Nancy Galbraith and Stephen Schultz, two faculty members at Carnegie Mellon University, began their collaboration and friendship in 2006, when the composer scored Traverso Mistico for Schultz’s electronically enhanced Baroque flute. The tremendous success of that premiere—presented by the Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble—quickly segued to another crossover effort for Schultz, this time joined by the Pittsburgh-based rock-cello band, Cellofourte. The premiere of Night Train in 2008, again at Carnegie Mellon, was broadcast live on WQED-FM, and concluded with a riotous standing ovation and supercharged encore. Compelled by the irresistible momentum, Galbraith churned out Other Sun, which features the addition of Schultz’s BOSS Loop Station and the newly-formed rock trio Cello Fury. The new work was premiered with equal success late in 2009 at a concert presented by the Carnegie Mellon Baroque Orchestra. The studio recordings of Night Train and Other Sun and live recording of Traverso Mistico are featured on this new album, along with Galbraith’s exotic marimba-soaked Island Echoes, recorded by the IUP Percussion trio.

Other Sun
1. Journey (4:44)
2. Between Stars (4:10)
3. Other Sun (3:24)


Traverso Mistico
4. Day One (6:08)
5. The Joy of Sadness (4:59)
6. Thoughts Without Words (6:02)

Stephen Schultz: electric Baroque flute – Barney Culver: electric cello – Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble; Walter Morales, music director

7. Island Echoes (8:36)
Brandon Kelly, Zachary Larimer, Andrew Wright: percussion

Night Train
8. Detroit Station (3:13)
9. Moonlight (5:06)
10. Nightscape (4:15)
11. BC Dawning (3:04)

Stephen Schultz: electric Baroque flute – Simon Cummings, Ben Muñoz, Nicole Myers, Tate Olsen: electric cellos – Marcus Kim, Brandon Schantz: percussion

TOTAL TIME: 53:41

CONTACT: Matthew Galbraith, producer • galbraith.matthew@gmail.com • 412-266-1524
Nancy Galbraith is widely recognized as one of the leading creative voices in American contemporary classical music. Her compositions appear on numerous recordings, including six collections of her works.

Galbraith’s symphonic music has enjoyed regular performances by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, including premieres led by Gennady Rozhdestvensky and Mariss Jansons. Her Piano Concerto No. 1 was recorded by the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra conducted by Keith Lockhart. Her chamber works have been performed by members of the New York Philharmonic and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Her Piano Sonata No. 1 has been performed in over 50 recitals in the United States and Europe.

Galbraith’s popular works for concert bands, including Danza de los Duendes and Wind Symphony No. 1, are repertory standards, and are performed and recorded regularly by professional and college ensembles around the world. The Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh and music director Robert Page commissioned Galbraith to compose Missa Mysterium, and Requiem—a landmark achievement that was declared “a masterpiece” by the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. Choral commissions followed from the NEA, the Providence Singers, the Pittsburgh Camerata, and many others.

Nancy Galbraith is Professor of Composition at Carnegie Mellon University, where she and her colleague Leonardo Balada have worked together for over 25 years to create one of the most well-respected composition programs in the United States. LINK: nancygalbraith.com

Stephen Schultz, one of the world’s preeminent Baroque flutists, performs as solo and principal flutist with the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and with other leading early music groups, including Musica Angelica of Los Angeles, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, Chatham Baroque, and American Bach Soloists. He also has frequently appeared with world music groups such as D’CuCKOO and Haunted By Waters, using his electronically processed Baroque flute to develop alternative sounds that are unique to his instrument.

As a solo, chamber, and orchestral player, he appears on fifty recordings on prominent labels, including Dorian, Naxos, Harmonia Mundi USA, New Albion, Amon Ra, and Koch International Classics. In 1986, Schultz founded the original-instrument ensemble, American Baroque, whose adventurous programs combined 18th-century music with new works created for the group by American composers, including Carolyn Yarnell, Rudy Rucker, Jonathan Berger, Carl Stone, and the Common Sense Composers Collective.

A graduate of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Holland, Stephen Schultz also holds degrees from the California Institute of the Arts and San Francisco State University. He is a teaching professor of music history at Carnegie Mellon University and founding director of the Carnegie Mellon Baroque Orchestra. LINK: www.stephenschultz.net

Cello Fury is a trio of classically trained cellists from Pittsburgh, PA who perform high-octane music in diverse locales that include concert halls, biker bars, and a recent Pittsburgh Steeler half-time show. Their appeal to a wide audience—from kids to adults, metal-heads to classical music lovers—sets Cello Fury apart from other rock bands. In their electrically charged performances, Nicole Myers, Simon Cummings, and Ben Muñoz demonstrate with élan and wild abandon that the cello can be much more than a classical instrument.

While performing in the band Cellofourte, along with cellist Tate Olson, they won five local rounds of the Emergenza Battle of the Bands. Cellofourte’s first music video was produced by the John Lennon Foundation, the result of winning the John Lennon Educational Tour Bus Battle of the Bands.

Simon, Ben, and Nicole perform frequently on live television and radio programs in the Pittsburgh area. In 2008, they appeared as soloists with the Pittsburgh Symphony Pops conducted by Marvin Hamlisch. Last year they composed and performed music for the Bodigrophy Contemporary Ballet. Recently the trio embarked on an Italian tour, both as cellists with the International Opera Theater, and with their own band, Cello Fury. LINK: www.sonicbids.com/cellofury (Electronic Press Kit)
Walter Morales conducts the Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble for this album's live recording of the world premiere of Traverso Mistico. Mr. Morales is a dynamic and versatile performer who has achieved success as a conductor and a concert pianist. He is now in his sixth season as music director of the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra in Pittsburgh. He has made guest conducting appearances with the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica, Pittsburgh Youth Symphony, Wheeling Symphony Orchestra, Helix New Music Ensemble, the Rutgers Chamber Orchestra, and the Opera Theater of Pittsburgh. From 2003 to 2009, Morales served as music director of the Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble.

He has performed as a piano soloist with the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica, Symphony Orchestra of Chile, Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic Orchestra, Princeton Pro Musica, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, and the International Piano Series Orchestra.

A native of Costa Rica, Morales began his piano studies at the University of Costa Rica. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of Charleston and a Master's Degree in Piano Performance from Rutgers University. LINK: www.facebook.com/waltermoralesmusic

The Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble, for the 2006 premiere of Traverso Mistico, included Evegeny Moryatov and Amanda Grimm (violins), Justin Johnson (viola), Simon Cummings (cello), David Kahn (bass), Katherine Ventura (harp), Meg Zervoulis (harpsichord), Cory Cousins and Brandon Schantz (percussion).

Cellist Barney Culver earned his master's degree at Carnegie Mellon University in 2007, where he studied with Pittsburgh Symphony principle cellist Ann Martindale Williams. Culver is featured on this album in the live recording of the premiere of Traverso Mistico and with Cello Fury in Other Sun. He is currently principal cellist with the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra and performs frequently with the Pittsburgh Live Chamber Orchestra, Wheeling Symphony Orchestra, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, New World Symphony, and the Pittsburgh Opera, and teaches at the Palm Beach Atlantic University School for Strings.

Brandon Schantz and Marcus Kim appear as percussionists throughout this album. Kim performs marimba on Night Train and Schantz on various instruments for Other Sun, Traverso Mistico (with the Carnegie Mellon Contemporary Ensemble), and Night Train. Both Schantz and Kim have recently completion their master's degrees at Carnegie Mellon University, where they studied with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra principle, Tim Adams. In the 2010-2011 concert season, Schantz has been performing with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

The IUP Percussion Trio was assembled in 2004 to perform at the 7th Festival of Women Composers International at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Brandon Kelly, Zachary Larimer, and Andrew Wright were students of Dr. Michael Kingan, a highly respected percussionist and teacher at the university. The trio performed Nancy Galbraith's Island Echoes at the festival and later for this album's studio recording, produced by IUP's distinguished composer and conductor Jack Stamp. All three students have graduated, and are now conducting high school bands in various locations across the United States.

William Yanesh is a composition major and accompanying minor at Carnegie Mellon University, Class of 2011. His pianistic experience includes accompanying the CMU Concert Choir and the Pittsburgh Pops. A student of Nancy Galbraith, his compositions include Promenade for String Quartet, his opera The Man in the Black Suit, and his song cycle The Chanteuse.