

MEETING GRACE & DARK-THIRTY HOUSE CONCERTS PRESENT
BERKLEY HART & JOEL RAFAEL
IN A SPECIAL BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE ERIC LOWEN TRUST
SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008 AT SWEDENBORGIAN CHURCH

Looking for features: April 7-12, 2008

Meeting Grace and Dark-Thirty House Concerts invite you to join Berkley Hart and Joel Rafael on Saturday, April 12, 2008 at the Swedenborgian Church for a special evening of music to benefit the Eric Lowen Trust. Show starts at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 when purchased in advance at www.berkleyhart.com or \$25 at the door the night of the show. Eric Lowen, of the influential singer-songwriter duo from Los Angeles Lowen & Navarro, was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, or ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, in March of 2004. All ticket sales will go to the Eric Lowen Trust which helps to offset the enormous costs of fighting his illness and helps support his family, which includes his wife and their 5 children.

Co-presenters of this concert are Meeting Grace House Concerts and Dark-Thirty House Concerts. Both series have similar ties to each of the acts as well as to Lowen & Navarro. Berkley Hart helped inspire the creation of the Meeting Grace series, founded by long-time friend of the band, Lizzie Wann, and were the performers in its inaugural show in March, 2000. Jeff Berkley, a Kerrville New Folk Songwriter winner in 1999, and Calman Hart, have since been staples of the series, appearing at least once a year. Lowen & Navarro have also played the house concert series with a spectacular two-night stand of sold out shows in August, 2001. Berkley Hart have also performed multiple times with Lowen & Navarro and are often compared to the extraordinary duo.

Similarly, Joel Rafael, winner of the Kerrville New Folk Songwriter award in 1995, inspired Jimmy Duke to provide a place where singer-songwriters could play music in a space set aside for listening. The first official Dark Thirty Concert, the first house concert series in San Diego, was in May, 1998 and featured the Joel Rafael Band which included Joel's daughter Jamaica Rafael on violin, Jeff Berkley on percussion and Carl Johnson on lead guitar. Lowen & Navarro made an appearance at Dark Thirty in 1999 and as their encore, they unplugged, sat on the fireplace hearth, and sang one of Joel Rafael's compositions, a song called "Goldmine," which appeared on the Polygram re-issue of duo's first album "Walking on a Wire" (1994). The duo returned to Dark Thirty for a farewell show in 2007. By that time, Eric Lowen was wheelchair-bound.

Singer-songwriters extraordinaire Eric Lowen and Dan Navarro have been a team for over 20 years, originally making a name for themselves writing for other singers, including Pat Benatar with the 1984 hit "We Belong", the Bangles, the Four Tops, the Temptations and Dave Edmunds. With their blend of acoustic guitars and stunning vocal harmonies they deliver dynamic, emotional, uplifting performances to fiercely loyal audiences at sold out shows around the world.

ALS is a neuro-muscular disease involving the brain cells that control the voluntary muscles. The brain cells die, the muscles atrophy and you are left with very little or no muscle control in a matter of months or a few years, making even the simplest movements of walking, speaking and gesturing difficult to impossible. Ultimately, in most cases, the body becomes paralyzed, yet through it all, the mind remains unaffected. ALS currently has no cure, but research strides are bringing us closer to it.

Don't miss a special evening of music presented by and performed by friends of Lowen & Navarro. Help make a difference in Eric Lowen's fight against ALS.

Meeting Grace & Dark Thirty Present
Eric Lowen Trust Benefit Concert
w/ Berkley Hart & Joel Rafael
Swedenborgian Church
4144 Campus Ave, San Diego CA 92103
Saturday, April 12, 2008, 7:30 pm
Tickets: \$20 advance, \$25 door
ticket info at: www.berkleyhart.com