



Susan Cahill: Long Bio

Bassist, composer, and educator Susan Cahill has played in major symphony orchestras, jazz combos, chamber groups, solo recitals, duos with piano, duos with trombone, and duos with voice. She's played concertos, continuo parts, improvised jazz, American-songbook standards, tango, symphonic repertoire, and her own compositions. She has given presentations at music festivals and bass conventions and master classes here and in Europe. Her recordings of solo and chamber-music performances have been featured on Colorado Public Radio.

A member of the *Colorado Symphony* since 1997, Susan has made guest appearances with the *Utah Symphony*, the *Santa Fe Pro Musica*, and the *St. Paul Chamber Orchestra*. Summers she has worked with the *Grand Tetons Music Festival*, the *Peter Britt Festival* in Oregon, and *Strings in the Mountains* in Steamboat Springs.

Susan has soloed with the *Colorado Symphony* and the *Louisiana Philharmonic* as well as on the *Englewood Arts Series* and the *Colorado College Summer Music Festival*, where she's a faculty member. The *Colorado Springs Gazette* praised her performance of the Bottesini *Concerto #2* as "A showcase for the amazing Susan Cahill, (who) made the double bass sing with a marvelously disembodied, woody timbre." The *Gazette* called her performance of Jacob Druckman's *Valentine* "Breathless."

Susan has appeared with the American roots band *The Boulder Acoustic Society*. She's the bassist of the acclaimed Argentinian tango ensemble *Extasis*, which has played onstage and in clubs on three continents. Her compositions have been featured at *Festival Mozaic's* fringe series "Classical Musicians Doing Unclassical Things" and she's toured the western U.S. and Canada performing with her sister, singer-songwriter Beth Cahill. Susan is the co-director of *Denver Eclectic Concerts*, a series dedicated to the fusion of classical chamber traditions with other forms of music, spoken word, and performance art.

More ↓

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An active educator and clinician, Susan has been on the faculty of the *University of Denver's Lamont School of Music* since 2009, when she hosted the school's first ever "Bassfest." She was previously a faculty member at *Tulane* and at Denver's *Metropolitan State College*. She's given master classes at the *University of Colorado* and the *University of Northern Colorado* and presentations at the *BASS2010* convention in Berlin and the *International Society of Double Bassists* conventions in San Francisco and Rochester. Recently she's taught and performed at *Festicamara Medellín*, a festival promoting music instruction for the youth of Colombia. Her private students have gone on to the *Curtis Institute*, *New England Conservatory*, *Interlochen*, *Ithaca College*, the *University of Southern California*, the *University of Maryland*, *Yale*, and *Indiana University*. Many now hold positions in professional orchestras.

A Chicago native, Susan's a graduate of *Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music*, where she studied with Bruce Bransby and Lawrence Hurst. Her bass was made by Guiseppe Santori of Turin in 1823.

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