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Fry Street Quartet

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Author

Fry Street Quartet, Robert Waters, Rebecca McFaul, Brad Ottesen, Anne Francis Bayless, Kathryn Eberle, and Jason Hardink

The Fry Street Quartet

Robert Waters, violin
Rebecca McFaul, violin
Bradley Ottesen, viola
Anne Francis Bayless, cello

With special guests Kathryn Eberle, violin, and Jason Hardink, piano
Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015 | 7:30 pm | Caine Performance Hall

Present Works By

BEETHOVEN

Sonata for Violin and Piano in C Minor, Op. 30, no. 2

- I. Allegro con brio
- II. Adagio cantabile
- III. Scherzo. Allegro — Trio
- IV. Finale. Allegro

Guest artists from the NOVA Chamber Music Series
Kathryn Eberle, violin, and Jason Hardink, piano

Intermission

String Quartet in E-flat Major, Op. 127

- I. Maestoso — Allegro
- II. Adagio, ma non troppo e molto cantabile —
Andante con moto
- III. Scherzando vivace
- IV. Finale. Allegro

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Notes on the history of the music by Jason Hardink and Jeff Counts

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

(1770-1827)

VIOLIN SONATA NO. 7 IN MINOR, OP. 30, NO. 2

DURATION: 28 MINUTES IN FOUR MOVEMENTS

Beethoven's opus 30 sonatas were composed shortly before a major crisis in the composer's life, famously documented in the suicide note known as the Heiligenstadt Testament. Here for the first time, Beethoven poured out his anguish over the suffering caused by his loss of hearing and impending deafness. The note was written over the course of several days, however, and it ends by outlining his resolve to serve art and humanity with renewed humility and perseverance. Though all three sonatas of the opus 30 set were created in this atmosphere, only the Sonata in C Minor gives any hint at Beethoven's personal struggles during the summer of 1802. The outer movements possess a stormy, vehement character unlike any of the violin sonatas thus far, prefiguring the *Kreutzer Sonata* of 1803.

STRING QUARTET IN E-FLAT MAJOR, OP. 127

DURATION: 38 MINUTES IN FOUR MOVEMENTS

All five (six if you include the *Grosse Fuge*) of Beethoven's "late" string quartets were written within two years of the 9th Symphony and, like that orchestral landmark, they enjoy a mythic, almost holy status today in their respective genre. The first three (op. 127, op. 132 and op. 130 chronologically) were written on commission from the Russian Prince Nikolai Galitzin. Galitzin was an amateur cellist and generous chamber music aficionado. His request for "one, two or three" quartets came at a time when Beethoven, though fully deaf, still believed he was "on the threshold of great things." Though it had been several years since the composer had written for string quartet, he assured his benefactor that the first work (of the eventual three) would be completed in just three months. By the time op. 127 was ready for performance, however, two full years had passed. The 1825 premiere by the Schuppanzigh Quartet in Vienna was a poorly rehearsed flop that somehow (thankfully) did not dissuade Beethoven from creating two additional quartets for Prince Galitzen and three others later without commission. With the 9th Symphony and *Missa Solemnis* also under construction during these important last years, Beethoven clearly was still capable of "great things" as a composer. The op. 127 string quartet earned its own rightful place a few weeks after its sad first performance, when it was redeemed by a different, more prepared ensemble led by Joseph Böhm.

About Kathryn Eberle

Violinist Kathryn Eberle is Associate Concertmaster of the Utah Symphony. She recently made her solo subscription series debut with the Utah Symphony, performing Leonard Bernstein's *Serenade*. The Salt Lake Tribune described her performance as, "marrying unimpeachable technical skill with a persuasive and perceptive voice." Previously, Eberle was a violinist with the St. Louis Symphony and Guest Concertmaster with the Omaha and Richmond Symphonies. She served extensively as Concertmaster for the Juilliard Orchestra, including the ensemble's tour of China, as well as performances in Avery Fisher, Alice Tully and Carnegie Halls. Eberle's solo performances include appearances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Louisville Orchestra, the Nashville Symphony, the National Academy Orchestra of Canada, the Bahia Symphony in Brazil and the Fireworks Ensemble at the Library of Congress. She has collaborated with such artists as Edgar Meyer, Jaime Laredo, Arnold Steinhardt, Ricardo Morales and members of the New York Philharmonic.

An avid chamber musician, her festival appearances include Aspen, Banff, Yellow Barn, Encore School for Strings, Missillac (France), Sewanee, Laguna Beach, Innsbrook and Festival Mozaic. Eberle received a master's degree from The Juilliard School studying with Sylvia Rosenberg. A native of Nashville, Tennessee, she was a pre-college student of Cornelia Heard at Vanderbilt's Blair School of Music. Eberle performs on a J.B. Vuillaume, Paris, 1870.

About Jason Hardink

Pianist Jason Hardink is the Artistic Director of the NOVA Chamber Music Series and Principal Symphony Keyboard of the Utah Symphony. His performances include a wide-ranging repertoire of music by living composers and works of the historical canon. Over the last few seasons, he has given a series of lecture recitals on Beethoven's piano sonatas, performed a cycle of recitals situating the late piano music of Franz Schubert in dialogue with works by Second Viennese School composers, and toured with Olivier Messiaen's monumental *Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus*.

Hardink holds a doctoral of music arts from Rice University, where he studied with Brian Connelly. Hardink has performed solo works of Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin, Schumann and Brahms on period instruments, and he has toured Norway with violinist Tor Johan Bøen performing the Grieg Sonatas for violin and piano on an 1853 Blüthner. In Salt Lake City he has worked with noted guest composers such as Tristan Murail and Frederic Rzewski as a member of the Canyonlands New Music Ensemble, and he has premiered works by Utah composers Morris Rosenzweig, Miguel Chuaqui, Steve Roens, Bruce Quaglia and Steve Ricks.

The Fry Street Quartet holds the Endowed String Quartet Residency at Utah State University's Caine College of the Arts. We gratefully acknowledge Dan C. and Manon Caine Russell for their generosity in establishing this endowment.

About the FSQ

Hailed as "a triumph of ensemble playing" (*New York Times*), Fry Street Quartet has perfected a "blend of technical precision and scorching spontaneity" (*Strad*). Since securing the Grand Prize at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, Fry Street Quartet has reached audiences from Carnegie Hall to Sarajevo and Jerusalem, exploring the medium of the string quartet and its life-affirming potential with "profound understanding, ...depth of expression, and stunning technical astuteness" (*Deseret Morning News*).

While the FSQ continues to plumb the depths of the great traditional string quartet repertoire in its concert programming, recently it has been on a tear with new commissions, collaborations and ideas.

The FSQ is compelled to respond artistically to issues surrounding global sustainability. Alongside physicist and educator Dr. Robert Davies, FSQ members created *The Crossroads Project: Rising Tide* featuring composer Laura Kaminsky's string quartet with projections of paintings created for the project by artist Rebecca Allan, and photographs by Garth Lenz. *The Crossroads Project* has had more than 17 performances in the U.S., Mexico and Brazil. The project was recently featured in the Metropolitan section of the *New York Times* as well as *Chamber Music* magazine. A second chapter of *The Crossroads Project* is in the works and will feature a new work by composer Libby Larsen. The next FSQ concert on February 12, 2015, will premiere Libby Larsen's new string quartet, and the full, multi-disciplinary expression of the concept will premiere in the fall of 2015.

The Fry Street Quartet holds the Endowed String Quartet Residency at the Caine College of the Arts at Utah State University, where they are the string faculty and artists in residence. The FSQ is represented by the management firm Jonathan Wentworth and Associates.

For a full biography of the FSQ and its members, schedule of upcoming events and project descriptions, please visit frystreetquartet.com.

About the NOVA Chamber Music Series

The FSQ continues to enjoy their association with Salt Lake City's vibrant NOVA Chamber Music Series. NOVA, under the artistic direction of Jason Hardink, presents the vast chamber music repertoire — from solo works to chamber symphonies — with Utah's resident artists through concerts, commissions of new works, educational programs, and recordings.

Kathryn Eberle and Jason Hardink are completing their performance cycle of all 10 of Beethoven's sonatas for violin and piano on NOVA's Gallery Series this spring.

For more information about the series visit Novaslc.org.



Spring Semester String Area Events

Friday, Jan. 16, 7:30 pm Utah Symphony Chamber Orchestra
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 6:15 pm Master Class with Trio Solisti
Courtesy of The Chamber Music Society of Logan
Room 220 | Chase Fine Arts Center | USU Campus

Thursday, Jan. 29, 7:30 PM. Trio Solisti
Presented by The Chamber Music Society of Logan
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 6:15 pm. Open Session
With the FSQ and composer Libby Larsen
Room 220 | Chase Fine Arts Center | USU Campus

Thursday, Feb. 12, 7:30 pm. Fry Street Quartet
Concert featuring Haydn's Op. 76, no. 2 (the "Quinten"), Mendelssohn's Op. 44, no. 1, and the world premiere of Libby Larsen's new string quartet written for the FSQ and the Crossroads Project
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 7:30 pm. USU Symphony Orchestra
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Wednesday, March 4, 6:15 pm. Master Class with the Dover Quartet
Courtesy of The Chamber Music Society of Logan
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Thursday, March 5, 7:30 pm. Dover Quartet
Presented by The Chamber Music Society of Logan
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Thursday, March 26, 7:30 pm. Baroque Band
Presented by The Chamber Music Society of Logan
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Monday, April 13, 7:30 pm. Student Chamber Music Spring Recital
Caine Performance Hall | USU Campus

Thursday, April 23, 7:30 pm. USU Symphony Orchestra
Kent Concert Hall | Chase Fine Arts Center | USU Campus



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