spanish operas.) He originally wrote the Sonatina as a solo piece for Andrés Segovia, later changing to a guitar-piano duo, possibly as a rehearsal version for guitar and small orchestra.

Anne Ku and Robert Bekkers formed their PIANO GUITAR DUO in 2001, reviving this almost forgotten tradition of music making. This once favourite pastime has left a largely untapped legacy of published music specifically written for the piano and guitar. Using modern instruments, the duo has rekindled music from earlier periods. Just as importantly, the duo's performances are encouraging contemporary composers to write for this deserving combination, which has resulted in several original works.

Forthcoming concerts: **10 December** *Three-part concert set in a walk through Noordwijk-Binnen*
17 December *House Concert, Utrecht "The Piano as Orchestra" featuring Aranjuez and Vivaldi guitar concertos, harp and euphonium concertos*