

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 4, 2009**

Rachael Cassidy  
Marketing and Public Relations Assistant  
College of Performing and Visual Arts  
Southern Utah University  
Office: 435-865-8667  
Cell: 308-430-4710  
[rachaelcassiday@gmail.com](mailto:rachaelcassiday@gmail.com)

**SATELLITE SALON SERIES TO FEATURE NEW MUSIC PIANIST BRIDGET CONVEY**

(Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah) The SUU Department of Music's *Satellite Salon Concert Series*, which aims to bring world-class musicians of various styles and genres to SUU and Cedar City, will feature a residency by pianist Bridget Convey that will culminate in a free performance in Thorley Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2009, that will also feature SUU Director of Percussion and international performer, Dr. Lynn Vartan. Convey's residency will also include a family-friendly, interactive and casual *Music Unwrapped* performance and discussion at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2009, in Thorley Recital Hall, which the public is also encouraged to attend.

For the Saturday evening concert, Convey will perform selections from *Sonatas & Interludes*, by contemporary American composer John Cage, which involves an unusual technique called "prepared piano." In this technique, objects such as screws, nuts, bolts, pieces of rubber, pieces of plastic and erasers are placed inside the piano, making it sound very different than a piano normally sounds. Additionally, Convey and Vartan will perform two selections together: a piece for piano and percussion called *Matre's Dance* by John Psathas, and a piece for piano and symbols called *Los Destellos de la Resonancia* by Roberto Sierra.

Convey is sought-after as a pianist and has built her professional career around collaborating with living composers and performing contemporary repertoire. She received her Master of Fine Arts degree from the California Institute of the Arts, and founded, directed and was pianist for *ensemble Green*, a new music ensemble. Convey tours extensively, performing and presenting at many national

and international festivals, including the International New Music Festival, the University of Minnesota-Duluth Spring New Music Festival and the Idyllwild School of the Arts New Music Festival.

Percussionist Lynn Vartan is a percussionist who performs regularly in addition to teaching at SUU. She is percussionist for Southwest Chamber Music, who are two-time Grammy® nominees in the “Best Classical Album of the Year” and “Best Small Ensemble with or without a conductor” categories. Vartan has been featured on the Los Angeles Philharmonic Green Umbrella Series, the Different Trains Series and has soloed with the Music and the Court series in Pasadena, California, and the Sierra Wind Symphony. She received her master’s and doctorate degrees from the University of Southern California with special honors and recognition. Vartan is currently producing two solo albums which will be released next year.

The Satellite Salon Series allows for personal interaction and communication between a resident musician and music students from SUU and the region through master classes, question and answer sessions and workshops. For more information on the SUU College of Performing and Visual Arts events, please call the Arts Hotline at (435) 865-8800, or visit [www.suu.edu/arts](http://www.suu.edu/arts).

### **ABOUT THE COLLEGE**

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree.

More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year.

The College’s affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, American Folk Ballet, Utah Shakespearean Festival, the performance group Acclamation, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at [cpvamktg@suu.edu](mailto:cpvamktg@suu.edu).

###