

American Harp Society Founding Board Member

Samuel Pratt

Samuel O. Pratt studied harp at the University of Utah. For two decades he toured as a harpist and flutist accompanying singer Roberta Peters.

An active composer, Pratt's works ranged from pieces for young harpists like *The Little Fountain* to those for advanced players including his *Concerto In B Minor* for harp and orchestra. A significant amount of his endeavors involved publishing collections of pieces playable on the Troubadour harp, both original compositions and transcriptions, with his wife Rosalie. The Lyon & Healy Troubadour harp was Pratt's idea and he invested much time in providing repertoire for it. Beyond performing and composing, Pratt also wrote many articles about the harp and published a book, *The Affairs Of The Harp*.

Pratt worked for Lyon & Healy in management roles for 15 years before retiring to open a harp-repair business. In fact, as manager of the Lyon & Healy showroom in New York, he provided the space for a meeting of harpists Marcel Grandjany called together in December of 1961 to form the American Harp Society. He was one of the co-authors of the constitution for the AHS.

Samuel and Rosalie Pratt donated their collection of harp music and other materials to the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University, a bequest that became the foundation of the International Harp Archives.



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