



# Salida Aspen Concerts

For immediate release

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## **EDGAR MEYER SOLOS THE DOUBLE BASS AS FEW OTHERS—JULY 20**

SALIDA, COLORADO—Until Edgar Meyer came along, very few composers ever wrote anything for the solo double-bass. Meyer, who has written all kinds of solo works for the instrument, from classical to bluegrass, will be playing Thursday, July 20 at John Held Auditorium as part of the Salida Aspen Concert series.

The 7:30 p.m. concert is sponsored by Collegiate Peaks Bank. Meyer, who has performed with such stars as Garth Brooks, Yo-Yo Ma, Joshua Bell, James Taylor, Reba McIntire and Lyle Lovett, will be playing with pianist Amy Dorfman, his longtime accompanist.

Meyer will play the famous "Suite for Solo Cello No. 5," by Johann Sebastian Bach, transcribed for double-bass. Also on the program will be a divertimento by Franz Joseph Haydn, a Hebrew rhapsody by Ernest Bloch and works that Meyer composed, including "The Great Green Sea Snake," and "Please Don't Feed the Bear," which is particularly appropriate to Chaffee County.

For more than 20 years, Dorfman has collaborated with Meyer with such celebrated groups as the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and the Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam.

David Clark, president of the Salida-Aspen organization says the concert should be "one of the best in the 30-year history of the series."

The New Yorker Magazine hailed Meyer as "the most remarkable virtuoso in the relatively unchronicled history of his instrument."

Meyer has had to search music literature to find composers who have written for the double bass. One was the Italian bass virtuoso, Giovanni Bottesini, who lived from 1821 to 1889. With famed violinist Joshua Bell, Meyer recently released an album with Bottesini's "Gran Duo" and Bottesini's "Bass Concerto No. 2." The album also features Meyer's own works, "Double Concerto for Bass and Cello" with cellist Yo-Yo Ma, and "Concerto in D for Bass."

Meyer's "Quintet for Bass and String Quartet" was recorded on Deutsche Grammophon with the incomparable Emerson String Quartet.

Meyer is a lover of bluegrass. In 1999, he, Bell and legendary bluegrass musicians Sam Bush and Mike Marshall formed a quartet that played works in an album called "Short Trip Home."

It was nominated for a Grammy Award. Meyer has won three of them. His "Appalachia Waltz" with Yo-Yo Ma and Mark O'Connor on Sony Classical was at the top of the charts for 16 weeks in 1997. It was performed on the David Letterman Show and at the Inaugural Gala.

In late April of this year, Sony Classical released a new compact disc, "Edgar Meyer." In it, Meyer plays the bass as well as other instruments including the piano, dobro (resonator guitar) and banjo. They are all dubbed together.

Songs on the disc include "Interlude," "Roundabout," "Whatever," "Just As I Thought," "Woody Creek," and "Please Don't Feed the Bear," which will be performed July 20.

The CD is "an exploration of Edgar Meyer's deep immersion in music, a synthesis of his experiences blown into a landscape unfettered by boundaries, demands or expectations," says John Diliberto of Public Radio International.

Music unfettered by boundaries is just what Chaffee County music lovers can expect from Meyer and Dorfman on July 20.

Salida Aspen Concert tickets, still a bargain at \$10.00, can be purchased at the door or in advance online at < [SalidaAspenConcerts.org](http://SalidaAspenConcerts.org) >.

The final two concerts in the series are scheduled as follows:

- Saturday, **August 5**, 2006, 7:30 p.m. at the Steam Plant Theater for the Performing Arts, downtown historic Salida at Sackett Avenue and G Street in Salida, Colo. – Pianist Ann Schein, violinist Earl Carlyss and cellist Darrett Adkins, all esteemed faculty members Aspen Music Festival and School, will perform the Antonín Dvořák “Dumky” Trio, among other works.
- Saturday, **August 12**, 2006, 7:30 p.m. at John Held Auditorium, Salida High School, 10<sup>th</sup> and D Streets, Salida, Colo. – Russian-born pianist Rita Sloan with violinist David Halen, concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony, and French horn player Jennifer Montone will perform Paul Dukas Villanelle for Horn and Piano, César Franck Sonata for Violin and Piano, Mozart Variations for Solo Piano and the Brahms Horn Trio.

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July 11, 2006