American cellist Natasha Farny performs as a soloist and chamber musician. Highlights for 2019-2020 include the release of her debut CD of French music for cello and piano with Jitka Fowler Frankova on the Centaur label, and the emergence of her new chamber group, the Ekstasis Duo with pianist Eliran Avni. Concerts with Ekstasis this season include appearances at Eastman, Merkin Hall, and Saugerties ProMusica. She will be performing Tchaikovsky’s Rococo Variations with Glen Cortese and the Schenectady Symphony in January 2020.

Ms. Farny made her concerto debut at age 17 with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and studied at the Curtis Institute of Music and Yale College during her undergraduate years. After completing her master’s and doctoral degrees at the Eastman School of Music and at the Juilliard School, she received a fellowship for study in Leipzig, Germany. While studying at Juilliard, Ms. Farny won two concerto competitions, performing Dutilleux’s *Tout un Monde Lointain* with Robert Spano and Olav Anton Thommessen’s world premiere, *Through Reflection* with Joel Sachs. More recent performances have included concertos with the Buffalo Philharmonic, Abilene Philharmonic, and the Greeley Symphony Orchestra, as well as with the Longwood (Boston) Symphony, Orchard Park  (NY) Symphony, National Music Festival Orchestra, Pennsylvania Sinfonia, Erie Chamber Orchestra, and the Western New York Chamber Orchestra.

Abroad, Ms. Farny performed at the International Dvorak Society American Spring Festival in the Czech Republic with Jitka Frankova in 2011. In 2013, she made a tour of Brazil, giving concerts in four capital cities, and returned in August 2016 as a clinician and performer. She performed on the Theremin cello for a project of the complete works of Edgard Varèse, alongside the Asko/Schoenberg Ensemble, the London Sinfonietta, and the International Contemporary Ensemble. Her performances with these groups of Varèse’s rarely heard *Ecuatorial* were held at the Holland Festival (Amsterdam), Festival d’Automne (Paris), the Southbank Centre (London), and at the Lincoln Center Festival in New York City. Nationally, she has played for audiences in New York City at the Bargemusic “Here and Now” series, at Chicago public radio “Live from WFMT”, Rochester, NY public radio “Live from Hochstein”, and at numerous recital series across the nation. Ms. Farny is also active as a new music performer and has been recognized with an “Encore Grant” in 2012 from the American Composers Forum. Ms. Farny’s two recent residencies at the Avaloch Farm Music Institute resulted in performances with her new music duo, Amistella, and her French cello music CD project. In addition to her work with the Ekstasis Duo, other chamber music projects include her string faculty jazz quartet called FredFour and her trio, ANA. In residence at Fredonia, the soprano-cello-piano collaboration champions the works of living composers. Both groups have performed in Erie, Buffalo, Rochester, New York City, and Boston.

Ms. Farny is the cello professor at the School of Music at the State University of New York in Fredonia. She oversees the Fredonia cello choir and coordinates the string chamber music program. She has been honored there with several awards, including grants from the Faculty Student Association and the United University Professions, as well as the Hagan Young Scholar Artist Award for outstanding artistic performance. In the summer, she teaches at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, the Brancaleoni International Music Festival, and the Fredonia String Camp and has been appointed to festivals in Chestertown, MD, Boulder, CO, Anchorage, AK, and Sweden, ME.