



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

**“Harp & Friends”
The TCU Harp Ensemble**

With special guests:

Iván Yael Talancón Flores, Double Bass; Jerod Rankin, Guitar;

and TCU Music Preparatory Harpists

Kela Walton, Director

April 24, 2024

7:00pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Carolan's Welcome

Turlough O'Carolan
(1670-1738)

Arr. Dennis Doyle

Madeleine Allen* & Kela Walton

London Bridge

Folk Song

Arr. Harper Hook & Jerod Rankin

Harper Hook*, Harp & Jerod Rankin, Guitar

Ave Maria

Astor Piazzolla
(1921-1992)

Arr. Andrés Martin

Lyndsey Walker, Harp & Iván Yael Talancón Flores, Double Bass

Harpop-A-Rebop

Chuck Bird
(1923-2011)

Arr. Chuck Bird & Susan Peters

Gabrielle Bernhard & Kela Walton

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Arabesque No 2.
Allegro scherzando

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

harp transcription by Henriette Renié
IsabellaGrace Ebo*

~ *Brief Pause* ~

Elles

Megan Metheney
(b. 1979)

Lyndsey Walker & Kela Walton

Dragonflies

Cindy Horstman
(2020)

IsabellaGrace Ebo* & Kela Walton

Chanson dans la nuit
(Song in the night)

Carlos Salzedo
(1885-1961)

constellations

Julia Kay Jamieson
(b. 1978)

Angelica

Cindy Horstman
(2019)

IsabellaGrace Ebo*, Lyndsey Walker, & Kela Walton

Triptic Dance

Pierre Beauchant
(1885-1961)

Madeleine Allen*, Gabrielle Bernhard, Harper Hook*, IsabellaGrace Ebo*,
Alexis Lizama, Lyndsey Walker, & Kela Walton

* Indicates harpists who are currently TCU Music Preparatory students

Program Notes

Tonight we celebrate friendship with an eclectic evening of music by our composer friends as well as performances by special guest musician friends!

Carolán's Welcome is a traditional Irish air composed by the blind harper and songwriter Turlough O'Carolan. Nothing whatsoever is known about the origin of the tune (except that it is by Carolan), and no title or lyrics have been attributed to it. The title *Carolán's Welcome* was bestowed relatively recently by The Chieftains, and it has been used universally since then.

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A traditional English nursery rhyme and singing game, **London Bridge** deals with the dilapidation of London Bridge and attempts, realistic or fanciful, to repair it. It may date back to rhymes and games of the Late Middle Ages, but the earliest records of the rhyme are from the 17th century. The tune we recognize today became popular in Britain and the United States in the later part of the 19th century.

Ave Maria, originally titled *Tanti anni prima*, was composed by Astor **Piazzolla** for the film "Enrico IV" (1984) by Marcello Bellocchio. Originally written for oboe and piano, the story goes that the composer gave a version with lyrics to the Italian singer María Ilva Biolcati, and this version is known as *Ave Maria*.

Multiple Emmy Award winner, Chuck **Bird** was a prolific composer who also wrote arrangements for specials like the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade for many years on NBC television. Chuck Bird and harpist Susan Peters collaborated on several fascinating works for harp. In the forward to his collection of originals for *The Swingin' Harp* he wrote, "Susie and I think of titles that we feel are different, sometimes even clever. The title we come up with then directs us to different ideas which we develop."

The two Arabesques were originally composed by **Debussy** for the piano between the years 1888 and 1891, while he was still in his twenties. Though one of the very earliest impressionistic works, the Arabesques illustrate the origins of Debussy's musical style. The only solo on tonight's program is performed in celebration of IsabellaGrace's graduation from high school and the TCU Music Preparatory.

Arizona-born harpist Megan **Metheney** now calls the Cote d'Azur in France home. Metheney writes, "This piece was inspired by a beautiful friend, Laurence, and her two lovely daughters who are students of mine. **Elles** means 'those girls' in French. Coincidentally, the seeds of this piece were being sewn together and worked out during a visit to my own sister. I love the way this music makes me feel- like shining, like loving deeply, like giving thanks."

Cindy **Horstman** is the co-founder of the critically acclaimed jazz duo 2tone. She is also the founder, director, and arranger of The Dallas Jazz Ensemble and the Brookhaven College Harp Ensemble. In her works she emphasizes arranging and improvising within the jazz idiom. Originally composed for solo harp, this two harp version of **Dragonflies** captures playful and spontaneous flight. **Angelica** for three harps, based on Cindy's popular original solo, is a ballade melody with a hint of jazz.

As a composer, Carlos **Salzedo** developed new techniques for playing the harp and new notations for these techniques which he used extensively in his compositions after 1919. Many of these new sounds can be found in **Chanson dans la nuit** which was originally composed for solo harp in Seal Harbor, Maine in 1927. He later added a second harp part in 1953 which was published separately.

Commissioned by Ann Yeung for the 2014 Illinois Summer Harp Class, **constellations** is a contemplative and bluesy original composition for three lever or pedal harps by Julia Kay **Jamieson**. She writes, "It is spacious and relaxed. In the middle, harpists are invited to take turns improvising a solo. The solos represent their own personal constellation." Jamieson instructs the performers that their solos may be extremely short (one measure) or as long as they like. "For best results spend some time looking up at the evening sky on a clear night."

Triptic Dance for harp duo or trio was actually written by Carlos **Salzedo** and published in 1931 under the pseudonym Pierre **Beauchant**, to differentiate it from his other compositions for more advanced players. This iconic work is often one of the first harp ensemble pieces many students learn. A beloved standard in the harp ensemble repertoire, **Triptic Dance** is well-suited to performances by multiple harps and large ensembles.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.
Please silence all electronic devices including watches and phones.