

Resonance



The monthly newsletter of the Greater Seattle Chapter
of the American Harp Society, Joyce Rice, Editor

Website: www.ahsseattle.org

Facebook group: Seattle AHS Chapter

Letter from the vice president:

Greetings!

It has been a long hot summer by Seattle standards. I hope everyone has kept themselves and their harps cool! My harp was relegated to the coolest downstairs room in the house to keep as steady a temperature as possible — and I thought you didn't need air conditioning in Seattle ;-)

The preparations for Harp Fest are well underway. We are planning an exciting day for all the harpists of Seattle area so reserve Saturday, October 17th now! There will be a variety of sessions throughout the day beginning at 10am and ending with a concert by scholarship winners and several chapter professionals at 3pm. Plus, members pay nothing!

The day sessions will consist of everything from jazz/improv sessions to panels with advice on playing in orchestras to professional advice on playing harp for weddings to a Swap Table.

Come improve your improvising skills, soak up important harp career advice or just sit back and enjoy the concert.

*Hope everyone has had a great summer! **Don't forget to renew your membership either by mail or online at www.ahsseattle.org***

Robin

President Catherine Case * VP Robin Purchas * Sec. Joyce Rice * Treas. Clara Frederickson
Membership Melissa Walsh & Patti Warden * Website Marinda Misra
Ex Officio Judith Cummings and Susi Hussong



BITS AND PIECES

1. Fall Harp Fest
2. Judith Cumming's father
3. New member
4. John Carrington in Harp Column
5. PNB's opener
6. Dusty Strings gut harp
7. Spotlight on Kippy Lou Scott
8. Tristan Le Govic
9. Latin harpists will be playing
10. What makes a successful gig?
11. Latest on Louise Trotter
12. Holder for your music iPad
13. New Celtic music anthologies
14. Nice new Christmas arrangements
15. 'Be kind to your body' workshop
16. Shortcuts
17. Harp Therapy programs
18. A truly revolutionary harp – no tuning, no regulating. It's electronic!
19. More new music for harp/cello and harp/percussion
20. Maxine Eilander and her dream come true



1. **We're having a Harp Fest!** Workshops on jazz and improv, panels on playing in an orchestra and being a wedding harpist, and a concert featuring many of our professional harpists. Saturday, October 17 at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Redmond (the site of many previous meetings). Morning session 10:00-11:30, afternoon session 1:00-2:30, concert at 3:00. IT'S ALL FREE to chapter members! See full schedule in the Calendar. *Note: if there are any advanced/professionals who would like to perform something at the 3 p.m. recital, please let us know before the end of September.*

2. Former chapter president **Judith Cummings** had to return to Scotland in August following the passing of her father. Our deepest condolences, Judith.

3. Welcome to our new member. Please add her to your directory:

Aubrey Burdick (AS)
1115 Olympia Ave NE
Olympia, WA 98506
(360) 481-3380
aubreyburdick@gmail.com

4. Keep an eye out: the Sept/Oct issue of The Harp Column magazine has a feature article "Cracking the Nutcracker" - **John Carrington** contributed to it and is extensively quoted.

5. Pacific Northwest Ballet kicks off its season opener with **John Carrington** and **Earecka Tregenza** playing together in Christopher Wheeldon's ballet "Tide Harmonic" with music by Joby Talbot. Seven performances from September 25 - October 4. Tickets and information at PNB.org

6. From Dusty Strings: The Boulevard is a variation on our 34-string Ravenna model lever harp—we have modified the instrument to take pedal gut strings instead of nylon. It's an ideal choice for classical repertoire and for players and students who want a feel similar to that of a pedal harp.

The Boulevard 34 will rent for \$65 per month (plus tax) and require a \$175.00 refundable damage deposit at the time of rental. (For more information about the terms of rental, visit our website.) Give us a

call at 206-634-1662 (or toll-free at 866-634-1622) to inquire about availability, or if you have any other questions!



7. Spotlight on **Kippy Lou Scott**: *How she came to the harp and ended up in a pond!*

Although I played the piano from age 5, I was not able study the harp until a freshman at the University of Washington. My mother's older brother had played the harp as an adult and she thought I might like the challenge. I always felt I must try it to see. Lynne Palmer invited me to come early and begin lessons at her home before classes began. How lucky I was! After graduating I was asked to audition for a job in Las Vegas playing the harp 6 nights a week on a "boat" going around a pond in the middle of the Dome of the Sea restaurant in the Dunes Hotel. I got the job and I stayed for 20 years. What a great time!

8. Nothing materialized as a gig here last month for Breton harper Tristan Le Govic, but he came anyway to see Seattle and stayed with us. He's a delightful fellow and had appeared in Vermont, New Hampshire, Boston, the Somerset Folk Harp Festival, L.A. and Coeur d'Alene before getting here. If he's invited to return to Somerset maybe he'll come back here. We should try harder to set up some place for him to perform! Hear him at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKhX9yGefms> and others.

9. Coming soon you'll have two chances to hear some very skilled Latin harpists, Edmar Castañeda and Abel Rocha! See September 29 and October 16 in the calendar.

10. Laurie Riley has some valuable thoughts on The "Elements of a Successful Gig" in her August blog at <https://laurierileymusic.wordpress.com>. Logistics (adequate preparation; contract; tuning; lighting, etc.). Delivery (playing well and expressively, connecting with the audience). And more.

11. Our chapter's good friend and not-too-long-ago workshop and concert presenter, the fabulous Louise Trotter, recently moved from her house in Houston to a retirement facility. Here's some news of her from her new location: http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/ranch/news/parkway-place-musician-to-perform-harp-concert-july/article_408756ad-9927-5f69-b992-8ed421c1b510.html?mode=jqm

12. Is your music on an iPad? Here are some holders and a "desk" that attach to your column. <http://www.harokit.com/category/desk.html>

13. Looking for some Celtic music? *Scottish Harp Anthology* and *Breton Harp Anthology* – Each has three volumes of traditional tunes in arrangements or newly composed tunes from dozens of Scottish and Breton harp players. Read more at www.celticharpblog.com/tag/patsy-seddon/ (scroll down) and www.celticharpblog.com/breton-harp-anthology/.

14. Looking for interesting new music for students or Christmas? Investigate composer Kathryn Cater at <http://harprose.com/> and <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgXizOfBmb-xX-RmMKenGjQ>. I especially enjoyed listening to her arrangements of *O Come, All Ye Faithful* and *Noel Nouvelet (Sing We Noel)*. I came across her name because she and I are included on a program of contemporary women composers to be played on Sept. 2 in Milwaukee by Mary Radspinner!

15. Got some aches and pains when harping? Here's a workshop for you at Dusty Strings: "Ergonomics for All Musicians" led by Laurie Riley on Saturday, October 10, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM in the Red Room at Dusty Strings retail store in Fremont. \$35.

"Every musician can benefit from Laurie's one-day workshops to prevent and correct discomfort,

pain, and/or injury related to playing an instrument, and learn to increase your musical energy, expression and vitality. A majority of musicians develop discomfort; it may be as simple as back pain or a stiff neck, or as complex as tenosynovitis or thoracic outlet syndrome. When the body is not comfortable, the music cannot flow. In this workshop you will learn the easy ways to prevent or correct discomfort and address pain issues.” <http://store.dustystrings.com/c-97-all-instruments-workshops.aspx>

16. Need to learn something wedding-ish in too short a time? Deborah Henson-Conant gives some ideas using as an example Handel’s *Largo* at <http://www.hipharp.com/events/arrange-yourself.html>. Scroll down until you come to her video called “Arrange Yourself” where she’s wearing a multi-colored top.

17. Interested in harp therapy? The latest Folk Harp Journal has a spread on six programs. You can find more about them here:

Bedside Harp: www.BedsideHarp.com

Harp For Healing: www.HarpforHealing.com

International Harp Therapy Program: www.HarpTherapyInternational.com

Music for Healing and Transition Program: www.MHTP.org

Therapy Harp Training Program: www.TherapyHarp.com

Vibracoustic Harp Therapy Training Course: www.VibracousticHarp.com

18. How about a *truly* revolutionary pedal harp that weighs 30 lbs. and whose base can be detached for easy packing and shipping? It’s a “Virtual Pedal Harp, MIDI controller.” See it here:

<http://www.kortier.com/walvph43.htm>. And <http://www.kortier.com/midiinfo.htm> for more info.

Many thanks to Diane Moss for the heads-up. There are several midi harps on YouTube.

19. This just “over the transom”: Composer Bekah Simms is the 2015 winner of the Lyra Society Marilyn Costello Prize for her piece *wires at rest (tend to tangle)*. This composition is for harp and cello. Additionally, another piece, *Luna*, for harp and percussion, is also an exciting addition to the Fatrock Ink fall catalogue.

20. Seattle based harpist Maxine Eilander plays on a range of specialized early harps: the Italian triple strung harp, the Spanish cross-strung harp, the German ‘Davidsharfe’, the Welsh triple harp for which Handel wrote his harp concerto, and the classical single action pedal harp. She is also the managing director of Seattle-based Pacific MusicWorks. As reported in the just arrived Historical Harp Journal, at the Biennial Boston Early Music Festival in June she participated in the “mammoth undertaking” of rehearsing and playing in all three Monteverdi operas and his 1610 Vespers. Weeks of 13-hour rehearsal days, then performances over nine days. It was an exhausting experience but a “personal dream come true for Maxine.”



CALENDAR

Friday, September 4 6:00-7:00 pm. **Monica Schley** will provide Solo Harp and Voice at the Cafe Vita in Seward Park, 5028 Wilson Ave S., Seattle in *Music for an Art Opening*. Art Show 5-8pm, Music 6-7pm - tips encouraged. See work by collage artist Sara Braken, in her show "What Is Holy?" Facebook event page <https://www.facebook.com/events/646003178868966>

September 25 - October 4 Pacific Northwest Ballet kicks off its season opener with **John Carrington** and **Earecka Tregenza** playing together in Christopher Wheeldon's ballet "Tide Harmonic" with music by Joby Talbot. 7 performances. Tickets and information at PNB.org

Tuesday, September 29 at 7:30 PM - The Daphnes and AMA Trio play at The Royal Room, 5000 Rainier Ave S, Seattle.

The Daphnes featuring **Monica Schley** (harp and voice), Nate Omdal (bass) and Julie Baldrige (violin), play modern chamber pop compositions. This unconventional trio draws sounds from neo-folkster M. Ward, 90's alternative bands Mazzy Star and Cowboy Junkies, and jazz musicians Pharaoh Sanders and Alice Coltrane. Donations encouraged. <http://monicaschley.com/harp-music/daphnes/>

AMA TRIO = Correo Aereo (**Abel Rocha** on harp) + Amy Denio. AMA Trio's music has been described as a 'rarely yodeling, always scintillating Latin American Afro Sephardic Eastern European gypsy circus chamber band!' The unique and resonant blend of these 3 talented musicians from diverse backgrounds creates sumptuous music with depth, nuance, complexity and playfulness that de-colonizes the mind and celebrates the solidarity of all peoples everywhere who love Life! Their music has sabor and is richly polyrhythmic and soulfully melodic - gorgeous, fiery, haunting and joyful...this is the universal language, world music at its finest. <https://amydenio.bandcamp.com/album/ama-trio>

Saturday, October 10, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM. "Ergonomics for All Musicians" led by Laurie Riley in the Red Room at Dusty Strings retail store in Fremont. \$35. See Bits and Pieces for more details.

Friday, October 16, 8pm at the Poncho Concert Hall at Cornish (710 East Roy Street). Latin harpist **Edmar Castañeda** will be playing a solo concert, with the wonderful Jovino Santos Neto (Brazilian jazz master) opening. Tickets are \$18/\$16 Earshot members & seniors/\$9 students. (Group rate is \$15 but we need to know in advance.) This [NPR Tiny Desk Concert](#) is from 2010, but is a nice intro to him.

Saturday, October 17: Chapter Harp Fest SAVE THE DATE!! FREE to all chapter members! Workshops and harp circles. Location is a familiar spot: St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 3604 NE 10th Ct, Renton. Put it on or in your calendar now!

10-11:30 First improv/jazz session; Playing in the Orchestra.

11:30-12:30 BYO lunch.

12:30 – 2:00 Second improv/jazz session; Playing for Weddings.

2:00-3:00 Refreshments, schmooze time. Swap table with Christmas ornaments and anything else you have. (We are not allowed to sell anything in the church.)

3:00 Concert by scholarship winners and several chapter professionals. The public is welcome to the concert.

November 20-January 3: Catherine Case will be in the pit for *The Sound of Music* at the 5th Avenue Theater.

November 27-December 28: John Carrington will be in the pit for *The Nutcracker* at McCaw Hall.

December 3, 5 and 6: Valerie Muzzolini Gordon performs the *Debussy Dances* with the Seattle Symphony. 206-215-4747 for ticket office.

January 28-February 21, 2016: Catherine will be in the pit for *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

February 27 and 28, 2016 Valerie will play a lesser known Parish-Alvars concerto, *Opus 81 in G minor*, with the Tacoma Symphony in Gig Harbor and Tacoma. 253.591.5894 or 1.800.291.7593 for tickets.

March 10 - 13, 2016 Beginning in the Middle Harp Festival 2016, "designed specifically for adult harpists at all skill levels." Williamsburg Lodge in Williamsburg, VA. www.beginninginthemiddle.com/

June 30-July 3, 2016 42nd AHS National Conference in Atlanta GA.



CLASSIFIEDS

PEDAL HARPS

For Sale: Venus concert harp made in 1990. 46 strings, bottom C to top F. Encore model natural maple with gold bands on column; with extended, decorated soundboard. Warm resonant tone. Includes matching Venus adjustable bench and rubber covered tuning key in leather holder. Used for teaching as I have a different harp to take out. \$11,000 plus tax. NE Seattle. Patricia Jaeger (206) 525-7682 or pjaeger99@hotmail.com. Sales tax must be added to price unless buyer has a WA business license.

For Sale: Salvi "Diana" Walnut, 47 strings; new \$27,500; my price \$21,000. For a pic, go to www.salviharps.com and click on Diana. Built in 1995. One owner. Carefully maintained and well taken care of. For questions, please contact Ruthann Ritchie, by calling 253-666-5980 or email harpist46@hotmail.com

For Sale: Lyon & Healy "Chicago" Concert grand, mahogany with extended board in spruce. Built in 2010 but hardly played, in excellent condition. Includes dust cover and transport cover (with base and column covers), tuning key, almost full set of strings, shipping box and packing materials. \$16,500. Contact Diane McLean at 360-275-2476 or eziekel.mclean@gmail.com.

For sale: Lyon & Healy 17 Gold. Rebuilt at the Lyon & Healy factory in 1996, this harp has been completely refurbished. It was fitted with a new neck. Regulation and rewire were done in November 2011. The harp was built in 1923, when Lyon & Healy was doing particularly fine work. Like other harps from this period, it has an exceptionally rich, warm and clear tone. \$18,200. Contact 206-973-7037 or hildegardgreen2010@gmail.com.

For sale: 1918 Lyon & Healy Style 17 Gold. Serial number, pictures and price upon request. Serious inquiries, only please. The harp was refurbished with a new neck in 1999 and includes the wooden trunk. 425-445-0205.

For rent: 85CG circa 1988 that is a very satisfying instrument to play and practice due to its wonderful sound. \$150 per month. Fairly recent regulation and new bass wires. Includes cover and harp cart. Contact Mary Frank at frank.mary@comcast.net.

For rent: Walnut L&H 23. Wonderful sound. Concert grand harp with 47 strings, it comes with a 3-piece transport cover. \$150 per month plus tax. Contact Marian Sussman at [206-290-8192](tel:206-290-8192) or at harpnote@gmail.com.

For rent: Venus Traditional harp. Oversize semi-grand, almost as large as a grand with extended board and 46 strings. Big sound with concert grand string spacing, floral carving and a high gloss natural maple finish. \$125 plus tax. Contact Marian Sussman at [206-290-8192](tel:206-290-8192) or at harpnote@gmail.com.

LEVER HARPS

For sale: Illness forces the sale of a beautiful Camac Aziliz harp with case and extra strings, stand and tuning fork. This is a 34-string harp especially selected by a professional harpist in 1998 for its warm deep tones. The Aziliz is Camac's top of the line Celtic harp. New ones retail at \$4950.00, not including the case. The strings are carbon and wire, fully levered, range A1 to C4, 46" tall, 20 lbs., perfect condition. Owner has severe spinal disease and cannot play anymore. \$3000 or best offer. Cash only, people must come in person to try it in Redmond WA. No phishers or scammers, please. drlipton@gmail.com. Photo available.

For sale: Selected for its beautiful sound, this new and in excellent condition, 34 String Camac (Telenn) lever harp in mahogany also comes with a black padded travel case and tuning key. \$2700 includes travel case. If interested, email John at ljoosten372@gmail.com) or text to 253-973-2822. Photo can be emailed.

For Sale: Mindi Tena (Auburn WA) is selling a Tristy lap harp, made by Philip Boulding of Magical Strings. This harp has 24 nylon strings (starting with C below middle C) and 7 sharpening levers (C's & F's). It is made of eastern rock maple and maple laminate. This beautiful harp was purchased from Mr. Boulding in July 2002 & actively played for only 2 years, at which time the student upgraded to a full-size lever harp. It is in perfect condition and just right for a beginning harpist. It comes with a padded case which has handles, perfect for carrying. Asking price: \$500. Interested parties may contact Mindi at [253-670-2351](tel:253-670-2351).

For sale: Kailey 3 Folk Harp made by Philip Boulding. It's about 12 years old, 36 strings, 5 octave range from Low C. Leverless but there is space to have the levers installed. This beautiful harp stands 52" tall and is made of maple. It comes with a deluxe padded cover for travel and tuning key. Excellent condition and mellow sound. Reduction in price is now **\$1550.00**. Please call Arisa Houston at 360-394-3689. Follow this link for photos: <http://arisahouston.com/Images/kaileyharp.jpg>

For sale: Lever harp, 31 strings, made from a Music Maker kit. Soundboard is hand-painted with two black swans. Owner is no longer able to play and has to move, and will include music stand, music, tuning key, and tuner with the instrument. **\$950 price lowered**. Contact Lynn Curran, 206-735-5027 (Renton Highlands area).

For sale: Prelude – 38 strings, Mahogany. 1st Octave E to 6th Octave C. The Prelude features string spacing and tension similar to a pedal harp. A scalloped bronze-finished crown and matching claw feet enhance the beauty. Valued in 2009 at \$4,490. Sale Price \$4,200. Contact Lu Buranen at 253-564-2741.

For sale or rent: Salvi Livia 36-string lever harp in birds-eye maple, 4 years old, like new. Includes fabric cover and wheeled travel case, tuning key and a few extra strings. \$4,000. Rental is \$45 a month. Contact Nerys Jones at nerysjones@hotmail.com or 206-876-0636. Photos available upon request.

For rent: Dusty Strings Double Strung harp. Maple/Cherry, fully levered. Bold sound. With case. \$40 per month. Contact Susan McLain 206 932-1861 or greensleevesharp@aol.com.

For rent: Triplett Sierra 30, partially levered. \$45/month. Alishia Joubert, henzharper@gmail.com.

OTHER

For sale: Viola: 15" made by Conrad Goetz, Germany. Includes case, some music. Recent appraisal by Biscofberger in Seattle \$2000. Sell for \$1300. Patricia Jaeger (206) 525-7682 or pjaeger99@hotmail.com.

Cello: Eberhard half-size, bow, "Cushy" case with wheels and backpack straps, handsome wood stand with red velvet lining from Shar, so student can display it and more easily practice it than when zipped into sturdy case. Some music, 2 videos "Exploring the Bow" made by Orlando Cole and Lynn Harrell. \$700. Patricia Jaeger (206) 525-7682 or pjaeger99@hotmail.com.

Sales tax must be added to prices unless buyer has a WA business license.



FUN STUFF

How do you improve the aerodynamics of a harpist's car?
Take the Domino's Pizza sign off the roof.

How do you get a harpist off of your front porch?
Pay for the pizza.

(Bada bing, bada boom!)

A musical director wasn't happy with the performance of one of the percussionists. Repeated attempts to get the drummer to improve failed. Finally in front of the orchestra, the director cried in frustration, "When a musician can't handle their instrument, they give him two sticks and make him a drummer!"

A whisper was heard from the percussion section:

"And if he can't handle that, they remove one of his sticks and make him a conductor!"

A new conductor was at his first rehearsal. It was not going well. He was as wary of the musicians as they were of him. As he left the rehearsal room, the timpanist sounded a rude little "bong." The angry conductor turned and said, "All right! Who did that?"

(Thanks to YouCanBeFunny.com)