

# Fry Street Quartet



**ON DISC** The FSQ's 2019 recording, *As One*, debuted at #3 on the Billboard Classical charts. "...a radiant performance...with elegance and subtlety...a remarkable achievement" (Gramophone)

**ON TOUR** The FSQ's 2019 China debut tour included a sell-out in Shanghai and is followed by fall-to-spring tours from the southeast to the northwest US.

**ON STAGE** The Fry Street Chamber Music festival enters its 4th season and the quartet now serves as Music Directors of the acclaimed NOVA Chamber Music Series

**ON THE PAGE** Innovative programs include a new commission from Clarice Assad and tour dates with noted cellist Amit Peled in performances of the Schubert Cello Quintet.

**“TECHNICAL PRECISION AND SCORCHING SPONTANEITY”**

— STRAD MAGAZINE



“The robust, young Fry Street Quartet was a triumph of ensemble playing.”  
*The New York Times*

“[The quartet] inhabited the works, playing with a unified sense of articulation, blend and knowledge of the music’s dramatic keystones, nuanced subtleties and thrilling climaxes.”  
*The Salt Lake Tribune*

“...precision, preparation, excitement, profound heritage, and ultimate satisfaction.”  
*The New York Concert Review*

“Fry Street’s performance contained elegance and that wonderful chemistry that makes chamber music magical. They have a combination of musical maturity and charisma. The Fry Street Quartet has a capacity for both a lot of energy and also a lot of poetry.”  
*The South Bend Tribune*

“....the FSQ captured the transcendent beauty of the music with its expressive and poetic reading. They brought spirituality to their interpretation and made it a profoundly moving and utterly spellbinding experience that left the audience enthralled by its eloquence.”  
*The Deseret News*

This remarkable quartet – hailed as “a triumph of ensemble playing” by *The New York Times* – is a multi-faceted ensemble taking chamber music in new directions.

Touring music of the masters as well as exciting original works from visionary composers of our time, the Fry Street Quartet has perfected a “blend of technical precision and scorching spontaneity” (*The Strad*). Since securing the Grand Prize at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, the quartet has reached audiences from Carnegie Hall to London, Shanghai, 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*).

The FSQ has recorded widely, from Haydn to Rorem, and is known for being “equally at home in the classic repertoire of Mozart and Beethoven or contemporary music.” (*Palm Beach Daily News*). The latest releases are: *The Crossroads Project* (Navona Records), featuring commissioned works by Laura Kaminsky and Libby Larsen, and *As One*, Kaminsky’s acclaimed chamber opera (Albany Records), which debuted at #3 on the Billboard Classical Chart and is the single most performed contemporary opera in the last two seasons.

Recent tour highlights include the complete Bartok Quartet cycle paired with Haydn’s String Quartets Op. 76, highlighting a juxtaposition of masterpieces by two great innovators for the string quartet. The FSQ premiered Laura Kaminsky’s chamber opera *As One* with soprano Sasha Cooke and baritone Kelly Markgraff at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and has gone on to perform the work with Hawaii Opera Theater, Lyric Opera Kansas City, and Chautauqua Opera.

In addition to collaborations with such acclaimed artists as Joseph Kalichstein, Wu Han, Paul Katz, Donald Weilerstein, Misha Dichter, Andres Cardenes and Roger Tapping, the quartet is embarking on a new project with noted cellist Amit Peled. The FSQ has commissioned *Pandemonium* by Brazilian composer Clarice Assad (premiered with the San Jose Chamber Orchestra), Michael Ellison’s *Fiddlin’* (co-commissioned by the Arizona Friends of Chamber Music and the NOVA series). Laura Kaminsky’s *Rising Tide* and Libby Larsen’s *Emergence* were commissioned for the quartet’s global sustainability initiative, *The Crossroads Project*. *Crossroads* is a fresh approach to communicating society’s sustainability challenges, drawing upon all the senses with a unique blend of science and art. It has been featured on NPR’s *All Things Considered*, as well as in publications by Yale Climate Connections, Reuters, and the New York Times.

The Fry Street Quartet is pleased to hold the Dan C. and Manon Caine Russell Endowed String Quartet Residency at the Caine College of the Arts at Utah State University.



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