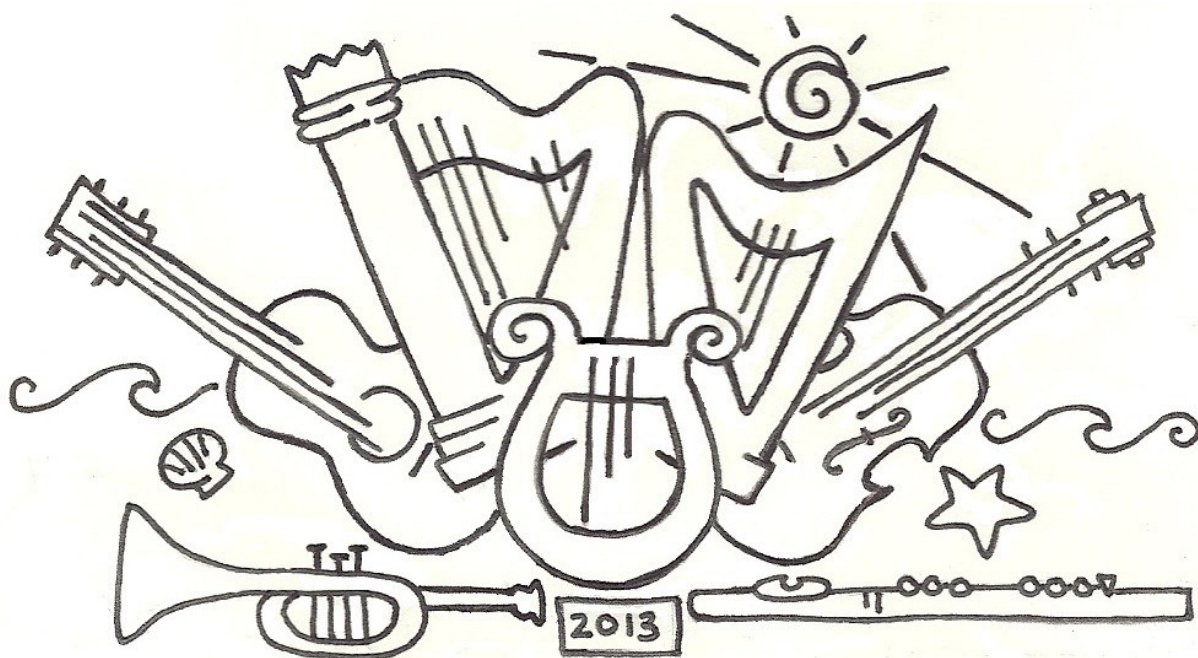


# **Focus on Friends!**



**American Harp Society, Inc.  
10<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute  
20<sup>th</sup> National Competitions  
June 16 – 19, 2013  
The Colburn School, Los Angeles**



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MAESTRI LIUTAI ITALIANI

# Welcome, Friends!

Dear AHS Members,

Welcome to Los Angeles and the Colburn School for the 2013 Summer Institute and National Competitions! The 2013 Summer Institute's "Focus on Friends" features the finest in chamber music and pop and jazz small ensembles. The Institute opens with a performance of our own AHS Concert Artist, Elizabeth White Clark, in the incomparable Zipper Hall, home of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and ends with this year's AHS National Competition winners, including the new 2013 AHS Concert Artist. In between, we have planned many opportunities for coaching, workshops and master classes. We invite you to enjoy genres from classical music of all kinds to pop and jazz, from our opening recital by Elizabeth Hainen to coaching by Heidi Lehwald, jazz by Carol Robbins, and a plethora of other outstanding artists.

When you're not enjoying harp music at the Institute or Competitions, take the time to visit the Museum of Contemporary Art and Disney Hall, as well as food and shopping at nearby Chinatown or Olvera Street! We hope you enjoy your stay here in Los Angeles, making new friends and opening your ears to the world of possibilities our instrument has to offer.

Welcome, and have a wonderful time!

Delaine Leonard Fedson, President, AHS, Inc.

Ellie Choate, 2013 10<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute Chairman



Welcome, Harpists and Friends of the Harp!

I am so excited to see you at the 2013 10<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute here in sunny Los Angeles! This is my hometown, and I am so happy to be here again and celebrate all the fantastic and talented harpists who call LA their home! Ellie Choate and her Committee have worked tirelessly to present a wonderful program, and the AHS 20<sup>th</sup> National Competitions led by JoAnn Turovsky will certainly impress us all with the talent to be heard. I am looking forward to meeting you and hope you have a wonderful experience at this year's Institute.

All the best,

Felice Pomeranz  
AHS Chairman of the Board



# **American Harp Society, Inc.**

3416 Primm Lane – Birmingham, Alabama 35216

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Website Liaison	Cheryl Dungan Cunningham

### The American Harp Journal

Editor	Elizabeth Meriwether Huntley
Advertising Manager	Stacie Johnston

## Schedule Overview

### American Harp Society, Inc. 20<sup>th</sup> National Competitions American Harp Society, Inc. 10<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute Lyon & Healy Competition

All AHS 20<sup>th</sup> National Competition and Lyon & Healy Competition events  
are located in Thayer Hall

**All AHS 10<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute events are located in Zipper Hall**

All AHS Board of Directors meeting locations are as indicated

#### Thursday, June 13

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Colburn Café open  
12:00 – 4:00 p.m. Lyon & Healy Competition Registration  
5:00 p.m. Lyon & Healy Competition Drawing

#### Friday, June 14

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Colburn Café open  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Lyon & Healy Competition  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. AHS Board of Directors Retreat – Omni Hotel  
4:00 – 10:30 p.m. AHS Executive Committee Meeting – Olive 230

#### Saturday, June 15

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Colburn Café open  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Lyon & Healy Competition  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. AHS Board of Directors Meeting – Olive 230  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. AHS Board of Directors Orientation – Olive 230  
*Boxed Lunch provided*  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Regional Directors Meeting – Maymen  
3:00 – 6:00 p.m. AHS Board of Directors Meeting - Maymen  
5:30 – 6:00 p.m. AHS National Competition  
Junior Division Drawing  
6:00 – 6:30 p.m. AHS National Competition  
Intermediate I Division Drawing  
7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Presidential Advisory Group Meeting - Maymen

#### Sunday, June 16

11:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Colburn Café open  
9:00 – 11:00 a.m. AHS Grants Committee Meeting – Maymen  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. AHS National Competition - Junior Division  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Group Coordinators Meeting  
12:00 – 2:00 p.m. AHS Foundation Board of Directors Meeting - Maymen  
1:00 – 5:00 p.m. AHS National Competition - Intermediate I Division  
2:00 – 3:30 p.m. **AHS Annual Meeting – Zipper Hall**  
4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Lyon & Healy Competition Winners Recital - Zipper  
5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Reception – Colburn plaza

*Sponsored by Lyon & Healy Harps*

5:30 – 6:00 p.m. AHS National Competition  
Intermediate II Division Drawing  
5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Seating of the new Board - Maymen  
7:00 p.m. **AHS Concert Artist Opening Recital**  
**Elizabeth Anne White Clark, Harp**  
8:30 p.m. Reception – Omni Café  
*Reception sponsored by the American Harp Society, Inc.*

Monday, June 17

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Colburn Café open  
9:00 – 10:25 a.m. **Harp and Choral Music**  
*Maria Casale, Liesl Erman, Lillian Lau, Susan Knapp Thomas*  
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Panel Discussion: Working with Composers**  
*Ann Marie Liss, Harp; Basil Vendryes, Viola*  
*Chason Goldfinger, Composer; Robert Litton, Composer*  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Seating of the new Executive Committee - Maymen  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 – 5:00 p.m. AHS National Competition – Intermediate II Division  
1:00 – 2:25 p.m. **Finding Your Jazz Voice**  
*Carol Robbins, Stella Castellucci, Lori Andrews*  
2:40 – 4:00 p.m. **Chamber Music Workshop**  
*Heidi Lehwalder*  
4:30 p.m. **Afternoon Concert: Duo Esprit**  
*Ann Marie Liss, harp - Basil Vendryes, viola*  
5:30 – 6:00 p.m. AHS Competition - Advanced Division Drawing  
6:00 – 6:30 p.m. AHS Competition  
Young Professional Division Drawing  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Dinner  
7:00 p.m. **Evening Concert: “Bach to Benzecry and Beyond”**  
*Elizabeth Hainen, harp*  
8:30 p.m. Reception – Omni Café  
*Reception sponsored by the American Harp Society, Inc.*  
*Music by Stephanie Bennett, Bonnie Mohr, Michelle Whitson-Stone*

Tuesday, June 18

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Colburn Café open  
8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. AHS National Competition - Advanced Division  
9:00 – 10:25 a.m. **Developing Your Niche in the Job Market**  
*Lori Andrews, Linda-Rose Hembreiker, Laura Porter*  
10:35 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Pop and Jazz Arranging: Casuals with Duos, Trios**  
*Paul Baker, harp; Laura Halliday, flute; John Krevosa, cello*  
*Ms. Halliday and Mr. Krevosa are sponsored by Anderson Insurance Group*  
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 – 2:25 p.m. **Mastering the Art of Performance**  
*Dr. Stewart Gordon*  
*Sponsored by the AHS John Escosa Fund*

2:00 – 6:00 p.m.           AHS National Competition  
                                   Young Professional Division

2:40 – 4:00 p.m.           **Multi-Level Harp Ensemble**  
                                   *Delaine Leonard Fedson, Elaine Pack Litster, Leslie Stratton Norris*

4:30 p.m.                   **Afternoon Concert**  
                                   **Southern California Composers and Arrangers**  
                                   *Works by Susan Allen Trio, George Gershwin/Paul Baker,*  
                                   *Russell Brower, Jeffrey Rickard*  
                                   *Susan Allen, harp; Paul Baker, harp;*  
                                   *Laura Halliday, flute; Kristina Herrejon, mezzo-soprano;*  
                                   *Gordon Kurowski, theremin; Colton Lytle, percussion;*  
                                   *Aniela Marie Perry, cello; Sharon Rogers, soprano*  
                                   *Instrumentalists and vocalists sponsored by Anderson Insurance Group*

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.           Dinner

7:00 p.m.                   **Evening Concert**  
                                   **Carol Robbins Jazz Quartet**  
                                   *Carol Robbins, harp; Darek "Oles" Oleszkiewicz, bass;*  
                                   *Tim Pleasant, drums, Bob Sheppard, saxophone*  
                                   *Mr. Oleszkiewicz, Mr. Pleasant, and Mr. Sheppard are sponsored by*  
                                   *Anderson Insurance Group*

8:30 p.m.                   Reception – Omni Café  
                                   *Reception sponsored by Anderson Insurance Group*  
                                   *Music by Willi Huber Marz Harp Ensemble*  
                                   *Delaine Leonard Fedson, Leslie Norris Stratton, Ellie Choate*  
                                   *Elaine Pack Litster, Emily Melendes, Jacquelyn Venter*

Wednesday, June 19

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.   Colburn Café open

9:00 – 10:25 a.m.       **Meet the Composer: Gary Schocker**  
                                   *Allison Allport, Taylor Censoprano, Emily Mitchell,*  
                                   *Gracie Sprout, Jacquelyn Venter, Andrew Winslow*

10:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Masterclass:**  
                                   **"Serve the music but preserve the harp"**  
                                   *Elizabeth Hainen*

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.       Lunch

1:30 p.m.                   **Afternoon Concert: Elements Trio**  
                                   *Gwyneth Wentink, harp;*  
                                   *George Brooks, saxophone; Kala Ramnath, violin and voice*  
                                   *Sponsored by Salvi Harps, Inc.*

4:00 p.m.                   **AHS 20<sup>th</sup> National Competitions Winners Recital**

5:15 p.m.                   Reception – Omni Café  
                                   *Reception sponsored by the American Harp Society, Inc.*  
                                   *Music by Harpsody: Kaffee T. Mimun and Tomoko Sato*



A native of Santa Barbara, California, **Susan Allen** is well known internationally for her performances of new and improvised music. Long-term collaborations with composers including James Tenney, Earl Kim, Mel Powell, Harold Budd, Ruth Lomon, Morton Feldman, William Thomas McKinley and many others have yielded her premieres and recordings of major 20th and 21st century repertoire for harp. Her appearances on radio, television, and the concert stage in both America and Europe are too numerous to mention, in many instances in collaboration with jazz great, Yusef Lateef.

David Cotner of the Los Angeles Weekly wrote, "CalArts dean and persistent purveyor of the nude piano that is the harp, Susie Allen has spread the gospel of new music across the world..." She has premiered numerous electro-acoustic works, including "Fantasy" for harp and live electronics by Canadian composer David Myska (commissioned by the Canada Council). In

1998, she took the first electric harp to India for improvised concerts with L. Subramaniam, Larry Coryell and Miya Masaoka. She has been published in the journal *Parabola*, and has written numerous conference papers on free improvisation. In 2004, she received a residency at the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology in Otis, Oregon, to write her book about free improvisation, *Passage of Desire: Improvisation and the Human Journey*. Susan holds very successful annual summer course both internationally and in Pacific Palisades, California, for harpists of all ages and levels.



**Allison Allport** received her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in harp performance with minor fields in music education, instrumental conducting and orchestration from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. While at USC, Allison studied harp with Jo-Ann Turovsky and was the recipient of a full-tuition scholarship. Upon graduation, Allison received the string department's Outstanding Graduate award at the doctoral level for the class of 2008.

Some of Allison's most exciting recent musical projects include performing in the Los Angeles Opera's ongoing production of Wagner's Ring Cycles and collaborating and recording with the band Weezer. Allison has numerous other recording credits to her name, including the soundtracks to the films *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, *Cars*, *National Treasure II: Book of Secrets*, and Randy Newman's album *Harps and Angels*. Other orchestras Allison has performed with include Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Pasadena Symphony and Long Beach Symphony. She also performed a solo recital at the World Harp Congress in Prague.

To Allison, teaching music is just as exciting and important as performing. She was a graduate assistant and student instructor at USC, maintains an ever-growing private studio and teaches on the faculty of the Idyllwild Arts Summer Program. Allison enjoys the challenges and rewards of finding the best way to help each student achieve their goals and reach their full potential.

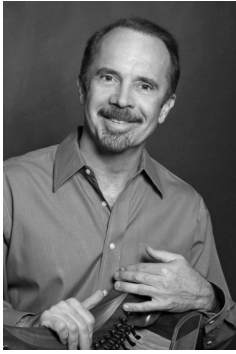


Bob James writes: "If you think you've heard it all, check out **Lori Andrews** who...double handedly redefines the possibilities of the harp and turns it into a funky jazz instrument." Lori Andrews is a gifted and energetic performer who takes the harp beyond tradition and into the elements of jazz, fusion and R&B. Having 8 CD's to her credit, she was the winner of the Jazziz Readers Poll as best jazz harpist in the United States. Backing entertainers such as Richard Dreyfuss, Helen Hunt, Ashley Judd, Anne Heche, Charlize Theron, Kate Hudson and Selma Hayek, the JazHarp Quartet has been the house band every year at the Academy Awards Technical Achievement Division which is the evening that the first Oscar Award is given out, playing award recipients on and off the stage and can be seen on Oscar night.

The Lori Andrews JazHarp Quartet is a featured band on [smoothjazz.com](http://smoothjazz.com), promoting their CDs *After Hours* and *Pulling Strings* which features such artists as Eric Marienthal, Jeff Kashiwa, Hubert Laws and Ricky Lawson. This CD also has distribution in 6 European countries with Laika Records. The CDs *Going Home* and *After Hours* are winning "the best of" in Canada on Jazz Lynx and Cafe Jazz with Ted Husiuk. The CDs *No Strings Attached* and *After Hours* have distribution in Japan with Kanzen Records as well.

"Lori Andrews is a true rarity . . . a jazz harpist! She consistently shows that her delicate instrument can be used to produce swinging, soulful, funky and stomping music, and she always puts on an entertaining and very musical show. She certainly changes one's image of a harpist!" -Scott Yanow Jazz Editor, *The All Music Guide to Jazz*.





**Paul Baker** grew up in Seattle, Washington where he studied harp with Lynne Palmer. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from Seattle Pacific University and his Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California. Twice a prizewinner in the International Pop and Jazz Harp Competition, he has published 20 arrangements of American standard songs arranged for solo harp. The group Pastiche premiered his arrangements for flute, harp and voice, “A Gershwin Sampler,” and “Seven Popular Spanish Songs” at Carnegie Hall.

His interest in the Celtic harp has inspired three CD’s: *The Tranquil Harp*, *The Ladder of the Soul*, and *The Quiet Path* which won “Best New Age Album” and “Best New Age Song” in the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Independent Music Awards.

Mr. Baker was voted “Best Musical Director of the Year” for his work with Stephen Sondheim’s musical “Assassins” and as musical director for the William Inge Theater Festival he has created tributes to John Kander and Fred Ebb, Betty Comden and Adolph Green, Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick and the creators of “The Fantasticks”, Harvey Schmidt and Tom Jones.

Paul has served the American Harp Society as Pacific Regional Director, as a member of the Executive Committee and as President of the Los Angeles Chapter



The Hollywood Reporter has called **Stephanie Bennett** “one of our country’s top harpists”. Awards include First Prize in the Salvi International Competition of Jazz & Pop Harp. She has performed in the US, France, South America, Australia and Japan, and at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland. Stephanie has recently played harp in the onscreen orchestras of “American Idol” and “The Voice” television shows, and on “Dancing with the Stars” with rock band Florence and the Machine.

Stephanie has produced and released several compact discs consisting of her original compositions, and has also performed on CDs by artists including Sir Paul McCartney, Adele (the CD “21” which won the Grammy for Album of the Year), Josh Groban, Beck, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Linda Ronstadt, LeAnn Rimes, Meatloaf, and Spongebob Squarepants. She has toured with big-band leader Ray Conniff and with R&B singer Bobby Womack.

Having grown up in Ann Arbor, Michigan (where she graduated from the University of Michigan School of Music), Stephanie now lives in the Los Angeles, California area, where she enjoys teaching several harp students, playing at various events, and composing, arranging and recording music in her home studio. She is the current president of the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Harp Society.



**Maria Casale**, a world-class concert artist, is the gold medal winner of the first USA International Harp Competition held in 1989 at the University of Indiana, Bloomington. Throughout her career Ms. Casale has received numerous awards for her performances, and her solo debut recital at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall brought her critical acclaim. She has been a featured soloist at several meetings of the World Harp Congress.

As a concert artist she has enamored audiences in many countries throughout the world including Japan, Europe, Israel, Mexico and the United States. Among the prestigious list of orchestras with whom Ms. Casale has performed solos are the Israel Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Orchestra Sinfonica National. Currently, she is Principal Harp of the New West Symphony, the California Philharmonic and the Downey Symphony. She also performs regularly with the Los Angeles based chamber group, Jacaranda.

Not limited to an entirely classical repertoire, Ms. Casale has performed with such diverse artists as Stevie Wonder, Josh Groban, Barry Manilow, Andrea Bocelli, Christina Aguilera and Sarah McLachlan. In addition to her busy performance schedule, Ms. Casale is Professor of Harp at Pepperdine University and California State University, Northridge. She has adjudicated numerous American Harp Society competitions and maintains a harp studio with her private students. Ms. Casale began her harp studies at the age of six with Sister Emerentia at Marylhurst College in Portland, Oregon. She earned her Bachelor and Master Degrees at the Juilliard School of Music where she studied with Susann McDonald.



**Stella Castellucci**, internationally known harpist, composer, teacher, lecturer, and author, is a native of Los Angeles, California. Music is a part of her family tradition and heritage; her father, Louis Castellucci was a member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra and a descendant of a family of Italian symphonic bandmasters. Miss Castellucci's early harp study was taken with Aida Mulieri Dagort, Joseph Quintile, and Maryjane Mayhew Barton. Her training with Alfred Kastner was completed with Ann Stockton following Kastner's death.

Miss Castellucci reached the pinnacle of her profession as a jazz harpist and composer through multiple avenues, beginning in radio as a staff musician for American Broadcasting Company, Hollywood, when she was nineteen. After two years at ABC, Miss Castellucci entered an eight-year association with the famed singer Peggy Lee, playing harp in the jazz sextets and quintets that backed Miss Lee on her tours throughout the United States.

Since 1974 Miss Castellucci's deep interest in conducting workshops in jazz harp has added a new dimension to her career. She has appeared as a guest lecturer and recitalist for schools of music at colleges and universities across the country. For her arrangements of standard and contemporary songs and ballads, Miss Castellucci has gained the esteem and applause of harpists throughout the music world. She maintains a schedule of teaching, and coaching jazz harp, recording, and motion picture and television scoring sessions. Miss Castellucci was among the invited soloists at the 1987 World Harp Congress in Vienna, Austria.

She is co-author, with the late Verlye Mills Brilhart, of *Rhythm for Harp* and is the author of *An Approach to Jazz and Popular Music for Harp*. Both of these publications have reached a world-wide audience among harpists.



**Taylor Censoprano** is in her second year at the University of California, Irvine majoring in music performance, and is a part of the UC Irvine Symphony. She has been playing the harp for three years after having studied the piano, as well as other instruments. Taylor is also the keyboardist and bass player in a family band with her dad and brother, called Classic Vinyl. They perform popular music from the '50s to the '80s in restaurants as well as private venues in their hometown of Foster City, California. This is her first time at the American Harp Society's Summer Institute!



**Ellie Choate** is one of the most renowned harpists in Southern California's vibrant musical scene. Ellie's musical versatility has afforded her the opportunity to touch virtually every area of music making. She is as likely to be found in the opera or symphony orchestra as on stage with show orchestras backing headline artists. She has worked "behind the scenes" on the musical scores of numerous major motion pictures and recordings, but has also appeared on camera for movies and television shows. She is an active soloist and chamber musician, playing for events and concerts all across Southern and Central

California.

Ellie completed undergraduate study in piano with Dr. Bob L. Bennett at California State University, Fresno, and graduated with a Master of Arts in Harp Performance with Marjorie Call at CSU Long Beach. In addition to her private studio, she is on the applied music faculty at UC Irvine, CSU Fullerton, CSU Long Beach, El Camino College, and California Baptist University. She has produced four CDs of her classical, pop and jazz arrangements for solo harp, has published works for harp ensemble, and is certified as a therapeutic harp practitioner. Currently, she is recording a series of CDs with theremin player, Blake Jones, and percussionist, John Shafer.

Ellie has long been committed to helping the harp world thrive and grow. She has served as president and corresponding secretary of the Los Angeles Chapter of AHS, president of the Greater Los Angeles Area Section of the American String Teachers Association, and vice-president of the AHS. She is currently co-chair of the Salzedo Fund of the AHS along with John Carrington, as well as chair of the AHS 20<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute.



**Liesl Erman** is Principal Harpist of the Santa Monica, Beach Cities and West Los Angeles Symphonies, and has performed with the world-renowned Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Santa Barbara Chamber Orchestra, Santa Barbara Symphony, California Philharmonic, and Aspen Festival and Chamber Orchestra among many others. Formerly Principal Harpist of the New Haven Symphony, she was a featured solo musician for the acclaimed production of Swan Lake at the Music Center's Ahmanson Theater, was chosen to be a soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Symphonies for Youth, Crossroads Chamber Orchestra, and the Beach Cities, Juneau (Alaska), and Claremont Symphonies.

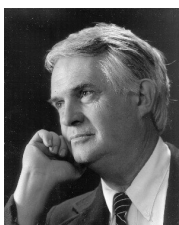
Her freelance career has afforded her a variety of performance opportunities, from concerts with Jessye Norman and John Raitt, to shows with James Taylor, Michael Bolton, Tony Bennett, Johnny Mathis and Sammy Davis, Jr., as well as on-camera work for movies and television.

A founding student of Santa Monica's Crossroads School, Liesl began harp while in elementary school and continued her studies in New York while earning degrees from Princeton and Yale Universities.

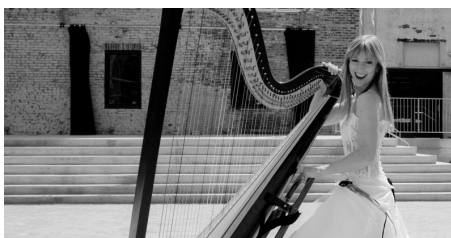
An avid chamber and studio musician, Liesl recently participated as soloist with the Beverly Hills International Music Festival. She is musical director of the educational program *Rediscovering the Harp as a Jewish Instrument*, through which she has developed a student harp ensemble. She is the only harpist ever to serve as a Los Angeles Philharmonic Teaching Artist and enjoys instructing harp students of every level and ability in her private studio.



**Chason Goldfinger**, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is an internationally recognized award-winning composer with commissions and works having been performed across the United States and Europe. He has been commissioned by and worked with renowned artists and ensembles such as Duo Esprit, violinist Dennis Kim, Dolce Suono Ensemble, flautist Jasmine Choi, the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association, members of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and others. He currently studies composition and music theory with David Ludwig of the Curtis Institute of Music and Sheridan Seyfried of Mannes College of Music, and has recently completed a three-year early graduation program at Conestoga High School in Berwyn, PA, with a strong focus in science and music. Beginning in the fall of 2013, Chason will be attending the Columbia-Juilliard Exchange program in New York City, jointly studying neuroscience at Columbia University and music composition at the Juilliard School in the studio of Dr. Robert Beaser.



**Stewart Lynell Gordon** is a musician, teacher, writer, editor, composer, and impresario. He holds the position of Professor of Keyboard Studies at the Thornton School of Music of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. As a performing pianist, he has played concerts throughout the world and recorded extensively, both to critical acclaim. As a teacher and author he has produced textbooks, essays, videotapes, and editions. As a composer, his musical theater works have been produced from coast to coast, and as an impresario, he has directed music festival and competitions over the past decades in New York, Washington, and Savannah.



**Elizabeth Hainen** has earned an international reputation as one of classical music's great harp ambassadors. Hailed by the *Washington Post* for her "unusual presence with silky transparency" and by the *New York Times* for her "earthy solidarity," Hainen has thrilled audiences throughout the world with programs showcasing the diversity—and virtuosity—of her modern-day instrument. As solo harpist with The Philadelphia Orchestra since 1994, she has presented numerous featured performances to captivated audiences and has been praised by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* for "her ability to blend and color the musical line," and "to find transparency in an almost timeless atmosphere."

In high demand as a guest artist, Hainen has collaborated with such eminent conductors and musicians as Charles Dutoit, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Michael Tilson Thomas, Wolfgang Sawallisch and the Juilliard String Quartet. In addition to The Philadelphia Orchestra, she has appeared as a featured soloist with the City of London Sinfonia, the Kennedy Center Orchestra, the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Colombia, the Bulgaria National Radio Orchestra, Camerata Ducale in Italy, the Chicago Civic Orchestra, the Mexico State Symphony, the Vienna Boys Choir, and in numerous recitals at Carnegie Hall. For the 2013-2014 Season, Hainen will give the US Premiere of the NU-SHU Harp Concerto written especially for her by Tan Dun. She has already appeared with Tan Dun at the Shanghai International Arts Festival in a pre-production presentation of the work.

Hainen serves on the faculties of the world-renowned Curtis Institute of Music and Temple University and has provided educational outreach to hundreds of school children in urban Philadelphia through her nonprofit foundation The Lyra Society.



**Harpsody**, a unique harp duo based in Orange/Los Angeles County, is comprised by harpists **Tomoko Sat-o** and **Kaffee T. Mimun**. and has been performing in museums, churches, and benefit functions since 2003. Tomoko and Kaffee both graduated from University of Southern California holding Doctorate Degrees in Harp Performance. Their broad repertoires include classical, contemporary, new-age, popular, as well as their own arrangements from other instruments. In 2006 Harpsody was awarded a grant from the Co-op Press

Commission Assistance Grant Program for composer Sy Brandon, to write a work for two harps. September 15, 2006, the composer attended the world premiere of “Sonatasia” performed by Harpsody in Anaheim. Dr. Sy Brandon holds the rank of professor emeritus of music from Millersville University, Millersville, PA where he taught low brass, composition, orchestration, music history, electronic music, and music industry for twenty four years. Harpsody’s first CD, *Contemporary Music for Two Harps* was released in summer 2005, and it has been featured by Ullanta Records.



**Linda-Rose Hembreiker** is an active soloist and chamber artist in Southern California. Ms. Hembreiker is especially interested in contemporary music and has premiered several works for harp, including Yo Goto’s *the Talking Trees Tell Great Secrets*, Chapman Welch’s *Four Pieces for Solo Harp*, and James Worlton’s *The Etiquette of Ice*.

Her exploration of Alexander Technique and the harp has resulted in presentations for the American Harp Society-Los Angeles Chapter and the American Harp Society National Conference. Her article “Incorporating Alexander Technique in to the Daily Practice Session,” appeared in the Summer 2010 *American Harp Journal*, followed by a companion article, “Teaching with the Alexander Technique in Mind” in the Winter 2012 *American Harp Journal*.

Ms. Hembreiker created and directs the harp program at St. Irenaeus school in the Diocese of Orange; she is currently the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president of the American Harp Society-Los Angeles Chapter. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree in harp performance from the University of Southern California, and Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in harp performance from the University of North Texas. Her formative teachers have been Ellie Choate, JoAnn Turovsky, and Ellen Ritscher. Currently she studies with Heidi Lehwald.



**Kristina Herrejon** is thrilled to be performing for the American Harp Society 10<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute. She is a recent graduate of California State University, Fresno with a Bachelor’s Degree in vocal performance where she studied voice with Professor Helene Joseph Weil. Kristina will be attending the Hubbard Hall Opera Conservatory with a full scholarship this summer in July. She has sung partial and full roles with the Fresno State Opera Theater including: Dorabella from Mozart’s “Cosi Fan Tutte”, Hippolyta from Britten’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”, Mother in the world premiere of Carlos Gamboa’s opera “Mother Please!”, Gianetta in Donizetti’s “The Elixir of Love”, Mercedes in Bizet’s “Carmen”, and Marcellina in Mozart’s “Le Nozze di Figaro”. She is currently studying with Dr. Linda Di Fiore at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her love of singing has motivated her to have a small voice studio of her own where she teaches students of all ages and backgrounds. She believes that in teaching beginning singers she learns so much about her own singing instrument.



**Susan Knapp Thomas**, harpist, received her Bachelor’s Degree from the Eastman School of Music, and is a student of Eileen Malone, Phyllis Wright, Aristid von Wurtzler and Barbara Pniewska. Ms. Thomas is a well-known chamber, orchestral and solo concert artist and teacher throughout Connecticut and Southern New England. As an orchestral harpist, Susan currently serves as Principal Harp for the Hartford Symphony. She has enjoyed a long relationship with the symphony, and was featured concerto soloist in June of 2008, performing Mozart’s Concerto for Flute and Harp with principal flutist, Grieg Shearer. She has also played regularly for many other orchestras, concert bands, and opera companies.

Also a chamber musician and pop artist, Ms. Thomas has been featured in concert with numerous chamber ensembles. She was featured with well-known flutist Brad Garner at the 1993 National Flute Association Convention, and is co-founder of her own flute and harp duos and flute, harp and 'cello trios, for which she has made several arrangements. Ms. Thomas has done regular work for the Frank Sinatra Jr. show. Her backup work includes shows for such notables as Judy Collins, the group Yes, the Beach Boys, Brian Wilson, Peter Cetera, Johnny Mathis and others. Her recently released CD, *Everlasting Sunday*, was a finalist considered by the Greater Hartford Arts Council for one of their donor level gifts. She has been a featured solo guest artist for numerous concert series in both Northern and Southern New England. A passionate instructor, Ms. Thomas is on the faculty at MusicMakers Academy in Manchester, Trinity College, and Central Connecticut State University. She is the Director and Founder of the Connecticut Valley Harp Intensive Summer Camp in Simsbury, CT and her students have been multiple prize winners in both local and national competitions. Ms. Thomas is a contributing writer to *The Harp Column* magazine, and serves on the board of the American Harp Society.



**Lillian Lau** retains a professional Diploma in Orchestral Studies from the Chicago College of Performing Arts. In addition to being a talented performer, she also keeps a large teaching studio in the Chicago area, teaches at the University of Chicago and the Indiana University Harp Program, and coaches for the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Lau is in demand as an orchestral musician, educator, solo harpist and chamber music recitalist in Chicago and the Midwest. Her extensive orchestral engagements include performing with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Ravinia Festival, Grant Park Music Festival, Elgin Symphony, National Repertory Orchestra, in major concert halls throughout Europe, and as a soloist at the World Harp Congress in Switzerland. She is currently the Principal Harpist of the Quad City Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Lau has participated in critically acclaimed performances with Plácido Domingo, Samuel Ramey, and John Williams. She can be heard on Albany Records performing works by Laura Schwendinger of the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Ms. Lau is co-founder of the *Lyrebird Ensemble* with flutist Ellen Huntington, whose goal is to promote repertoire written specifically for flute and harp from the late eighteenth century to the present day. Their CD recording, *Taking Flight -Music for Flute and Harp* features newly discovered virtuosic compositions for flute and harp duo from the modern era.



**Heidi Lehwalder**, harpist, has performed as guest artist with more than sixty-five orchestras throughout the United States and Canada, including the New York Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and many, many others. She has made fifty-five appearances as soloist with the Seattle Symphony. Her recent performances included a ten-city tour with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and two performances at Alice Tully Hall in New York City.

An esteemed chamber musician, Lehwalder has performed in numerous concerts with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center from 1972 to the present. She has participated in the Mostly Mozart, Caramoor, Santa Fe, and Spoleto Festivals. Lehwalder is the only harpist ever to be invited to tour with Rudolf Serkin's famed Music from Marlboro.

During the summer of 1987, she served as Professor of Harp in Korea's First International Chamber Music Festival. Lehwalder is the inspiration for numerous harp concerti, both written for and dedicated to her. As a recording artist, Lehwalder has recorded for RCA, RCA Red Seal, CRI, Nonesuch, and Vanguard. Lehwalder is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Fredericksburg Festival of the Arts, which has been nationally broadcast on NPR for seventeen years. She also has served as Artistic Director of Belle Arte Concerts in Seattle and as Artistic Administrator of the Seattle International Music Festival. Lehwalder was Professor of Harp at the College of William and Mary and the University of Virginia from 2003 to 2006. From 2007 to 2011 she served as Professor of Harp at The School of Music at the University of Washington.

Heidi Lehwalder was the last student of master harpist Carlos Salzedo with whom she worked intensely for two summers when she was 10 and 11. He passed away the day after her last lesson of the summer when he prepared her for the Second International Harp Competition in Tel Aviv, Israel where she won a major prize.

**Delaine Leonard Fedson** is a vibrant musician and innovative educator in Austin, Texas, whose performance has been described by the composer Ned Rorem as "luscious in texture, poignant in evocation." She currently teaches at the University of Texas Butler School of Music, Southwestern University, Winthrop University, and Austin Metropolitan Suzuki Harp Studio. She has performed with orchestras, opera companies, and chamber groups throughout Central Texas, and is a veteran of regional tours with national touring acts. She is the current President of the American Harp Society, Inc. and a co-author of the AST publication "A Harp in the Schools."



As a ground breaking Suzuki Harp teacher and Suzuki Harp Teacher Trainer, Leonard Fedson promotes Dr. Suzuki's philosophy in early childhood harp education, teaching at active professionals, have been participants in, and winners of, competitions across the nation. Her students, many of whom are active professionals, have been participants in, and winners of, competitions across the nation.

Leonard Fedson is the founding director of the Young Texas Harp Ensemble, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing access and opportunity for harp study to students of diverse populations.



Harpist **Ann Marie Liss (with Basil Vendryes)** is lauded for her colorful musical palette and inspirational tone as a solo artist and chamber musician. A Colorado native, she has performed as a soloist and harpist with orchestras throughout the United States and Europe.

The youngest harpist to be awarded the prestigious Diplôme Supérieure de Concertiste (DMA) from the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris, Dr. Liss was inspired by the art of chamber music and pursued simultaneous degrees through the Conservatoire Municipal Darius Milhaud in conjunction with the Conservatoire National de Région de Paris earning a double Diplôme Supérieure (MM) specializing in both chamber music and harp performance. Laureate of many national and international competitions, Ann Marie appears regularly in concert as a founding member of Duo Esprit, a collaboration with Basil Vendryes, principal violist of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra.

A featured musician on the runways of Paris Fashion Week and the World Harp Congress, Ann Marie has performed at the famed Sydney Opera House, Paris' Salle Cortot, and Italy's Basilica Santa Maria Bressanoro, and her music has received accolades from musicians and dignitaries including Sir Elton John, Billy Joel, Colorado Governors and the Vice President of the United States. As a member of the Colorado College performance faculty, Dr. Liss also maintains an active private studio and is widely sought out as an instructor, coach, and clinician, specializing in technical foundation, tone production, and brain integration in musical performance.



**Basil Vendryes** has been Principal Violist of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra since 1993. He is a former member of the San Francisco Symphony, the New York Philharmonic and the Rochester Philharmonic orchestras. Mr. Vendryes performed extensively as violist with the Aurora String Quartet (1986-95), including recitals in New York, London and Tokyo. He currently serves on the faculties of the Lamont School of Music of the University of Denver, the Quartet Program at SUNY Fredonia, New York and the Green Valley Music Festival in Las Vegas, Nevada. He is also the founder/director of the Colorado Young Sinfonia, comprised of some of the best young talent in the Denver area.

In April of 2008 Mr. Vendryes performed the American premiere of Giya Kancheli's "Styx" with the Colorado Symphony. In 2010 he formed Duo Esprit (with harpist AnnMarie Liss), an ensemble that has garnered much interest and has led to a number of commissions and performances. The 2012-13 season includes guest conducting the Santa Barbara Strings (California), the Mozart Sinfonia Concertante with the Colorado Young Sinfonia, concerts in Las Vegas, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and throughout Colorado, and local premieres of works by Sokolov, Berg and Kohn.



**Elaine Pack Litster** performs throughout Southern California. Her many orchestral performances include the Asia American Symphony Orchestra and the New Valley Symphony. Television appearances have included "Mad Men" and the "Bold and the Beautiful." Elaine has worked on many recording projects, and her albums *The Moonlit Harp* and *Captured Moments* have been well received. As Miss Idaho, Elaine received an award in the Miss America pageant for her harp performance.

For the past 15 years Elaine has organized and conducted "Harp Extravaganza," California's largest "spontaneous" holiday harp ensemble. She has presented instructional harp ensemble seminars for the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) and the AHS. Elaine currently serves on the board of the American Harp Society Foundation. She served for six years on the AHS Board of Directors, and currently serves on the Financial Investment Advisory Committee. While serving as President of the Los Angeles chapter of the AHS, her chapter was awarded Chapter of the Year.

Elaine taught choir and harp for many years at a private secondary school. That experience led to her developing curriculum for teaching harp in an ensemble setting. She currently maintains a private teaching studio. Elaine holds a Bachelor's degree from BYU and a Master's degree from UCLA. Elaine resides in Simi Valley with her husband Greg and their five children.



**Robert Litton** (b. 1978) received his undergraduate and master's degrees in composition and percussion performance as well as the 2010 "Young Alumnus of the Year" award from California State University, Hayward (now East Bay) before graduating first in his class from the prestigious program for scoring for motion pictures and television at the University of Southern California. He has performed with the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Marin Symphony, the Berkley Symphony, Composers



Inc., multiple musical theatre productions, and was a marimba soloist with the Kensington and Fremont Symphony Orchestras. His compositions have been performed by members of the San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera, San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Opera, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, as well as the New York Philharmonic, and in 2001 was he honored with a featured performance in New York's Carnegie Hall. An emerging film composer, Litton has scored many award winning films for up and coming directors including "Gerald's Last Day" by Justin and Shel Rasch, "Unmanned" by Casey Cooper Johnson, and "Negotiations" by Ethan Cushing which was selected to be part of the 2008 Cannes Film Festival.



**Emily Melendes** is a student of Delaine Leonard-Fedson at the University of Texas at Austin, the Butler School of Music, studying harp performance. She has won three concerto competitions, soloing with the Milwaukee Youth Symphony, the University of Milwaukee Symphony, and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra for both the Debussy Dances and the Ginastera Harp Concerto. In addition to being a finalist in the American Harp Society's Advanced Division competition, she has also subbed with the New World Symphony Orchestra. Recently, Emily won the national Anne Adams harp competition. Emily previously studied with Geraldine Elliott and Danis Kelly.



**Emily Mitchell** has worldwide recognition as a solo recitalist and chamber musician. She has been profiled on numerous radio and television programs. Past performances include Mozart's Concerto for Flute and Harp with Sir James Galway in Carnegie Hall, performance presentations before British Royalty both in England and at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., and before First Lady Rosalynn Carter at The White House. Emily Mitchell enjoyed a 30-year career in New York City. She was principal harpist for the incomparable Eos Orchestra, an established name in the television, motion picture and recording studios of NYC and she toured the United States as a soloist and chamber musician for Community Concerts and Columbia Artists Management. She taught on the distinguished artist faculties of New York University and Purchase College, Conservatory of Music, State University of New York. Relocated to Houston in 2008, Ms. Mitchell is newly appointed to the music faculty of Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, and performs with Saint Cecilia Chamber Music Society and the Oberon Ensemble. Ms. Mitchell is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music with Performer's Certificate and she is an Associate of the Royal College of Music, London. Ms. Mitchell won First Prize at the 7<sup>th</sup> International Harp Contest, Jerusalem, Israel. Emily Mitchell's discography includes her popular Celtic harp and voice recordings for RCA Victor, and her concert harp recordings, *Impromptu* and *Mozart Variations*, John Marks Records, *Garden in Harp*, and compositions by Gary Schocker.



**Bonnie Mohr** has been a professional harpist in the Los Angeles Area for thirty years, playing at a variety of venues including concerts, programs, hotels, restaurants, churches, and weddings. Some notable occasions are: Tea at the Peninsula in Beverly Hills, Distinguished Speaker series for Laura Bush and Anderson Cooper, Ozzy Osbourne's Birthday, and at Rod Stewart's home. She has performed solo concerts internationally in Japan and Germany.

Bonnie earned a Masters in Music: Harp Performance from Azusa Pacific University and is currently Professor of Harp at Azusa Pacific and Cal Poly Pomona. She received her Certification as a Therapeutic Harpist through Compassionate Harps and works in local hospitals.

Her books, *Colorful Adventures on the Harp*, *Mohr Adventures Book II* and *Colorful Christmas Carols*, are popular with beginning and intermediate harpists. Recordings include *Song in the Night*, *Around the Christmas Tree*, and *Pearl*. Bonnie also has often appeared onscreen in television commercials, a movie and music video with Mary J. Bilge.

Bonnie serves as Treasurer of the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Harp Society and a member of the Music Teacher's Association of California. She is the chairperson of *The Harp in Worship Conference*.



Hailed as the leading harpist in the region, **Laura Porter** has held the position of Principal Harp with the Fresno Philharmonic for twenty-four years, and acts as co-principal for the Bakersfield Symphony and the Modesto Symphony. Drawing on her varied experience, Ms. Porter also performs regularly at social and corporate events of all types, as a soloist and in small ensembles. She enjoys performing chamber music each season as a member of two separate groups based in Fresno: Moment Musical and Orpheus, as well as appearing with other groups such as Musica Viva and Duo Cantilena.

In addition to performing, she enjoys a growing schedule of private studio teaching. Several of her private students are award-winning, receiving national recognition in competition, with fellowships, invitations to perform

(2011 World Harp Congress in Vancouver, From the Top), and acceptance to leading conservatories. She is also on the faculty at Fresno Pacific University and California State University, Fresno as Harp Instructor. Ms. Porter received degrees from Mills College (BA), the University of Southern California (MM, and post-graduate work), as well as pursuing studies in Paris, France, at the Aspen Music Festival, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute.



Born in Chicago, **Carol Robbins** grew up in Los Angeles, where piano lessons at an early age inspired her to experiment with jazz improvisation. By age eight she was studying harp and eventually became one of the handful of students ever accepted by the late pioneering harpist [Dorothy Ashby. One of the world's few jazz harpists, Ms. Robbins has recorded and performed with an eclectic variety of artists including Billy Childs, Manhattan Transfer, Brian Wilson, Bjork, Dianne Reeves, Nina Simone and Frank Sinatra. Ms. Robbins' television credits include Cheers, American Idol and The Tonight Show. She has performed at the Hollywood Bowl with many artists including Stevie Wonder and Aretha Franklin. An experienced clinician, she has lectured and performed at several universities around the country. Ms. Robbins was twice nominated for a Grammy as a member of the Billy Childs' Jazz Chamber Ensemble. She has been recording and touring with the group in the United States and Europe since 2001. She has recorded four CDs as a leader, and Vanderbilt Music Co has published several of her arrangements and compositions for harp.



**Sharon Rogers**, soprano, has already begun to to earn awards and praise for her exceptional coloratura soprano voice and musical abilities. Her most recent performances include being the featured soprano soloist in the March 2013 West Coast premiere of Abigañia's *Symphony No. 1* with the Fresno State Wind Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Gary Gilroy. She will reprise her highly lauded performances of the Abigañia and Ron Nelson's *Aspen Jubilee* with the FSU Wind Orchestra at Disney Hall, Los Angeles, in June, with an additional performance of the Abigañia with the Kingsburg College Wind Band/Ensemble in July.

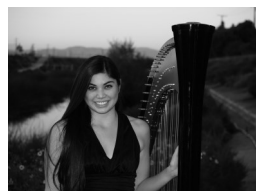
Sharon has won numerous singing awards throughout California and is now competing on the national level. In June of 2012, with the support of the Orpheus Chamber Music Ensemble and other Central California sponsors, Sharon attended the intense six-week program for young vocal artists with Opera Academy of California in San Francisco. At OAC, Sharon performed the role of Constance in Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, and sang to glowing reviews on the OAC Old First Church aria recitals. *San Francisco Examiner* classical music critic, Stephen Smoliar, wrote in his reviews of her performances: "Among those who performed last night, the one with the strongest presence was definitely Sharon Rogers. . . Rogers was memorable. She glided through all of the bravura coloratura passages with a stunning ease in Leonard Bernstein's "Glitter and Be Gay," from *Candide*." In addition to her singing, Sharon is the author/librettist of the opera "Mother, Please!" written with composer Carlos Gamboa.



Flutist-composer-pianist **Gary Schocker** is an accomplished musician of outstanding versatility. At age 15, he made his professional debut when he performed as soloist with the New York Philharmonic and the Philadelphia Orchestra. He has won numerous competitions including the Young Concert Artists, the National Flute Association, the NY Flute Club and the East-West Artists. Often, he concertizes in duo with guitarist Jason Vieaux. Internationally, he has toured and taught in Colombia, Panama, Canada, Australia, Taiwan, Japan, Germany, France and Italy.

Schocker has composed sonatas and chamber music for most instruments of the orchestra, including many works for harp. He also has written several musicals, including *Far From the Madding Crowd* and *The Awakening*, which can be heard on Original Cast Recordings. Both shows were winners of the Global Search for New Musicals in the UK and were performed in Cardiff and at the Edinburgh Festival, as well as in New Zealand. In New York, they were winners of the ASCAP music theatre awards.

Schocker has won the International Clarinet Association's annual composition competition twice and the National Flute Association's annual Newly Published Music Award numerous times. Among artists who have played his compositions, James Galway gave the American premier of Green Places with the New Jersey Symphony.



**Graciela Sprout**, is a new graduate of the University of Arizona with a Bachelor of Music degree in Harp Performance where she studied with Dr. Carrol McLaughlin. Her thirteen years of harp study has made it possible for her to play at the World Expo in Shanghai, the Dorothy Chandler Music Pavilion, and to be featured in the music for the "Jasmine's Flying Carpet" ride in Tokyo Disneyland. Graciela will be starting the Master of Music program at the Bob Cole Conservatory at California State University, Long Beach in the fall where she will be studying with Ellie Choate.





**Leslie Stratton Norris** is currently the principal harpist with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra in Dayton Ohio. Each year, Leslie performs numerous solo concerts across the country for arts organizations, churches and schools. She has performed with many orchestras including the Ohio Chamber Orchestra, Cleveland Ballet and Cleveland Opera, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Leslie has recently been a featured soloist with several orchestras including the Spokane Symphony, Dayton Philharmonic and Coeur d'Alene Symphony. She has performed for numerous recordings, movie soundtracks and CD projects and takes pride that you likely have heard her while shopping for your groceries – she actively recorded for the Muzak organization that produces background music for a variety of locations. Leslie has produced four solo recordings: *Heavenly Classics* which features classical favorites, *O Holy Night* which is a collection of Christmas music, *Bouquet of Love Songs* featuring timeless romantic songs, and *Windows of Worship* a collection of worship music.

In Ohio, she directs 'Harps of Grace', an ensemble of 14 harpists who were thrilled to be featured on the Dayton Philharmonic's 2012 Christmas Pops program. Out west in Idaho, Leslie directs 'Ladies of the Lake' and organizes the 'Inland Northwest Harp Festival.' These weekend Harp Festivals draw 45-60 harpists who perform harp ensemble programs for appreciative audiences. Having students from ages 6 to 90 inspires Leslie to write and arrange harp ensemble music for a variety of ability levels and interests. Leslie has always maintained a private teaching studio, and has also taught at Cedarville University, University of Idaho, Eastern Washington University, North Idaho College, Whitworth College, and Walla Walla College. Leslie graduated has a degree in Harp Performance from Baldwin-Wallace College in Cleveland where she studied with Alice Chalifoux. She currently splits her time between Dayton and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.



**Dr. Jacquelyn Venter** is an active performer and teacher. Ms. Venter has been featured as a guest-artist with the grammy-winning choir ensemble, *Conspirare*. Their album *Samuel Barber: an American Romantic* debuted at number ten on the Billboard Charts. Ms. Venter had an active career in Iowa as principal harpist for the Waterloo/Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Dubuque, South East Iowa, and the Central Iowa Symphony Orchestras. Her 2009 performance at the Crème de la Crème Benefit Concert for the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center was highly praised and reviewed as, "lovely, meditative and exquisitely played."

Ms. Venter has been on the faculty at Luther College, the UNI Suzuki School, University of Texas String Project, Longhorn Music Camp, Round Rock Independent School District, and she served as director of the Young Texas Harp Ensemble. She has degrees from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, University of Northern Iowa, and University of Texas at Austin. Her teachers include: Yolanda Kondonassis, Alice Chalifoux, Mary Beckman, Gretchen Brumwell, and Delaine Leonard Fedson. She has since relocated to Sacramento, California to continue her career.



Harpist **Gwyneth Wentink (with the Elements Trio)** is renowned for her passionate performances, amazing range of colors and incredible technique. Highlights of the 2012-2013 season include the tour of *Inner Act*, a revolutionary audio visual performance of Simeon ten Holt's Canto Ostinato. In September 2012 Gwyneth performed Ginastera's Harp Concerto with the Wonju Philharmonic Orchestre in Korea under Young-Min Park and two world premieres at the Gaudeamus festival of George Brooks and Fant de Kanter. In past seasons, Gwyneth has performed as a soloist with the Israel Philharmonic, the New York Chamber Symphony, and many other orchestras in both Europe and America.

Gwyneth plays with great passion as a soloist and in a variety of chamber music ensembles all over the world. She has performed extensively in Europe and throughout the USA in more than sixteen states. In 1999 she gave her recital début in New York (Merkin Hall) as well as in London (Wigmore Hall). In March 2002 she gave her debut concert at the Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall. In addition to her performances as a soloist and as a chamber musician, Gwyneth is principal harpist with John Eliot Garndiner's Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique. Gwyneth's solo CD, issued by Egan Records, was selected by the Dutch CD Magazine *Luister* as the month's best buy. In the fall of 2006 Naxos brought out a CD of Gwyneth playing three Harp Concerti by Rodrigo. *Rhapsody*, her second solo CD was extremely well received by the critics.

Gwyneth has won numerous first prizes in The Netherlands and internationally. In 1998 she won the harp world's most prestigious competition, the International Harp Competition in Israel, where she became the youngest contestant ever to win first prize and was given the special Gulbenkian Prize for the best performance of the Concerto for Harp and Orchestra by M. Schafer. In April 2007, Gwyneth received the Dutch Music Award, which is the highest distinction awarded to musicians in The Netherlands. Gwyneth plays on the Salvi Iris Harp, from the collection of the Nationaal Muziek Instrumenten Fonds.



**Elements** represents a new standard in global chamber music, combining the unique talents of American saxophonist and composer **George Brooks**, north Indian violinist and vocalist **Kala Ramnath** and Dutch harp virtuoso **Gwyneth Wentink**. This distinctive trio performs George and Kala's original compositions and contemporary settings of traditional Indian ragas, unifying the aesthetics of the European classical, Indian classical and American jazz traditions.

Descended from an illustrious musical lineage of seven generations, **Kala Ramnath** is considered the leading Hindustani violinist of our time. An outstanding classical soloist, Kala has performed in major concert halls throughout the world including Carnegie Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Sydney Opera House, Theater de la Ville, Tropen Theater and the Palais des Beaux Arts.

**George Brooks** is a prolific and diverse saxophonist and composer, acclaimed for successfully bridging the worlds of jazz and Indian classical music. He is the founder of several important Indian fusion groups including Summit with Zakir Hussain, Fareed Haque and Kai Eckhardt, Bombay Jazz with Larry Coryell and Ronu Majumdar and the Raga Bop Trio with Steve Smith and south Indian guitarist Prasanna.



Harpist **Elizabeth White Clark** studies harp performance at Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia under the direction of Elizabeth Hainen and Judy Loman. Previously, Elizabeth studied with ShruDeLi Ownbey in Salt Lake City for thirteen years. Recent venues of performance include Field Concert Hall, The Kimmel Center, Carnegie Hall, and the Temple Square Concert Series. Achievements and honors include First place in the American Harp Society (AHS) National Harp Competition Young Professional Division; "Concert Artist" for the AHS 2011-2013; Winner in the National Lyon and Healy Scholarship Competition in 2009 and 2011; second place in the AHS Advanced Division in 2009, and first place in the AHS Intermediate II Division in 2007. Elizabeth was a soloist at the World Harp Congress in Dublin, Ireland in 2005, at the USA International Harp Competition in the "Stars of tomorrow" concert in 2004, and with the Utah Symphony, in the *Salute to Youth* concert in 2004.



**Michelle Whitson-Stone** began studying classical harp at the age of nine. She would eventually discover that learning the subtle intricacies of the harp, while her sister was in the next room learning the drums would alter her musical path... Perhaps she owes her sister a debt of gratitude for heading her onto a road less traveled, as she is now one of a relatively small group of harpists around the country who specializes in pop and jazz standards, and has become known for her interpretive sound and sophisticated use of jazz voicings.

In 1999 she received a top award at the International Pop and Jazz Harp Festival and was subsequently invited to the Festival in 2001 and 2004 to perform as part of the Showcase Concert Series. A student of world-renowned jazz harpist, Stella Castellucci, Whitson-Stone is also an award-winning actress. Her years of experience as a professional actress provided fertile ground for honing a gift for storytelling, which she brings to the harp through her arrangements of great pop and jazz standards. Her tasteful jazz stylings reveal depth and a remarkable gift for artistic expression.

During her thirty-plus years as a harpist, she has performed for many dignitaries and celebrities including Presidents Clinton, Ford, and Reagan, as well as Henry Mancini, Bob Hope and Quincy Jones. She is a veteran of numerous films, television shows. When not performing, Whitson-Stone teaches and records in the Los Angeles area.



**Andrew Winslow** is a 19-year-old native Southern Californian. He is passionate about the harp as well as music education. Andrew started playing harp in 2011, studying under the instruction of Alexandra Perdew. He also plays piano, violin, and trumpet. Andrew will be attending the Eastman School of Music in the fall where he will study with Kathleen Bride and complete a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education.

# AHS 20<sup>th</sup> National Competitions

**JoAnn Turovsky, Chairman**

**Alison Bjorkdal, Assistant**



**Allison, Reggie, and JoAnn**

**JoAnn Turovsky** is principal harpist with the Los Angeles Opera Orchestra, the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and the Los Angeles Master Chorale Orchestra. She is the professor of harp at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California, the Colburn Conservatory, the Colburn School of Performing Arts and Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara. Ms. Turovsky appears frequently as soloist with musical organizations throughout California and is busy in the motion picture and television industry. John Williams recently wrote a solo piece for harp that she performed on the *Angela's Ashes* sound track. Her spare time is happily devoted to being outsmarted by her Australian Shepherd, Reggie and two equally busy cats Max and Nike. Ms. Turovsky won both the Intermediate 2 and Young Professional divisions of the American Harp Society National Competition in the stone ages and has been chairman of the competition since 1981.

**Alison Bjorkedal** is a freelance harpist based in the Los Angeles area. She is a member of Southwest Chamber Music, MUSE/IQUE and Golden State Pops Orchestra and has performed with the San Diego Symphony, Pasadena Symphony/Pops and Long Beach Symphony. Named an "excellent player" and "intrepid young harpist" by the Los Angeles Times, notable chamber music performances include the world premieres of William Kraft's *Encounters XII* for harp and percussion, Anne LeBaron's *HSING* for solo harp and Wadada Leo Smith's *Ten Freedom Summers*, a 2013 Pulitzer Prize finalist. Alison has a Masters and Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in harp performance from the University of Southern California, where she studied with JoAnn Turovsky. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Oregon where she studied with Sally Maxwell and Laura Zaerr. As a teacher, Alison maintains a private harp studio and is Music Appreciation faculty at Pasadena City College. In addition to the harp, Alison plays the Kithara (a Harry Partch instrument) with Grammy-nominated ensemble *Partch*.

# Concert Programs

## **Elizabeth White Clark** **American Harp Society Concert Artist**

Sunday, June 16, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

Sonata K380  
Domenico Scarlatti  
(1685-1757)

Etude No.6  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)  
(Transcribed for harp by Marcel Grandjany)

Toccata  
J.B. Loeillet  
(1688-1720)  
(Transcribed for harp by Marcel Grandjany)

Sonata op.18 no.1  
*Allegro risoluto*  
*Adagio con molta espressione*  
*Polacca*  
Martin-Pierre Dalvimare  
(1772-1839)

*Intermission*

Impromptu  
Hugo Reinhold  
(1854-1935)  
(Transcribed for harp by Elizabeth Hainen)

Nocturne  
Mikhail Glinka  
(1804-1857)

Le Jardin Mouille  
Jacques de la Presle  
(1888-1969)

Spanish Dance No.1  
Manuel de Falla  
(1876-1946)

**Duo Esprit**  
**Ann Marie Liss, harp**  
**Basil Vendryes, viola**  
Monday, June 17, 2013 – 4:30 p.m.

Il Fiore d'Inverno

Andrea Ferrante  
(b. 1968)

The Harmony of Opposites

Chris Malloy  
(b. 1965)

1. Sea of Tranquility
2. The Unseen World
3. Frogs
4. The Earthen Pan
5. The Infinite Cornucopia

Hashoah

Chason Goldfinger  
(b. 1995)

Mirror, Mirror

Conrad Kehn  
(b. 1972)

Eastern Wanderings

David Tcimpidi  
(b. 1938)

Romance

Robert Litton  
(b. 1978)

*Basil Vendryes' performance is sponsored by  
American String Teachers Association - Greater Los Angeles Chapter*

# **“Bach to Benzecry and Beyond”**

## **Elizabeth Hainen**

Monday, June 17, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

### **Baroque Set**

Prelude No. 1 in C major, BWV 846 J.S. Bach  
Prelude No. 2 in C minor, BWV 847 (1685 – 1750)  
from *The Well-Tempered Clavier*  
Prelude in D minor, BWV 926  
from *Seven Little Preludes*

Tic-Toc-Choc François Couperin  
Les barricades mystérieuses (1668 – 1733)

### **French Set**

À la française André Caplet  
from *Deux Divertissements* (1878-1925)

Petite Suite Claude Debussy  
En Bateau (1862-1918)  
Cortege Arranged by E. Hainen  
Menuet  
Ballet

### **Folk Set**

Horizontes inexplorados Esteban Benzecry  
I. Del silencio al amanecer (b. 1970)  
II. Galope pampeano  
III. Preguntas al infinito  
IV. Baguala Andina  
V. Constelaciones patagónicas  
VI. "Toccata de las Americas"

# **Southern California Arrangers and Composers**

Tuesday, June 18, 2013 – 4:30 p.m.

A Gershwin Sampler

George Gershwin  
(1898-1937)

Arranged by Paul Baker  
(b. 1952)

*Paul Baker, harp*  
*Laura Halliday, flute*  
*Kristina Herrejon, mezzo-soprano*

Cold Mountain

Russell Brower  
(b. 1963)

*Susan Allen, harp*  
*Aniela Marie Perry, cello*

Afternoon on a Hill  
Thursday  
The Penitent

Jeffrey Rickard  
(b. 1942)

Text by Edna St. Vincent Millay

*Paul Baker, harp*  
*Sharon Rogers, soprano*

Free Improvisation

Susan Allen Trio

*Susan Allen, harp*  
*Gordon Kurowski, theremin*  
*Colton Lytle, percussion*

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## **Carol Robbins Quartet**

Tuesday, June 18, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

*Program to be announced*

## **Elements Trio**

**Gwyneth Wentink, harp**

**George Brooks, saxophone**

**Kala Ramnath, violin and vocals**

Wednesday, June 19, 2013 – 1:30 p.m.

*Program*

Better than Coffee

Waltz for Lena

Topkeshwar

Amalia

Lalita

XG

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# Notes



# Acknowledgements

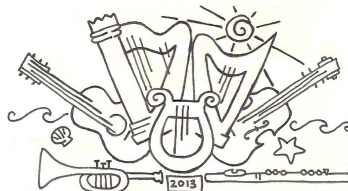
***Thank you to all who have contributed their valuable time, talent and resources to help make this event success***

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*Susan Allen, Kalista Base, Kendra Base, Alison Bjorkedal,*  
*Kristen Cameron, Ellie Choate, Sara Choung, Brittany Roehm,*  
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Marie-Pierre Langlamet  
Judy Loman  
Sivan Magen  
Susann McDonald  
Maria Luisa Rayan-Forero  
Carol Robbins  
Julie Smith  
Park Stickney  
TBA (1<sup>st</sup> Prize Winner, 9<sup>th</sup> USA Intl Harp Competition)  
Naoko Yoshino  
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