

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Department of Music

Wyoming Baroque: The Golem Composed by Mark Elliot Bergman

Monday
October 4, 2021

BCPA Music Choral Room #2003
7:30p.m.

Program Notes:

Sometimes called the World's first horror movie, German actor/director Paul Wegener's 1920 classic silent *film The Golem: How He Came into the World* was a milestone in cinematic storytelling. The story, set at the turn of the 17th century, focuses on Prague's Chief Rabbi, Judah Loew ben Bezalel, who imbues a hulking, clay creature with life and charges it with defending the Jewish people. This narrative inspired Mary Shelley to pen her classic novel *Frankenstein, Or The Modern Prometheus*. Modern golems, including Star Trek's Data, The Terminator's Skynet, and Becky Chambers' Lovelace/Sidra continue thrilling audiences into the 21st century.

Today's performance includes a screening *The Golem* with a new soundtrack composed by Sheridan College faculty member Dr. Mark Elliot Bergman. The instruments used are consistent with those used at the time of the film's setting (c.1600 CE), and the soundtrack's language employs diverse elements from the Baroque era through the modern era.

Personnel:

Baroque Violin: David Wilson
Baroque Violin: Stacey Brady
Baroque Viola: Marta Howard
Baroque Cello: Barbara Krumdieck
Music Director and Violone: Mark Elliot Bergman
Harpsichord: Frank Nowell

Wyoming Baroque brings together nationally known artists specializing in historically informed performances of 17th and 18th Century repertoire as well contemporary compositions featuring instruments built to the same specifications. The ensemble is in-residence at Sheridan College in Sheridan, Wyoming, and performs at the Whitney Center for the Arts. Committed to education and arts advocacy, Wyoming Baroque also presents masterclasses at schools and community centers throughout the region.

This is the 4th concert in the 2021-2022 UW Music Department Season.
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