

# U T A H M U S I C F E S T I V A L

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Eric Samuels, cellist  
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Eric Samuels' diverse career as soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player has allowed him to perform in the New York area, throughout most of the United States, in Europe, and the Far East. Bernard Greenhouse, formerly of the Beaux Arts Trio, has said of Samuels, "He has distinguished himself among his colleagues as an intelligent and gifted musician of the highest level. Eric has captured the essence of a beautiful sound, and approaches the cello with great sensitivity, as well as technical virtuosity."

Mr. Samuels has performed as Principal Cellist with the Albany Symphony Orchestra, Houston Grand Opera and Ballet Orchestras, NY Gilbert & Sullivan Players, Bard College Chamber Orchestra, Utica & Schenectady Symphonies, Westchester Symphony Orchestra, Aspen Chamber Orchestra, and the Utah Music Festival Orchestra. In addition, he has performed with the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, The Jupiter Symphony, the Bronx Arts Ensemble, the Phoenix Symphony, Boise Philharmonic, and Utah Symphony. His career as soloist has included many regional orchestras in the United States and Europe.

Mr. Samuels has served on the faculties of Sarah Lawrence College, SUNY Albany, the Utah Music Festival, and the Waterloo Music Festival (NJ). While a member of the critically-acclaimed Laurentian String Quartet based at Sarah Lawrence College, Eric traveled internationally on a 48-week/year touring schedule.

Eric studied with Leonard Rose at The Juilliard School, and Bernard Greenhouse at SUNY Stony Brook, where he was awarded a Master of Music degree. He continued his studies for an additional 3 and 1/2 years with Bernard Greenhouse in the pursuit of a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Rutgers University. Mr. Samuels' numerous awards include prizes in the Artists International, the Sunwood Soloist, the Stony Brook Trio, and the SAI competitions.

Among Mr. Samuels' teachers and coaches have been Claus Adam, Julius Baker, Samuel Baron, Isidore Cohen, Timothy Eddy, Robert Gardner, Elsa Hilger, Einar Holm, Jay Humeston, Warren Lash, Ronald Leonard, Robert Levin, Theodore Lettvin, Zara Nelsova, Channing Robbins, Charles Rosen, Harvey Shapiro, Arnold Steinhart, William Stokking, Michael Tree, and André Watts. Along with his wife, flutist Alison Griffiths, Mr. Samuels is a founding member of the Utah Music Festival. Mr. Samuels performs on a cello made in 1803 in Cremona, Italy, by J.B. Ceruti. The instrument is generously on loan from the Einar Holm Collection of the Ithaca Violoncello Institute, Ithaca, NY.

Eric lives with his wife & flutist, Alison Griffiths Samuels, and their four boys in Park City, Utah. He coaches and plays soccer & tennis, and loves skiing. Alison and Eric enjoy being musical pioneers with the founding of the Utah Music Festival in 1994, and more recently, the Park City Youth Instrumental Program & the Park City Orchestral Ensemble & Choir.

## **EDUCATION**

- DOCTORAL CANDIDATE – Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers - student of Bernard Greenhouse
- MASTERS OF MUSIC – SUNY Stony Brook - student of Bernard Greenhouse
- GRADUATE STUDIES
  - Juilliard School of Music - student of Leonard Rose, Channing Robbins & Harvey Shapiro
  - University of Houston - student Warren Lash
  - University of Notre Dame - student of Frank Miller
  - University of Texas at Austin - student of Paul Olefsky
- BACHELOR OF ARTS NEW COLLEGE - Majors in Music, Business, and Religion (student of Jay Humeston & Peter Rejto)
- ASPEN MUSIC FESTIVAL - Student of Claus Adam, Ronald Leonard, Zara Nelsova, and Robert Gardner

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- FOUNDER - Utah Music Festival (CEO and Artistic Director)
- MEMBER – Laurentian String Quartet (Sarah Lawrence College)
- FOUNDER – Duo Aspen & The Aspen Trio – Alison Griffiths Samuels, flute, Eric Samuels, cello, Joanne Pearce, piano
- MEMBER – Stony Brook Trio – coached by the Beaux Arts Trio
- PRINCIPAL
  - Albany Symphony Orchestra - Julius Hegyi, conductor
  - Classic Chamber Orchestra (NYC) - Max Brigado-Darman, conductor
  - Houston Grand Opera & Ballet Orchestras - Sergiu Commissiona & John Demaine, conductors
  - Joffrey Ballet & Ballet Hispanico Orchestras (NYC)
  - New York Gilbert & Sullivan Operetta Orchestra
  - West Point Messiah 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Chamber Orchestra
  - Bard College Chamber Orchestra (NY) – James Bagwell, conductor
  - Westchester Symphony Orchestra - Anthony Aibel, conductor
  - Lyric Opera Orchestra of New York - Gregory Ortega, conductor
  - Utica & Schenectady Symphonies (NY) - Charles Smith, conductor
  - Lake George Opera Orchestra - Lake George, NY
  - Naples Philharmonic (FL) – Timothy Russell, conductor
  - Aim Opera Orchestra - Graz, Austria - Cornelius Eberhardt, conductor
  - Kölner Cantorei Orkester (Germany) – Hermann Max, conductor
  - Allentown Symphony Orchestra - William Smith, conductor
  - Utah Music Festival Orchestra & Chamber Music Ensemble
  - Aspen Chamber Orchestra - Dennis Russell Davies, conductor
  - Desert Inn & Sands Casino Orchestras - Las Vegas, Nevada
- ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
  - Waterloo Festival Orchestra (NJ) - Gerard Schwartz, conductor
  - Tulsa Philharmonic - Tom Lewis, conductor
- FREELANCE
  - Utah Symphony Orchestra
  - Philharmonia Virtuosi (NYC)
  - Orchestra of St. Luke's (NYC)
  - New Jersey Symphony
  - Jupiter Symphony
  - Phoenix Symphony
  - Boise Philharmonic
  - Bronx Arts Ensemble
  - Friends and Enemies of New Music (NYC)
  - Radio City Music Hall
  - Metropolitan Art Museum Chamber Music Series (NYC)
  - CBS Records & Power Station Recording Studios (NYC) - Sound Tracks for Beauty and the Beast and Cape Fear, Recordings with Lyle Mays, Orchestra of St. Luke's, and Robert Shaw
- SOLOIST
  - Symphony Orchestras of: Aachen, Köln, Dormagen Regensburg (Germany); Albany, NY, Austin, TX, Baton Rouge, LA, Charleston, SC, Iowa City, IA, Monmouth, NY, Southbend, IN, SUNY Albany & Stony Brook, Utica, NY, Wichita, KS; Aspen Conducting Orchestra

- MEMBER – Aspen Festival Orchestra - Jorge Mester, Leonard Slatkin, Jerzy Semkov, Sergiu Commissiona, & Edo DeWaart, conductors
- PERFORMER – Royal Viking, Queen Elizabeth II, & Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- FACULTY – Utah Music Festival
- ASSOCIATE FACULTY – Wasserman Quartet Program - Utah State University, Logan, UT
- ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE – Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY
- PROFESSOR OF CELLO – SUNY Albany (NY)
- ASSISTANT FACULTY – Waterloo Music Festival - Princeton, NJ
- MASTER CLASSES – Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY
- TEACHING ASSISTANT
  - SUNY Stony Brook
  - Rutgers Mason Gross School of the Arts
- INSTRUCTOR – University of Texas, Austin, TX

### **AWARDS**

- WINNER
  - Artist's International (NYC) & Sunwood Competitions (NY)
  - Stony Brook Trio Competition
  - SAI Competition
  - New College Music Festival Concerto Competition
- FINALIST – Midland/Odessa (TX) Soloist Competition
- FELLOWSHIPS
  - Aspen Music Festival (9 summers)
  - Music Festival of Florida
- SCHOLARSHIPS
  - Eastman School of Music
  - SUNY Stony Brook
  - Rutgers
  - University of Houston
  - University of Texas at Austin
  - Notre Dame
  - Muhlenberg College
  - Meadowmount Music Camp