

The **Brick** Presbyterian Church
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRESENTS The Birk and Hoke Duo



MONDAY OCTOBER 17, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.

The final concert in a series to inaugurate the recently restored 1898 Steinway C Concert Grand piano of the Brick Church, and to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the acclaimed Anderson pipe organ (Coignet-Casavant Frères op. 3837). The [Birk and Hoke Duo](#) will present a program of works for piano four hands, solo organ, organ and piano duo, and organ duet. Composers will include Bach, Liszt, Vierne, Barber, Bedard, Michel, Mushel and Rutter. Well known to New York City area concert audiences, Bernadette Hoke is the Music Director and Organist of the First Reformed Episcopal Church in New York City. Eric Birk is the Organist-Choir Director of the Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational Church.

General admission tickets (\$10) will be on sale at the Park Avenue at East 91st Street doors 30 minutes before the recital. For further information contact Keith S. Tóth at 212-289-4400 ext. 231 or email: brickchurchmusic@gmail.com

PROGRAM

Souvenirs (Ballet Suite), op. 28	Samuel Barber
Mephisto Waltz no. 1 (arr. for four hands by the composer) <i>(Eric Birk & Bernadette Hoke, pianists)</i>	Franz Liszt
Duet Suite for piano and organ <i>(Eric Birk, organ – Bernadette Hoke, piano)</i>	Denis Bédard
Intermission	
Idylle mélancolique, op. 31, no. 8 (from <i>24 Pièces en Style Libre</i>)	Louis Vierne
Toccata <i>(Bernadette Hoke, organ)</i>	Georgi Mushel
Toccata in F major. BWV 540	J. S. Bach
Organ, Timbral, and Dance (Three Jazz Organ Preludes) <i>(Eric Birk, organ)</i>	Johannes Matthias Michel
Variations on an Easter Theme for organ four hands	John Rutter



The Birk and Hoke Duo (Eric Birk and Bernadette Hoke) have been performing as a keyboard duo since 1995, engaging audiences and critics alike with their impressive ensemble and expressive artistry. The husband and wife duo "played with a pleasing precision that never impinged upon fluid ease" in their Weill Hall debut recital, according to New York Concert Review. Specializing in duet repertoire for four hands at one piano, four hands (and two or four feet) at the organ, and duos for organ and piano. Birk & Hoke have appeared on concert series in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Texas. In the New York City area they have performed on the Noonday Concert Series in St. Paul's Chapel, the Friends and Enemies of New Music series, St. Paul's Festival of the Arts in Nyack, New York, and at the Center for Chamber Music in Greenwich, Connecticut. In the autumn of 2008 they were the featured pianists in a concert at the Jewish Museum entitled, "Bernstein: A Jewish Legacy". This concert was part of the New York City celebration, Bernstein: The Best of All Possible Worlds. They have recorded Bernstein's Bridal Suite, which can be heard on www.LeonardBernstein.com. During the 2008-2009 season, the duo performed the Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzes with the Transfiguration Choir and Camerata of NYC.

As Chamber Music Award Winners of the 28th annual Artist International Auditions, they were presented in a sold out debut recital in Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall during the 2000-2001 season. On that program they performed the U.S. premiere of the "Silent Flickers" by New York composer Jack Gottlieb. The duo was re-engaged by Artists International to perform in Merkin Hall, New York City in the spring of 2002 as part of the Artists International Alumni Winners Series. Birk & Hoke have performed organ and piano recitals in New York City area for the Noon-Day Concerts at the United Church in Bridgeport, CT, the New York City Chapter AGO members recital, the Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational Church for a Gala Benefit concert, and for the Brooklyn Wednesday Music Club. In February of 2011, they performed as guest artists at the Baylor University Midwinter Organ Conference.