

Winter Harp Media Kit 2021

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This kit includes:

- Press release
- Link to photos
- Tour dates & places
- Short event listing
- Rare medieval instruments
- Accolades

Winter Harp is one of the most hauntingly-beautiful Christmas concerts you will ever attend. Harps combine with flutes, violin, rare medieval instruments, percussion, poetry and song to wrap you snugly in the Christmas spirit. The concert is also a feast for the eyes with the musicians dressed in gorgeous medieval attire, and the stage set with breathtakingly beautiful backdrops of cathedrals and snow.

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

Don't miss this journey of pure magic. Winter Harp -- Christmas begins here.

WINTER HARP 2021 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

This December 2021, Winter Harp returns to live performances across BC on its ten-city concert tour, with seven performances in the Lower Mainland.

Over the decades since its first moving performances, this acclaimed ensemble has become renowned for delivering beautiful, soul-stirring presentations. 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, viola 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 **Lauri Lyster** (percussion, vocals), **Jeff Pelletier** (flute, bass flute, hurdy-gurdy, vocals), **Lani Krantz** (classical harp, vocals), **Hayley Farenholtz** (celtic harp, vocals), **Bruce Henczel** (nyckelharpa, viola, bass psaltery, percussion, vocals), **Emma Verret** (vocalist) and **Adam Henderson** (narrator, percussion, organistrum).

Lower Mainland concerts

Dec. 14 at 7:30 pm Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Dec. 18 at 3pm & 7pm The ACT

Dec. 19 at 3pm & 7pm BlueShore Financial Performance Centre, North Van.

Dec. 21 at 7:30 pm St. Andrew's-Wesley United, Vancouver

Full ensemble biographical information can be found [HERE](#)

Winter Harp 2021 Full Tour Schedule

Sechelt

Saturday, Dec 4, 2:30 pm
Raven's Cry Theatre

New Westminster

Sunday, Dec. 5, 2:30 pm
Massey Theatre
with the Vancouver Welshmen's Choir

Courtenay

Thursday Dec. 9, 7:30 pm
Sid Williams Theatre

Victoria

Friday, Dec. 10, 7:30 pm
Alix Goolden Performance Hall

Nanaimo

Saturday, Dec. 11, 3:30 pm
Port Theatre

Duncan

Saturday, Dec. 12, 2:00 pm
Cowichan Performing Arts Centre

Chilliwack

Tuesday, Dec. 14, 7:30 pm
Chilliwack Cultural Centre

Maple Ridge

Saturday, Dec. 18 at 3 & 7 pm
The ACT

North Vancouver

Sunday, Dec. 19 at 3 & 7 pm
BlueShore Financial Performance Arts Centre

Vancouver

Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:30 pm
St. Andrew's-Wesley

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 will return to live performances this December 2021. 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. 14 at Chilliwack Cultural Centre. Dec. 18 at The ACT, Maple Ridge. Dec. 19 at BlueShore Financial Performance Centre, North Van. Dec. 21 at St. Andrew's-Wesley United, Vancouver.

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."