



## SANTA BARBARA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Calendar Listing

Date: April 15, 2005

Event: *Sounds of Spanish California: Chamber Music from Father Serra's Spain*

### **Conjunto Durán:**

Gina Bellino, Charlene Chi, sopranos / Temmo Korisheli, tenor  
Richard Biaggini, Laura Hackstein, violins  
Alita Rhodes, violoncello  
Keith Paulson-Thorp, keyboards

Sunday, April 24, 2005

7:30 p.m.

The Presidio Chapel  
123 East Canon Perdido Street  
Santa Barbara, California

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Photos available upon request  
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(Santa Barbara, Calif.) *Sounds of Spanish California: Chamber Music from Father Serra's Spain* is music from the rich tradition of California's heritage. The sound world of early California was a mixture of styles incorporating music from people of many backgrounds. The work of the early Padres in California was influenced by the music they heard in their native Spain, and by what they encountered during their training in Mexico City.

Much of this music is little known in our time. While musicologists have assiduously uncovered and performed music of Italy, Germany and France from this same era, only recently has attention been given to the music of Spain and her colonies. As a result, many people living in regions such as California, whose culture was forged many years ago from the irons of the Spanish empire, know very little of their cultural heritage. Recent research has demonstrated that the Spanish musical repertoire, with its broad incorporation of piquant dance rhythms from conquered peoples, is easily

*To Encourage the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites in the County of Santa Barbara*

as accomplished and invigorating as that of any other nation, and deserves to be reclaimed by those who live in its shadows. Spanish and Mexican musicians of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were talented and imaginative composers and performers.

The concert on Sunday, April 24, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. in the Historic Presidio Chapel will focus on chamber music from Spain in the era of Fr. Junipero Serra, OFM, (1713-1784) founder of the California Missions. Serra was an avid musician who in his youth sang in his local boychoir in Mallorca, and who later insisted on music being a regular part of daily life in the Missions he founded.

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