



Susan Gaines Cahill

Double Bassist & Composer

Co-Artistic Director, *Denver Eclectic Concerts*

CURRENT POSITIONS

Colorado Symphony Orchestra (CSO), Double Bassist, 1997-present

- Soloed with the orchestra, *Paganini Moses Variations*, *Bottesini Melodie*, 2001
- Acting Assistant Principal, 2001-2002 season
- Current CSO Trustee, has held numerous administrative committee positions

University of Denver Lamont School of Music, Instructor of Double Bass, 2009-present

- Teaches applied double bass, studio class, repertoire class, pedagogy
- During first 2 audition cycles increased audition recruitment sixfold
- Coaches chamber ensembles of mixed instrumentalists
- Performs on faculty recitals
- Held the first ever 'Bassfest' at the university with workshops and guest artists
- Hosted masterclasses and Q&A sessions with eminent bassists Edgar Meyer, Renaud Garcia-Fons, and Bruce Bransby
- Students are currently engaged in contractual symphonic work in the Denver area

Colorado College Summer Music Festival, 2004-present

- Performs and teaches as Faculty Artist
- Recruits undergraduate and graduate students from top U.S. music schools
- Coaches student chamber ensembles and sectionals
- Presents master classes
- Performed the *Bottesini Concerto* with the *Festival Orchestra*, 2009
- Collaborates on chamber performances with musicians from the *Cleveland Orchestra*, *Chicago Symphony*, *Minnesota Orchestra*, *St. Paul Chamber Orchestra*, *Juilliard*, *Eastman*, *Indiana University*, *McGill University*, and the *Cleveland Institute*
- Performs many modern solo works for double bass

Festival Mozaic, 2012-present

- Performs chamber music and jazz with distinguished U.S. and European artists
- Developed and presented a concert of own compositions and arrangements on the festival's fringe series "Classical Musicians Doing Unclassical Things"

Colorado Chamber Players, 2009-present

- Solo and collaborative performances with CSO colleagues and area university faculty
- Performs outreach concerts at local cultural institutions and senior centers

Current Positions (continued)

Utah Symphony, Substitute Musician, 2013-present

Festicamara Medellín, 2012-present

- Provides instruction in conjunction with a multinational group of artist-teachers for underprivileged students in Medellín, Colombia
- Teaches, presents masterclasses, and provides coaching in side-by-side rehearsals and performances

University of Denver Lamont School of Music Summer Pre-College Academy, 2009-present

Grand Teton Music Festival, 2010, 2013-present

Denver Eclectic Concerts, Co-Director, 2013-present

- Presents unique combinations and collaborations of western art music alongside multidisciplinary art forms and musical styles
- Responsible for programing, fundraising, and hosting monthly concerts September through May

Extasis Tango Ensemble, 2006-present

- Bassist of the acclaimed tango ensemble which has performed in the U.S. and internationally
- Provides instruction on tango performance practice to audiences and young musicians

Up Close and Musical, 1997-present

- Performs in Denver Metro elementary schools as part of an educational organization dedicated to bringing classical music to the schools

PREVIOUS POSITIONS: EDUCATION

Instructor of Double Bass, *Metropolitan State University*, Denver, 2005-2009

Visiting Instructor of Double Bass, *University of Colorado*, Boulder, 2007 fall semester

Visiting Instructor of Double Bass, *University of Colorado*, Boulder, 1998 fall semester

Instructor of Double Bass, *Tulane University*, New Orleans, 1996-1997

PREVIOUS POSITIONS: PERFORMANCE

St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Guest Musician, 2014

Strings in the Mountains, 1998, 2010-2012

- Summer chamber-music festival directed by Andrés Cárdenes

Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, 1994-1997

- Served as both principal and section member
- Performed as solo bassist in chamber works and educational programs

Peter Britt Music Festival, 1997-1998

Colorado Music Festival, 1996

Northwest Indiana Symphony, Principal Bass, 1993-1994

SELECT WORKSHOPS, MASTERCLASSES, AND PRESENTATIONS

Recitalist, *International Society of Double Bassists Convention*, Fort Collins CO, 2015

'Mentoring the Next Generation of Female Double Bassists,' *International Society of Double Bassists Convention*, Rochester NY, 2013

Masterclass, *Roosevelt University*, Chicago, 2012

'Developing Eye Movement For Greater Sight-Reading Facility,' *International Society of Double Bassists Convention*, San Francisco, 2011

'Developing Eye Movement For Greater Sight-Reading Facility,' BASS2010, Berlin, 2010

'Bassfest at Lamont, with Bruce Bransby,' *University of Denver Lamont School of Music*, 2010

COMMITTEE WORK, SERVICE, HONORS

Organized the 2014 *Denver Young Artist Orchestra* Double-Bass Recital

Chaired committee to purchase a new organ for Boettcher Concert Hall, Denver

Member, *Colorado Symphony* Board of Trustees (from September 2014)

COMMITTEE WORK, SERVICE, HONORS (CONTINUED)

Honored as the first annual Colorado Symphony “Women of Note” (2012-2013 season)

Featured Artist for September, 2012 *International Society of Double Bassists* Portrait Calendar

Served on numerous *Colorado Symphony* administrative committees:

- Artistic Committee: the key CSO committee overseeing the artistic operation and furthering the artistic mission of the orchestra; responsible for programming decisions, soloists, and guest conductors; includes the Music Director, Executive Director, Trustees, and Musicians, along with Administrative Staff
- Orchestra Committee (as member and chair): liaison between musicians, the union, and management; administers all elections and referendums within the Orchestra
- Contract Negotiation Committee
- Sustainability Committee
- Benefits Committee

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Music, Double Bass Performance, *Indiana University*, 1991

Major Teachers:

- Bruce Bransby, *Indiana University, Aspen School of Music*, 1986-1992
- Lawrence Hurst, *Indiana University*, 1986-1989
- Murray Grodner, *Indiana University*, 1985-1986
- Stuart Sankey, *Aspen Music Festival*, 1991-1992
- Stephen Lester, *Chicago Symphony* bassist, 1982-1985

SUPPORT MATERIALS

Performances on video: www.susancahill.com/video

Quotes from selected reviews: www.susancahill.com/presskit

Download photos and bios: www.susancahill.com/presskit

Professional references available on request