FRY STREET
Chamber Music Festival

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
JULY 16-20, 2021

RUSSELL WANLASS
PERFORMANCE HALL
The Fry Street Chamber Music Festival seeks to create engaged and passionate chamber musicians and citizens through a uniquely personalized and intense environment of study. Private lessons, coaching sessions, and other activities give students the opportunity to learn lifelong skills of collaboration, trust, and communication, all while deepening their musical understanding.

**FRIDAY, JULY 16**

Rebecca McFaul, Robert Waters, & Cahill Smith

Five Pieces for Two Violins & Piano

I. PRELUDE. MEDIUM
II. GAVOTTE. TRANQUILLO, MOLTO LEGGERO
III. ELEGY. ANDANTINO
IV. WALTZ. TEMPO DI VALSE. MEDIUM
V. POLKA. VIVACE

Dimitri Shostakovich
1906-1975

Gabriela Lena Frank
b 1972

Milagros (2010)

Milagros (‘Miracles’) is inspired by my mother’s homeland of Perú. It has been a remarkable, often difficult, yet always joyous experience for me to visit, again and again, this small Andean nation that is home to not only foggy desert coasts but also Amazonian wetlands. Usually a religious and marvelous occurrence, milagro here refers to the sights and sounds of Perú’s daily life, both past and present, that I’ve stumbled upon in my travels. While probably ordinary to others, to me, as a gringa-latina, they are quietly miraculous, and are portrayed in eight short movements as follows:

I. Milagrito — Capilla del Camino
II. Milagrito — Zampoñas Rotas
III. Milagrito — Mujeres Cantando
IV. Milagrito — Danza de Tingo María
V. Milagrito — Sombras de Amantaní
VI. Milagrito — Adios a Churín
VII. Milagrito — Danza de los Muñecos
VIII. Milagrito — Capilla del Camino

{ intermission }

Rebecca McFaul & Elżbieta Bilicka

Theme and Variations for Violin and Piano

Olivier Messiaen
1908-1992

Elżbieta Bilicka

Miroirs

Maurice Ravel
1875-1937

II. OISEAUX TRISTES
III. UNE BARQUE SUR L’OCÉAN
IV. ALBORADA DEL GRACIOSO

FSCMF 2022 | July 6-16
SATURDAY, JULY 17  Rebecca McFaul & Cahill Smith

Romance for violin and piano, Op.23  Amy Beach  1867-1944

Metamorfose for viola and piano (2017)  Clarice Assad  b 1978
I. Crisalidas
II. Dancas das Borboletas

Suite for Solo Viola in e minor, Op. 131d No.3  Max Reger  1873-1916
I. Moderato
II. Vivace
III. Adagio
IV. Allegro Vivace

Canzona Serenata  Nikolai Medtner  1879-1951
from Forgotten Melodies, Bk.1, op.38, no.6

Primavera  from Forgotten Melodies, Bk.2, op.39, no.3

| intermission |

Brant Bayless

TUESDAY, JULY 20  Bradley Ottesen & Elżbieta Bilicka

Sonata for Viola and Piano  Rebecca Clarke  1886-1979
I. Impetuoso
II. Vivace
III. Adagio

Canzona Serenata  Sergei Rachmaninov  1873-1943
from Forgotten Melodies, Bk.1, op.38, no.6

Primavera  from Forgotten Melodies, Bk.2, op.39, no.3

| intermission |

Cahill Smith

Trio for Horn, Violin, and Piano in E-flat Major, Op. 40  Johannes Brahms  1833-1897
I. Andante
II. Scherzo: allegro
III. Adagio mesto
IV. Allegro Con Brio

| intermission |

Fry Street Quartet

String Quartet in A Major, Op.18 no.5  Ludwig van Beethoven  1770-1827
I. Allegro
II. Menuetto
III. Andante cantabile
IV. Allegro

Fry Street Quartet

Robert Waters  |  VIOLIN
Rebecca McFaul  |  VIOLIN
Anne Francis Bayless  |  CELLO
Bradley Ottesen  |  VAIO
Robert Waters, Violin | Fry Street Quartet

A violinist with “pristine musicianship married to dazzling energy” (San Francisco Classical Voice), Robert Waters is the first violinist of the Fry Street Quartet, in residence at the Caine College of the Arts at Utah State University. Robert grew up in Kent, Ohio, in a home filled with music. His parents were both career musicians, and his older brother and sister played cello and viola, so it was only natural that Robert started playing violin at a young age. Chamber music quickly became his chief passion, and solfege and counterpoint lessons with his father cemented his destiny as a true music nerd.

Robert’s happy musical partnership with the Fry Street Quartet began in 2012, but his path to that point has been filled with a variety of activities. His first foray into the world of high-level chamber music began with summers at – and tours with – the Marlboro Music Festival. Energized by the amazing experiences performing with his colleagues and mentors there, he soon founded the Jupiter Trio, which went on to tour internationally and become the first American ensemble in the history of the Osaka International Chamber Music Competition in Osaka, Japan, to win the gold medal.

As Associate Concertmaster of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, Robert was inspired by the all-encompassing world of opera, and came into frequent contact with some of the world’s greatest singers. Robert’s zeal for Baroque music was deepened through his experience as Concertmaster of Music of the Baroque, a Chicago-based orchestral/choral ensemble where he frequently performed as soloist.

A committed and enthusiastic educator, Robert has taught music students of all ages. His first teaching stint was as Associate Professor of Violin at DePaul University, which fed his burgeoning desire to pass on all he had learned from his own teachers and experiences to a new generation of musicians. In addition to faculty positions at Utah State and DePaul, he has enjoyed many opportunities over a span of fifteen years to teach privately, coach chamber music, and lead masterclasses at a wide range of music festivals, camps and workshops throughout the United States and beyond.

Rebecca McFaul, Violin | Fry Street Quartet

The “freedom” and “brilliance” (New York Concert Review) of violinist Rebecca McFaul has fashioned performances that “glide through with a dancer’s grace” (Charlotte Observer). As a founding member of the Fry Street Quartet, Rebecca enjoys the privilege of wonderful colleagues, collaborations with many of today’s great musicians and composers, and all that the medium of the string quartet offers in its fantastic literature, range of expression, and ability to connect with an audience.

The educational influences that have supported her path include undergraduate studies at the Oberlin Conservatory as a student of Marilyn MacDonald and graduate studies with Gerardo Ribeiro at Northwestern University as a Civic Orchestra Fellow. Under the mentorship of Marc Johnson of the Vermeer quartet, she founded the Fry Street Quartet. Shortly thereafter, the group received a three year “Rural Residency” grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as invitations from the late Isaac Stern to give their Carnegie Hall debut, perform at the Jerusalem Music Center in Israel, and also to serve as Cultural Ambassadors to the Balkan States, a tour sponsored jointly by Carnegie Hall and the U.S. Department of State, all of which launched the quartet’s career.

Expanding the role of the arts in society has been of particular interest to Rebecca in recent years. One of the most visible expressions of this focus has been The Crossroads Project, an ongoing partnership between physicist and educator Dr. Robert Davies and the FSQ, which merges her two most passionate interests: music and humanity’s relationship to the natural world. These interests are a natural outgrowth of a childhood of barefoot summers at the lake in Wisconsin’s Northwoods and a house full of classical music. This upbringing inspired appreciation and wonder at the workings of nature and established the value of artistic pursuit.

A devoted teacher, Rebecca is an Associate Professor of Professional Practice at the Caine College of the Arts, Utah State University, where she has relished the opportunity to develop the String Program in collaboration with her colleagues. Her students have gone on to attend prestigious graduate school programs and summer festivals, won or placed in numerous competitions, and also have become excellent public school music educators. Rebecca has also been a guest teacher at festivals such as Madeline Island Music Camp, Oficina de Musica de Curitiba, the Einfeldt Chamber Music Seminar, and Credo at Oberlin.

Combining science and art resulted in a more personal kind of partnership when Rebecca married physicist Dr. Robert Davies in 2013. In their spare time, they are busy experimenting with permaculture principles on their acre-sized yard and providing exceptional service for their cat, Simon.
ANNE FRANCIS BAYLESS  
Cello | Fry Street Quartet

Cellist Anne Francis Bayless has been a member of the internationally acclaimed Fry Street Quartet since 2000. Appointed to the faculty at Utah State University in 2002, she holds the position of Associate Professor of Professional Practice in cello and chamber music.

Growing up in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Anne’s love for chamber music began early, when she performed in her first string quartet at the age of eight. Mentored by wonderful teachers and trained by excellent coaches and conductors, Anne credits her formative development as a musician to the vibrant musical community of her childhood. She earned her Bachelor of Music degree at the Cleveland Institute of Music, where a thriving chamber music program only deepened her commitment to making a life in a string quartet. A student of Richard Aaron and Alan Harris at CIM, she spent her summers at the Center for Advanced Quartet Studies at the Aspen Music Festival and School, as well as the Isaac Stern Chamber Music Program at Carnegie Hall. She became assistant to Cleveland Quartet cellist Paul Katz at Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music while earning her Master of Music degree, and joined the Fry Street Quartet soon afterwards. Other important mentors include Bernard Greenhouse, Bonnie Hampton, and Bruce Uchimura, as well as members of the Cavani, Cleveland, Emerson, Juilliard, and Orion Quartets.

With the Fry Street Quartet, Anne has performed at major venues, festivals, and for distinguished series including Carnegie Hall and the Schneider Series at the New School in New York, the Jewel Box series in Chicago, Chamber Music Columbus, the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach, the DiBartolo Performing Arts Center at Notre Dame, and the Mozart Gemeinde in Klagenfurt, Austria. International performances also include a concert tour of the Balkan states as a Carnegie Fellow, sponsored by Carnegie Hall and the U.S. Department of State. The FSQ has recorded a discography that ranges from Haydn and Beethoven to Janacek and Rorem, with a disc of recently commissioned works to be released in the fall of 2016.

In addition to her work with the quartet, Anne is a frequent guest artist with the NOVA Chamber Music Series, where recent performances include solo works by J.S. Bach and lauded American composer Michael Hersch. She has been a guest artist with the Fontana Summer Chamber Music Festival, and SummerFest La Jolla, and made her Mainly Mozart Festival (San Diego) debut in 2016.

Anne resides in Logan, Utah with her husband Brant Bayless, principal violist of the Utah Symphony, and their young son Harrison. Family time includes hiking in the mountains, gardening in the backyard, going for bike rides, and cooking.

BRADLEY OTTENSEN  
Viola | Fry Street Quartet

Bradley Ottesen, a performer of “warmly rich, opulent tone” (Washington Post) is the violist of the internationally acclaimed Fry Street Quartet, the quartet-in-residence at Utah State University, where Mr. Ottesen is an Associate Professor of Professional Practice.

Brad began his studies at the renowned Preucil School of Music in Iowa City, IA. His first teacher was William Preucil, Sr, the longtime violist of the Stradivari Quartet, the pioneering quartet-in-residence at the University of Iowa. The experience of being part of a strong community music program would greatly influence the way he sees the role of music in the world, and hearing the masterful sound of a quartet violist from an early age made chamber music a fundamental part of his musical DNA.

Brad went on to earn degrees from Northwestern University and the New England Conservatory, his principal teachers including Peter Slowik and James Dunham (another quartet violist!). He is grateful to have received further guidance from musicians such as cellist Bernard Greenhouse, violinist Eric Rosenblith, and members of the Juilliard, Muir, and Cleveland string quartets.

Initially setting out on an orchestral career, Mr. Ottesen served four seasons as Assistant Principal Viola with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. His early orchestral career included formative experiences with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, New World Symphony, and the Tanglewood Music Center, working extensively under the batons of the great conductors Pierre Boulez, Seiji Ozawa, Mstislav Rostropovich, and Daniel Barenboim.

As the current President of the Utah Viola Society, Mr. Ottesen has worked to organize vibrant and inclusive events for the entire viola community. He has been on the viola and chamber music faculty of many festivals, including Madelaine Island Chamber Music Festival, Credo Chamber Music Festival, and the Officina de Musica in Curitiba, Brazil. He has given masterclasses at Brigham Young University, the University of Iowa, and Oberlin Conservatory, and in 2015 he was invited to give a masterclass at the American String Teachers Association’s national convention.

Brad greatly enjoys the process of working with contemporary luthiers, and performs on violas commissioned from Peter and Wendy Moes of Peissenberg, Germany, and Hiroshi Iizuka of Philadelphia, USA.

Brad has a strong love for nature and the outdoors, and he lives in Logan, Utah with his wife Denise and their many animals — including a Desert Tortoise named Rose, a protected species adopted through the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.
Lauren Hunt is Assistant Professor of Horn at Utah State University, where she has taught since August 2019. Winner of the International Horn Competition of America in 2013, Dr. Hunt performs regularly with a variety of ensembles across the United States. As a soloist, Dr. Hunt has appeared with numerous orchestras, including the Army Orchestra in Washington, DC. In recent years, she has appeared at music festivals from coast to coast, including the Marlboro, Spoleto, and Artsosphere Festivals. Additionally, she has toured internationally with ensembles including the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, and actively worked as a freelancer in the mid-Atlantic and southeast regions of the United States. She recently became one of the first registered Suzuki French horn teachers in the world.

A passionate chamber musician, Dr. Hunt has appeared at performed at prestigious festivals including the Marlboro and Norfolk Festivals. A featured performer at the Phoenix Chamber Music Festival, she also performed a chamber music recital at Carnegie Hall in 2017. She is currently a member of the Logan Symphony Winds. Dr. Hunt can be heard on a recently-released album of Beethoven’s chamber works for winds on the Naxos label.

Dr. Hunt has taught extensively around the globe, and is a graduate of the Global Leaders Program, which provides guest artists to “El Sistema”-style programs in the Western Hemisphere. She worked for three years as a guest artist in one such program in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, and has created entrepreneurial music projects in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and abroad. She has presented master classes and recitals in Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and in many cities throughout the United States. Prior to her current position, Dr. Hunt was on faculty at Illinois State University. Dr. Hunt has adjudicated for the International Horn Competition of America and the Mid-South Horn Workshop Solo Workshop.

Dr. Hunt holds a Bachelor’s of Music in Horn Performance from the New England Conservatory, a Master’s of Music in Horn Performance from Yale University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Horn Performance from the University of Georgia, where she was a Presidential Fellow.

Brant Bayless came to Utah after completing his studies in New York City. After early piano lessons and singing in his father’s various church choirs, Brant started the viola at age 12. Winning the Governor’s Scholarship to Interlochen Arts Camp in 1992 gave him his first glimpse of the musical world outside Oklahoma. After two years at the University of Kansas studying with Michael Kimber, Brant found his way to New York. Invited to study on scholarship with Pinchas Zukerman and Patinka Kopec at the Manhattan School of Music, Brant finished his bachelor’s degree in 1997.

Brant joined the Utah Symphony in 2001. With the Utah Symphony he has made regular concerto and concertante appearances: in February 2019 in Bach’s Sixth Brandenburg concerto with Roberta Zalkind; in May 2018 with Music Director Thierry Fischer and cellist Rainer Eudeikis in Strauss’s “Don Quixote”; in March 2012 with conductor Jun Märkl in Takemitsu’s “A String Around Autumn”; in August 2010 with conductor David Lockington in Bruch’s “Romance” and von Weber’s “Andante and Rondo Ungarese”; and multiple performances of Mozart’s Sinfonia Concertante with violinists Viviane Hagner, Kathryn Eberle, and Ralph Matson.

Brant performs on most of Salt Lake City’s stages in ensembles large and small and is especially proud of his association with the NOVA Chamber Music Series. With NOVA he has presented solo works from Bach to Berio and given first performances of important new works—including a chamber concerto written for Brant and pianist Jason Hardink by composer Bruce Quaglia.

Outside of Utah he has appeared as guest principal viola of the St. Louis Symphony with their Music Director David Robertson. Brant has performed as a regular guest and substitute violist with the Muir and Fry Street string quartets. During summers he plays at the Grand Teton Music Festival. Brant’s chamber music performances from GTMF have been featured on NPR’s Performance Today. At the GTMF he formed the Teton Trio with Dallas Symphony Principal Clarinetist Greg Raden and Jason Hardink. Their first CD will soon be released on the Centaur label. Brant is also principal violist of the Mainly Mozart Festival in San Diego.

Born in Kansas and raised in Ponca City, Oklahoma, Brant Bayless started his career while still at the Manhattan School as the violist of the Arcata String Quartet. His performances with the Arcata were heard throughout the US and Europe, including concerts at New York’s Town Hall and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie and London’s famed Wigmore Hall. The Arcata’s Beethoven Cycle at Wave Hill, the Bronx estate of Arturo Toscanini, and their many recordings, some of which are available still, continue to be memorable highlights. In 1998, the Arcata inaugurated a residency at Utah State University, a position that they held for three years.

His viola is attributed to the Milanese maker Luigi Bajoni from 1858. Having fallen in love with the mountains and deserts of Utah, he spends as much time as possible hiking, cycling, and seeking out backcountry ski descents. Brant is married to the cellist Anne Francis Bayless, and they have a young son.
Elzbieta Bilicka

Elzbieta Bilicka holds a Master of Arts degree in Piano Performance from the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz (class of Katarzyna Popowa-Zydron) plus “artistry and energy with the highest professionalism” (Cathal Breslin). She has been described as “an unusual and interesting artist” (Adam Rozlach) and “an intensely musical being – a highly refined musical temperament” (Michael Moran).

Elzbieta holds a Piano Faculty degree from the Haute Ecole de Musique de Genève in Switzerland.

Pi a n o

Elzbieta is a prizewinner of various international piano competitions. The latest and most important of them are: Walled City Music International Online Piano Competition in Derry, Northern Ireland, 2020 (1st prize), Putra International Online Piano Competition in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2020 (1st prize), the 10th International Ignacy Jan Paderewski Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz, Poland, 2016 (laureate title) and Polish Chopin Piano NIFC Competition in Katowice, Poland, 2016 (3rd prize). In 2018, she was awarded the ‘Young Poland’ Scholarship of the Polish Ministry of Culture.

Elzbieta has performed solo and with orchestras in many cities of her native Poland, as well as in Italy, Austria, Switzerland and USA. Her recitals have been featured on Polish Radio Koszalin, Polish TV Culture and BBC Radio. In July 2021, Centaur Records will be releasing her debut solo album: Lights and shadows, featuring music by Chopin, Ravel, Scriabin and Szymanowski.

Next to performing, Elzbieta also writes articles on music and neuroaesthetics (neurological studies of aesthetics in art). She has been published in Universitas Gedanensis (2020, issue 58) and Art and Philosophy, a member of the International Association for Aesthetics (2021, issue 53). In her free time, Elzbieta is a passionate baker and hiker.

Elzbieta joined the Piano Faculty of the Caine College of the Arts at Utah State University in Logan (UT) in May 2019.

Cahill Smith

Pianist Cahill Smith has performed in major venues in the United States and abroad, including four programs at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall in New York, Chongqing’s PolyTheatre, Zhuhai’s Mozart Hall, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum’s Calderwood Hall in Boston, Cleveland Museum of Art, the Royal Dublin Society’s Concert Hall, Buffalo’s Kleinhans’s Music Hall, and Birmingham’s Alys Stephens Center. Cahill has been featured as a concerto soloist with the National Ukrainian Symphony Orchestra in Kiev, the Mongolian Symphony Orchestra in Hohhot, China, the Eastman Philharmonia, the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, the Chattanooga Symphony, the Butler Symphony Orchestra, the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra, and others. His live and studio recordings have been broadcast on WQXR, New York’s Classical Music Radio Station, WCRB, Classical Radio Boston, and WSMC, Chattanooga Public Radio.

Cahill gave his first recital at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall in 2013 with a program dedicated entirely to works of Nikolai Medtner. Two years later, in a review of his 2015 solo recital in the same venue, New York Concert Review wrote, “The entire second half was devoted to a special “cause” of Mr. Smith: the piano music of Nikolai Medtner […]. Here, Mr. Smith was in his element, revealing every twist and turn, every poignant repeat of the cyclic themes, with beautiful shimmering colors I haven’t heard since Gilels played the Sonata reminiscenza in Carnegie Hall in 1980.” Cahill has given recitals and lectures on Medtner’s music at Yale University, the International Medtner Festival in London, and others.

In January of 2019, his debut album “Medtner: Forgotten Melodies” was featured as Classical Radio Boston’s “CD of the Week” for its “irresistible lyricism” and “a palpable sense of love – a real affinity for the directness and honesty in Medtner’s music, which goes straight to the heart.”

Cahill completed his Doctorate of Musical Arts at the Eastman School of Music, where he served as the teaching assistant to Natalya Antonova. At Eastman, Cahill was the inaugural recipient of the Douglas Lowry award for excellence in degree recital performance, won the Eastman Concerto Competition, received honors in chamber music, and was awarded the Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Cahill completed his Master’s degree at the University of Michigan with Arthur Greene, and his Bachelor’s at the University of Alabama at Birmingham with Yakov Kasman. Cahill previously served as Keyboard Area Coordinator and Artistic Director of the International Piano Festival and Competition at Lee University. He joined the faculty of Utah State University in 2019. Cahill is a Yamaha Artist.
FSCMF is only possible because of the generous support of organizations and individuals who believe in the arts and understand the value of music education.

We appreciate your interest in supporting our festival and would invite you to consider sponsoring a concert ($400), a student ($600), or an ensemble ($2400). We accept donations in any amount, and all donations are tax deductible.

Donations (payable to Fry Street Chamber Music Festival) may be mailed to:

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The Caine College of the Arts serves the people of the State of Utah and supports the mission of Utah State University by cultivating artistic and academic excellence, by preparing our students to realize their full creative potential as artists and citizens, by increasing the visibility of the college and university, and by fostering professionalism and collegial relationships in all aspects of our operations.