

Winter Harp Media Kit 2019

Contact: Lani Krantz, Winter Harp Associate Producer and Classical Harpist
lanakrantz@gmail.com

This kit includes:

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- * Tour dates & places
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- * Rare medieval instruments
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**Immerse yourself in the joy of Christmas with Winter Harp.
Glorious music and song, festive stories and the warmth of the
holidays combine to capture your heart and wrap you snugly in the
Christmas spirit.**

Standing ovations and sold-out concerts are the hallmarks of this
acclaimed ensemble.

Don't miss this magical journey.

Winter Harp -- Christmas begins here.

WINTER HARP 2019 MEDIA RELEASE

(Vancouver Area concerts w/full BC tour schedule)

High resolution images can be downloaded [HERE](#).

Winter Harp

"Winter Harp has the ability to transport audience members to another time and place."

-- Vancouver Sun

Winter Harp returns this December as part of nine-city BC concert tour, with seven performances in the Lower Mainland.

Over 26 years, this acclaimed ensemble has become renowned for delivering beautiful, soul-stirring performances. Concerts are "must-see" events on holiday calendars, with many audience members returning year after year – passing the Winter Harp tradition on to new generations.

What has audiences returning again and again is the sheer wonder of the concert experience that captures the joyful spirit of the season.

On stage, Winter Harp's outstanding musicians and singers, clad in colorful medieval attire, perform a collection of music ranging from familiar carols to Celtic and medieval carols. The hauntingly-beautiful music features a fascinating combination of harps, drums, temple bells, flutes, bass flute, violin/fiddle and an assortment of rare medieval instruments. These include the *bass psaltery*, *organistrum*, *hurdy-gurdy* and *nyckelharpa*.

This year's ensemble of outstanding artists includes **Roger Helfrick** (lead vocals, harp, recorder), **Lauri Lyster** (percussion, vocals), **Jeff Pelletier** (flute, bass flute, hurdy-gurdy, vocals), **Lani Krantz** (classical harp, vocals), **Hayley Farenholtz** (folk harp, vocals), **Bruce Henczel** (nyckelharpa, violin/fiddle, viola, bass psaltery, percussion, vocals) and **Adam Henderson** (narrator, percussion, organistrum). **Lori Pappajohn** is the ensemble's director.

Lower Mainland concerts: Dec. 11 & 12 BlueShore Financial Performance Centre in North Van. Dec. 15 the Act in Maple Ridge. Dec. 18 Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Westminster. Dec. 20 Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver.

Full ensemble biographical information is [HERE](#).

Winter Harp 2019 Tour Schedule

Sechelt

Saturday, Nov. 30, 2:30 pm
Raven's Cry Theatre

New Westminster

Sunday, Dec. 1, 2:30 pm
Massey Theatre
with the Vancouver Welshmen's Choir

Victoria

Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 pm
Alix Goolden Performance Hall

Nanaimo

Saturday, Dec. 7, 3:30 pm, Port Theatre

Duncan

Saturday, Dec. 8, 2:00 pm
Cowichan Performing Arts Centre

Chilliwack

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7:30 pm
Chilliwack Cultural Centre

North Vancouver

Wed. & Thur., Dec. 11 & 12, 7:30 pm
BlueShore Financial Performance Arts Centre

Maple Ridge: Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 & 7 pm, The ACT

New Westminster: Wed. Dec. 18, 7:30 pm
Holy Trinity Cathedral

Vancouver: Friday, Dec. 20, 7:30 pm
Christ Church Cathedral

For ticket details click here: <https://www.winterharp.com/concerts.php>

WINTER HARP EVENT LISTING (VANCOUVER)

One of this province's most beloved annual concert traditions, Winter Harp is known for its sold out performances and standing ovations. Harps, flute, fiddle, medieval instruments, percussion, stories and song combine for a magical celebration of winter and Christmas. Dec. 20 at Christ Church Cathedral, Vancouver. Dec. 18 at Holy Trinity Cathedral, New Westminster. Dec. 11 & 12 at BlueShore Financial Performance Centre.

THE WINTER HARP CONCERT EXPERIENCE (Short Description)

One of the Lower Mainland's most beloved holiday concerts, Winter Harp takes you on a magical journey you will never forget.

Join this world-class ensemble of harps, flutes, rare medieval instruments, percussion and singing for a heartwarming concert in celebration of winter and Christmas. The musicians, in rich medieval attire, perform a hauntingly-beautiful selection of music on a stage set with gorgeous backdrops of cathedral and snow.

This is a journey into the heart of Christmas -- a place of joy, hope and light. Shows sell out quickly. Book your tickets early.

Medieval Instruments

Winter Harp features a number of unique instruments made especially for the ensemble.

Bass psaltery: Built by former Vancouver luthier Edward Turner, the five-foot-tall bass psaltery is the only one of its kind in the world.

Organistrum: a large, guitar-shaped instrument that requires two people to play, is the great grandfather of the hurdy-gurdy. The ornately carved instrument, dating back to 12th Century Spain, produces deep, resonant drones. Another like it can be seen in Ottawa's Museum of Civilization, also crafted by luthier Edward Turner.

Hurdy-gurdy: has its origins in the organistrum which was eventually made smaller and more versatile. The hurdy-gurdy was popular throughout Europe during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

Nyckelharpa: A Swedish medieval keyed violin, the nyckelharpa is a cross between a hurdy-gurdy and a violin. It has a series of keys similar to a hurdy-gurdy, but is bowed, like a fiddle, and has a rich, wistful sound.

More information on these instruments can be found by clicking [HERE](#).

ACCOLADES

Media previews and reviews (excerpts)

“ . . . the West Coast’s answer to Loreena McKennitt.” -- Boulevard Magazine "

...an enrapturing event that plucks at your heart strings." -- The Province (Vancouver)

"Winter Harp's annual Christmas concerts are a treat." -- CBC Radio

“And Winter Harp ... is definitely magical. Under the direction of acclaimed composer/arranger/harpist Lori Pappajohn, Winter Harp’s estimable players -- who specialize in Celtic, medieval and classical music -- make one feel as though they’ve stepped into a pre-Raphaelite painting. Candlelight flickers off golden harps played by angelic musicians clad in velvet gowns, their ethereal music shining like a silvery moon in the darkest nights of December. Flute, percussion, medieval instruments, vocals and readings complete the experience.” -- Winnipeg Free Press

From Fans

“This year I saw 80 performances in Vancouver -- dance, theatre, musicals and choral. Many were splendid and exciting, but there are none to match the magic of Winter Harp.”

“I’ve been to Christmas concerts all over Europe. None are as profound as yours.”

“Your performance brings the spirit of the season to life. Thank you.”

“The music, the instruments, the beautiful voices, including the narrator's voice, the little touches of humour, your costumes, the way the concert unfolds -- it's like gently unwrapping a very special Christmas gift -- layer by layer, and always a lovely surprise awaits.”