

ALASDAIR FRASER & NATALIE HAAS

WITH THE CSB/SJU ORCHESTRA



Saturday, January 29, 2022 at 7:30 pm
Streamed Performance

The musical partnership between consummate performer Alasdair Fraser, “the Michael Jordan of Scottish fiddling,” and brilliant Californian cellist, Natalie Haas, spans the full spectrum between intimate chamber music and ecstatic dance energy. Over the last 16 years of creating a buzz at festivals and concert halls across the world, they have truly set the standard for fiddle and cello in traditional music. They continue to thrill audiences internationally with their virtuosic playing, their near-telepathic understanding, and the joyful spontaneity and sheer physical presence of their music.

CONNECT

TOPICS AND THEMES THIS PERFORMANCE ENGAGES WITH:

- Songwriting
- Communication & Collaboration
- Scottish Fiddling & Exploration of Music
- Storytelling
- Linguistics
- [Engage Globally and Live Courageously](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES

- [Mike Green & Associates : Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas](#)
- [Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas LIVE From The Center](#)

ENGAGE

For being a relatively small country, Scotland has a very long and influential history of music in the world. Traditionally Scottish dance music is played with a cello and a fiddle/violin. The fiddle plays the melody, and the cello keeps the pulse and rhythm.

- When you think of traditional Scottish music what instruments do you think of?
- Have you listened to Scottish music before? What makes it different and unique from other forms of music in your experience to date?
- What kind of emotions did you feel, while listening the Fraser and Haas?
- Their music has been described as “cutting-edge string explorations.” Was this music an exploration for you? What else does it remind you of?

Storytelling is instrumental in much of the music that Fraser and Haas play. Fraser is quoted as saying, “when you play traditional music, you are looking for a way to speak fluently in your own voice.”

- Could you identify the story within the music? In what ways was story telling used during the performance?
- Have you ever used music, dance, or visual art to convey a story? Do you think it was easier to tell the story through one of these mediums opposed then to just using words?

Tonight’s performance features a collaboration between our professional artists, Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas, and our CSB/SJU student orchestra.

- Where are you able to see Alasdair and Natalie’s collaboration and communication with each other while they perform? Are there any parallels to other collaborative projects you have been a part of?
- Our CSB/SJU orchestra students are practicing the skill of “Living Courageously” as they perform with a professional artist in a new way in front of an audience. In what ways have you practiced “living courageously” in your own life this semester?