

Program
September 2, 2015
6:45p (preceded by Taize Meditation 6p)
St. Joseph Convent Chapel
1515 S Layton Blvd (27th St), Milwaukee, WI

The Horse in My Dreams (Forever In Love With Horses, 2002)
SeaGull (Soaring Strings, 2003)

Kathryn Cater 1961-
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Kathryn Cater, composer and performer, is also a prolific writer, composer, photographer and collector/organizer of music education materials. Among her many popular harp compositions and arrangements is a series of harp learning books focused on dogs, cats, bugs, birds and horses. Her music is well-loved by children, but adults play and enjoy her music equally. Many adult harpists who play in therapeutic situations use this very music. Cater, whose self-created You Tubes are enchanting and clever, has a web site at <http://harprose.com/>. Her You Tube Channel is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgXizOfBmb-xX-RmMKenGjQ>

To Find a Gift (Valley Tunes, 1992)
Kaleidoscope

Joyce Rice 1940-
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Joyce Rice is a retired harpist, having had a long career of free-lancing and teaching more than 100 students of all ages. She is also a composer/arranger/publisher and is the author of text called "Teaching the Lever Harp". Joyce is currently co-founder and chair of a non-profit organization called Harp Spectrum, on-line since June, 2000, providing information about all types of harps and harp music, as well numerous links to harp builders, retailers, conferences, camps and more. You can find Joyce's personal web site at <http://www.seanet.com/~joycerice/index.html>. The Harp Spectrum web site: www.harpspectrum.org

To Find a Gift and Kaleidoscope were originally included in a larger compilation called "Valley Tunes". These compositions, each dedicated to a student, were written by Joyce when she lived in the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts. "To Find a Gift" is dedicated to Cathy Bennett (who can play this as a meditation at her church.) Kaleidoscope is dedicated to Pat Larkin (a medievalist who's not afraid of something new.)

Joyce was a pioneer in composition for the lever harp, creating substantial works for the instrument while it was still considered a toy, or not a "real" harp. Kaleidoscope in particular is a work that would be impossible to play on the pedal harp due to the 4-octave tuning, each octave tuned to a different scale.

Kymation (Harpation, 2013)
Luxation (Harpation, 2013)

Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher 1952-
Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher 1952-

Harpation is a trilogy of solo harp pieces based on a whole-tone scale. Performed tonight are the first 2 movements. Kymation ("ribbon-shaped ornament") - An oriental mood is woven into the construction of this piece. Luxation ("dislocated") - The recurring 5/4 time signature gives a disjointed feel to the music.

Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher holds a Doctor of Music degree in Vocal Music and a Master of Science degree in nursing. Initially trained as a classical vocalist and

pianist, she began her harp studies after moving to Upstate New York and has since followed a multi-faceted career path. In addition to being a well-known arranger whose harp publications are sold internationally, she is an experienced choral conductor, concert organizer, arts advocate, music editor and music educator. Dr. Rees-Rohrbacher also pursues her interest in healing as a nursing and healthcare instructor in higher education. Her publishing company is Dragonflower Music: <http://www.dragonflower.com/>

Pavane (Spirit Dances, 2005)

Barbara Semmann 1939-2007

Lullaby

Frolic

Boat Song

March

Melody in C (Miniatures, 2001)

Barbara Semmann 1939-2007

Sentito (Gentle Spirit, 1996)

Aeolian Air (Spirit Wings, 1993)

Reflections (Spirit Wings, 1993)

Barbara Semmann 1939-2007

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Barbara Semmann (1939-2007) was a lover and teacher of music for over 40 years. She graduated from Alverno College in Milwaukee with a degree in Music Education and Liturgical Music. She started learning the harp in 1990 with Jeanne Henderson's University of Wisconsin outreach program. She has published musical compositions for both harp and for handbells. Barbara studied composition with S. Theophane Hytrek. This is reflected in her lovely melodic lines.

The String Sings

Joyce Rice 1940-

The String Sings is a commissioned work inspired by the poem, "Musician" by Louise Bogan, who had a thirty-eight year career as a reviewer for *The New Yorker*,

Musician by Louise Bogan

Where have these hands been,
By what delayed,
That so long stayed
Apart from the thin

Strings which they now grace
With their lonely skill?
Music and their cool will
At last interlace.

Now with great ease, and slow,
The thumb, the finger, the strong
Delicate hand plucks the long
String it was born to know.

And, under the palm, the string
Sings as it wished to sing.

Mary Radspinner, a graduate of Alverno College (Music Education) began harp studies with Jeanne Henderson in the Milwaukee Public Schools. She has taught at schools in Milwaukee, Minot and Houston, TX. Currently she free-lances as a solo and ensemble harpist in the greater Houston area, and spends summers in Milwaukee. She is the rehearsal pianist for the Waller (TX) choir department and also serves as pianist/organist at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Houston's historic 6th ward. Mary has served as regional director of the American Harp Society, president of the Scottish Harp Society and the ISFHC, and interim editor-in-chief of the Folk Harp Journal. In the 90's Mary and husband John Gill established Afghan Press Music for the Harp and Melody's Traditional Music, both named for their beloved hound Melody (1987 - 1998). Mary and John are active in Golden Retriever Rescue. <http://www.maryradspinner.net/>

The harp played in tonight's meditation is made by Dusty Strings (Seattle). It is a 36-string lever harp made of walnut. The levers serve to raise each string by a semi-tone. Lever harps became serious instruments in the late 1980's with the invention of the Loveland Lever, developed by Dave Woodworth and Robert Bunker. Unlike prior levers, Loveland levers successfully change string pitch without compromising the tuning and tone, creating a pure sound in the engaged position and enabling harpists to play in many different keys. Dusty Strings Harps are well known for warm tone and resonance. <http://www.dustystings.com/>