

The HARP CONNECTION

FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER

**Come See What's
New In Our Store!**

We've got some exciting news - We have the 4 Lyon & Healy Competition 23's in our showroom as well as a broad selection of the new Chicago Style harps!!



Our **Lyon & Healy Style 23's** picked especially for and played at the major competitions!!
\$31,000

Pedal Harp Special:

*Purchase an In-Stock Lyon & Healy 23 & Get a **FREE Harpo®**
(Value of \$900+ savings and includes the cost of shipping while supplies last)



Lyon & Healy Chicago Series Harp



Chicago CG Straight shown in Mahogany \$12,950
Chicago CG Extended shown in Natural \$14,950
Chicago Petite 40 shown in Ebony \$10,450



**Introducing The Lyon & Healy
Chicago Concertino**

This Model Is On Order & Coming Soon!!
\$13,950



Our **Salvi Arianna**, flown in from Italy, was seen at AHS in Tacoma and the USA Harp Competition in Bloomington!! \$31,500

*Both the Arianna & our In-Stock **Salvi Arion Gold SG** (with Ornamentation) \$16,950 come with a **FREE Transport Cover Set!**



Attention Everyone:

We are pleased to announce that all future THC newsletters will be sent via Email!
To sign up for your free copy please email us at: newsletter@harpconnection.com

Questions or Concerns?

Email us: harps@harpconnection.com

Call us Toll Free: 888.287.4277(harp)

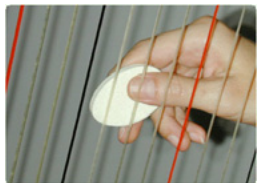
Check us out on facebook!!



**To view our complete inventory, please visit our website. *Prices on all harps and accessories are subject to change at any time.*

FOR YOU, ONLY THE BEST!

Featured Accessories:



‘Glissando Picks’
Save your fingers!!!
Let the picks do the work of those fortissimo orchestral glissandi.
\$10



‘Batt-O-Meter’
It's great for double-checking the battery life on your tuners and pickups so you're not left high and dry in the middle of a performance, gig, or recording session!
\$34.95



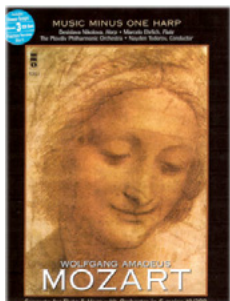
‘Fishman FT-1 Tuner’
The bright, backlit LCD display features a meter style pitch indicator with large readout and turns from red to green when the note is in tune. Powered by a single coin battery, this tuner is lightweight and packed with value.
\$24.95



‘Palatino Deluxe Padded Bench’
Imitation Leather Seat
Wood Frame with High Gloss Ebony or Walnut finish.
Music Compartment, Adjustable Height
22" x 13.4" x 18.5"-22"
On Sale \$149.99



‘Harpo® Harp Trolley’
This amazing cart is fabricated in Germany from aircraft-grade aluminum, collapses for storage and even has quick-release removable wheels! \$895
**The Harp Connection is your exclusive U.S. dealer for the Harpo® Harp Trolley*



Wolfgang Amadeus - ‘Mozart Concerto for Flute and Harp in C Major’
This deluxe 3CD set includes a slow-tempo practice version of the orchestral accompaniment to help you get up to speed. \$39.98



Anne Roos - ‘Guide to Brides: How to Make Money Playing Weddings’
This 324 page book guides the reader every step of the way to becoming a successful wedding musician. Signed by author Anne Roos!!! \$24.99



Catrin Finch - ‘Rag Time’
Three of Catrin Finch's favourite encores. These compositions by David Hellewell are an absolute delight.
\$19.95



Mac Perry - ‘Learn How to Play BLUES On Your Harp’
has everything you need to know about how to play the Blues on your PEDAL or LEVER HARP! \$30



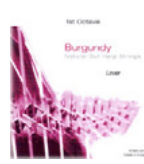
Monika Stadler - ‘New Shoots - Old Roots’
combines many different types of music, from traditional to world and jazz. Free MP3 files on her website.
\$25

*Go to our Online Store for more titles with complete descriptions and sample pages!!

*Prices on all harps and accessories are subject to change at any time.

Tips For Using Your Tuner

LEVER HARP TUNING IN E FLAT MAJOR		PEDAL HARP TUNING IN C FLAT		LEVER HARP TUNING IN E FLAT MAJOR (with Korg CA-30)		PEDAL HARP TUNING IN C FLAT (with Korg CA-30)	
NOTE PLAYED	TUNER READING	NOTE PLAYED	TUNER READING	NOTE PLAYED	TUNER READING	NOTE PLAYED	TUNER READING
C	C	C b	B	C	C	C b	B
D	D	D b	C #	D	D	D b	C #
E b	D #	E b	D #	E b	E b	E b	E b
F	F	F b	E	F	F	F b	E
G	G	G b	F #	G	G	G b	F #
A b	G #	A b	G #	A b	G #	A b	G #
B b	A #	B b	A #	B b	B b	B b	B b



MORE STRING OPTIONS!! The Harp Connection’s expanded string inventory includes Bow Brand Burgundy Lever and Pedal Gut as well as Vanderbilt Nylon, Vanderbilt Tarnish-Resistant Wires and Vanderbilt Silver and Copper Wires!

**The Harp Connection is your exclusive U.S. dealer for all Pirastro strings*



Ruth Berman “Harp & Orchestra, Swing Time” CD \$15.00



Monika Stadler “Everything Will Be All Right” CD \$18.00



Franziska Huhn “Harp Solo” CD \$16.99



Monika Stadler “Two Ways” CD \$18.00



Salzedo “On the Air” CD \$21.99



Park Stickney & Rudiger Oppermann “Harp Summit” CD \$15.00

FOR YOU, ONLY THE BEST!



The Harp Connection is proud to feature Boston harpist Felice Pomeranz. She is Professor of Harp at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, performs worldwide with the 'Felice Pomeranz Jazz Quartet,' publishes several arrangements of music for harp, and is the founder of The Gilded Harps of Boston'. Her recordings and instructional DVD are popular with harpists around the world. We sat down with Felice to talk to her about the many hats she wears as a harpist, entrepreneur and teacher:

What led you to play the harp and how old were you?

When I am asked this question, I usually answer with a question, "What did YOU wish to be as a child?" Some of us are fortunate to know from a very early age what they want to be as an adult. I have always adored the harp and began as a twelve year old. It's been a long journey!

Do you come from a musical family or background?

Not at all! All music lovers, no musicians in the mix!

Who has inspired and influenced you? Also, tell us about your most influential harp teacher.

I have been so blessed to have met and worked with some very inspiring individuals. Working with Marjorie Call in Los Angeles was nurturing and helped my growth immensely. Studying with Bernard Zighera was life changing and a privilege.

Were you originally a classical musician and how did you move toward specializing in Jazz and Contemporary harp?

I have always played classical music and love it. Working with my flutist, Matt Marvuglio, opened my eyes to jazz and improvisation, because he could improvise over my printed music and make it sound so fresh!

How did you learn to improvise on the harp? What is your advice for people who would like to learn this skill?

Improvisation on the harp is a challenge, and I worked for a long time with pianists, bassists, and went back to school. I am the only harpist to receive a jazz degree from New England Conservatory. I received my masters in jazz in 1993.

How and when did you decide to be a professional harpist?

Playing the harp has always been my intention. The fact that I can play and get paid for it is amazing! One must wear many hats and be a versatile player, but it can work, and life is never dull! We harpists are fortunate that we are in such demand!

Tell us about your work as a Clinician.

I have been very happy to help new improvisers and get them to believe that they can play jazz. I've done several festivals in Europe, the Caribbean, and around the US. Cont...

It's wonderful working with harpists and getting them to trust themselves and that they CAN improvise!

Tell us about your new CD 'Harp in the Band'?

Thank you for asking! Harp in the Band is a 'music minus one' interactive CD for beginning improvisers. There are sixteen tunes which are part of the Great American Songbook and some original tunes, too. There is a free downloadable workbook available on my website, with voicings, possible scale suggestions, and other helpful information to practice playing as the harpist in a jazz quartet. You are given space to solo in each tune, as well as comp along with the group. It's a lot of fun!

How are the harp lessons online via Skype working out?

We are having a great time on Skype! It's not exactly the same as being next to your student, but it can work very well. I even caught a student cheating on

Skype, so it can be almost like being there!

How did you get into arranging music, making CD's and your DVD 'Jazzy Beginnings'? What is your advice to others who would like to venture into one or more of these projects?

Life is an adventure, and many times you simply are trying to fill a need. If you are an educator, then students ask how you play different material and arrangements and educational media helps answer a lot of the questions that students have.



What led you to found your company - 'The Gilded Harps'? Tell us more about how your company works.

'The Gilded Harps' was founded many years ago by Deborah Henson-Conant, Carol Kulzer, and me. It was a reaction to being abused by the music agents in Boston during that time. We set rates for harpists and asked everyone to stay within our rate guidelines. Then we began booking a lot of events ourselves. Eventually, I became the owner of the group and it has grown since then. Now, the agents in Boston are wonderful and many of them call us directly. The Gilded Harps is probably the best-known harp referral network in the country.

Tell us about your career as a harp teacher. What are the differences that you have found teaching privately as opposed to teaching at an institution?

I enjoy teaching immensely in both settings. When one teaches at an institution, the time and room pressures sometimes are a challenge, but everyone is very cooperative, so it all works! Cont...

Works by Felice Pomeranz



You Are NEVER To Old To Learn To Play!!

Here at The Harp Connection we receive almost as many inquiries from adult beginners as we do from children looking to start playing harp for the first time. Many have reached retirement and are looking for a hobby. Others never realized that obtaining a harp was so easy and are comforted by our rent to own program. Most feel that they are at a point in their lives when they want to do something for themselves and many have had had a life-long dream of playing the harp.

Over the past 20 years there has been an amazing surge of interest in the harp by the adult beginner. There is an instant gratification when playing the harp. "Unlike [most musical instruments], when you strike a harp note it is perfect from the very beginning. There is a more immediate pleasure and the learner is more encouraged by simple melodies" says

Rosemary Doorly, a favorite customer of ours from Marblehead, Massachusetts. From the very first time a person pulls a string they feel they are making beautiful music.

Due to the internet harps have become much easier to find. Google "harp" and see what comes up. You'll find about 25 million search results. So how does a beginner make sense of it all? That's what we're here for.

One of the most important issues that beginners face is affordability. The cost of a harp may be intimidating to most people looking to make their first venture into the harping world. Due to rental programs and the development of lower cost lever harps beginners are finding that they can afford to play.

Harp builders, as well, have answered the call for less expensive harps by coming up with quality models that match the build of their more expensive harps but are made with less expensive woods and are, therefore lower in price. Harps such as the Dusty Strings Ravenna 26 and 34, the Crescendo and the Triplett Sierra Models with 30, 34 and 36 strings are a few examples of great, lower-cost harps. Harps that are kept in good condition can actually retain their value and one can expect to sell their harp and make back the purchase price if the need arises. This helps to alleviate "buyer's remorse" issues.

The Celtic and lever harps seem to be less intimidating to the adult beginner than the giant pedal harps. Even if moving on to a pedal harp is the final goal, starting with a lever harp is an easy and natural way to begin.

Also, harp teachers are no longer elusive. Due to the internet and teacher listings on our website as well as HarpTeacher.com, finding a teacher is much easier and many are surprised to find one, two or even several teachers close to them. Also, due to the surge of interest in the harp, many books have been written to help get you started if you can't find a teacher.

We have a wide array of harps here at The Harp Connection and our friendly and knowledgeable staff has made it our mission to match you with a harp that fits all your needs.

So, what is it that is stopping you from pursuing your dream of becoming a harpist? It's time to open up and let that harpist inside of you out—no matter what your age! THC recently had a customer looking to get started in her late 70's!

We think it would be interesting if you could describe some unique musical characteristics of the harp that adds to music in general and to jazz in particular.

The dulcet tones of the harp are so soothing that it adds a special unique color to any piece. The harmonics, glissandos, and pedal slides are great for use in jazz pieces, especially the pedal slides in blues scales.

What characteristics does the harp offer that you find the most exciting?

The timbre and versatility of the harp draw me to the instrument. It can sound like a piano, a guitar, a solo melodic instrument, a percussion instrument. The range of the harp is incredible and the variety of sounds you can make is so intriguing!

You are so busy with teaching, performing, recording, and touring – How do you unwind in your ‘down time’?

I’m doing my best to become more of a ‘human being’ rather than a ‘human doing’ all the time! I try to exercise regularly, as it keeps me fit enough to haul the harp and to reduce stress!

I swim, bicycle, kayak and do yoga as often as possible. I also love to cook and explore domestic and imported wines. Life is too short for boring food or wine! I think that family time is incredibly important to reconnect and have a balance in life.

Tell us about your work with the American Harp Society.

I feel that it’s important at this stage of my life to give back for all the great people who have mentored me. I’ve been very involved in the local Boston Chapter and the national AHS for years. I encourage all harpists to become members of the AHS. I’ve held many positions, and presently I’m New England Regional Director and Chairman of the Board. My charity in the AHS Foundation is called ‘Kids for Camp.’ This endowment enables an underprivileged harpist to attend summer camp every year. Anyone can donate to it and it’s tax deductible!

What is something that most people wouldn’t know about you?

That I love having painted toenails! We as harpists cannot have beautiful fingernails because they get ruined, so I try to have well manicure toes at all times-even in the winter!

Is there anything you would like to say about what music means to you?

I think that music is basic to a civilization and its culture. We must nurture and protect it in society and ensure that our youth has music as an integral part of their education. I know that I could not live without music constantly in my life!

The Harp Connection would like to thank Felice Pomeranz for all that she offers to the harp world!



**For Felice Pomeranz sheet music, CDs, and DVD at our online store:
www.harpconnection.com**



The Harp Connection, Inc. Is Thrilled To Announce The Addition Of Lily Press To Our Staff!

Lily, who recently graduated with High Honors in Music from Haverford College located outside of Philadelphia Pennsylvania, has been playing the harp since the age of 8. She has studied many years and even traveled to Austria to study harp there.

Since joining our staff Lily has enthusiastically worked to improve the level of service we bring to each and every customer while expanding our music and CD department with new artists and titles. Welcome Lily!!

The Harp Is One The Oldest Instruments In The World!

Used in just about every ancient culture from South America, Africa and Asia to Europe and the British Isles it has evolved from branches with animal hair strung across them to the dignified floor harp with sharpening levers and color-coded strings.

The most well known type of lever harp is known as the Celtic harp and is usually associated with Ireland and the British Isles. Ireland is the only nation in the world to have a musical instrument, as it's national symbol—The harp! One example of a Celtic harp's string spacing is closer together than what you would find on a pedal harp and even many lever harps—This is what makes a Celtic harp a true Celtic harp.



Dusty Strings FH36S in Bubinga

The string spacing facilitates playing the fast-paced Celtic music. Most lever harps have sharpening levers or blades to change the pitch (or string) into its sharp position. For example: when a lever or blade is flipped, it puts pressure on the string, creating a "sharp" note.



The Harp Connection Is A National Retailer Of Harps And Harp Accessories, Serving The Country From Offices In Salem, Massachusetts.

The business was started in 1992 by harpist Karen Rokos and her husband Cameron Jones. We started out with a simple mission of providing a ready supply of lever harps to the professionals and teachers in the Boston area. Our commitment to prompt service and customer satisfaction yielded many repeat customers and our business has grown ever since.

We have a broad selection of instruments for you to choose from, most of which are available for immediate shipment. Our on-line store features strings, music, benches, stands and numerous other harp accessories.

THE HARP CONNECTION
35 Congress Street, Suite 218, Salem, MA 01970
T: 978.744.4277 F: 978.744.5399
Toll Free: 888.287.4277
W: www.harpcconnection.com