**Thursday,
April 18, 2013
3:15-5 p.m. in U73**

Guest lecture in the seminar series
Topics in the Aesthetics of Music and Sound

- arranged by **The Aesthetics of Music and Sound — www.soundmusicresearch.org — Cross-Disciplinary Interplay between the Humanities, Technology and Musical Practice**; Institute for the Study of Culture, University of Southern Denmark -

http://www.soundmusicresearch.org/seminarsspring2013.html

Charles Valentin Alkan:
The Pros and Cons of Virtuosity

Morten Heide

Pianist and Choral Director; NNIMIPA (Nordic Network for the Integration of Music Informatics, Performance and Aesthetics) delegate-at-large representing The Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts, Southern Denmark (AMDA), Odense, Denmark.

http://mortenheide.dk/home

As we celebrate the 200th anniversary of French composer Ch. V. Alkan (1813-1888), it's worth asking once again why this great and eccentric innovator within the piano repertoire isn't played more often, but is still overshadowed by his friends and contemporaries Liszt and Chopin, as well as by composers such as Schumann and Mendelssohn.

During today's presentation, I will propose some answers to the following questions:

- What qualities are to be found in Alkan's music?
- What can Alkan's piano music offer that is different from that of the other four composers?
- Even though Alkan's piano music is often described as impossible to play, is it all about tremendously difficult, hand-breaking virtuosity?

Throughout the lecture, the musical material under discussion will be exemplified by means of scores, recordings, and live piano performance by Morten Heide.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Audience participation via Skype is also welcome.

Please Note: Morten Heide will be performing a program of Charles Valentin Alkan's music at the April 18 **Lunchtime Concert** at the University of Southern Denmark. Please see http://www.soundmusicresearch.org/lunchtimeconcerts.html for details.