

## Harp Notes: Winter 2013



"The Green Harper"  
Marvin Elliott  
Isle of Arran, Scotland

The Celtic god Dagda played a living harp, as he played the seasons came into order - Spring following Winter, Summer succeeding Spring followed by Autumn. He composed all the sounds of nature, bird songs, the lapping of the waves, sounds of rippling streams, passage of the wind through the leaves, so sweet was the music from the harp that no one could hear and not follow it. The notes became the birds, which hover invisibly over young men and women, whispering thoughts of love into their ears.

### Happy New Year!

In this newsletter, and after our regular announcement of [Harp performance dates](#), the "Neat Things" section will start us off in this New Year with announcements about unusual pairing of harp and technology, as well as information on the [Regina Summer Harp Institute](#). The new year is also bringing in a lot of news about [harp circles in Saskatchewan](#): in this issue of Harp Notes, you will find more information about harp groups meeting in our beautiful province.

Cécile Denis  
Principal harp, RSO, SSO  
Harp instructor, Conservatory of Performing Arts

## Calendar of Performances

### **January 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00PM: Une soirée à Paris**

RSO concert at the Conexus Arts Centre with Ravel's **La Valse**, Debussy's **Images pour orchestre** and D'Indy **Symphonie**. Lots of harp in this concert! To give you a taste of what promises to be a wonderful evening of music, here is a link to one of my favorite interpretations of La Valse:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMSgWhIENSk>

### **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 7:30PM: Couloir – a concert for Third Ave**

Third Ave Centre concert in Saskatoon featuring Ariel Barnes on cello and Heidi Krutzen on harp.

### **February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2:00PM:**

**Shades of Love**, flute and harp concert.

Marie-Noelle Berthelet, flute; Cecile Denis, harp.

Regina central library.

Here is the information you can find on the RSO website about the RSO Free Concert Series:

"The *RSO Free Concert Series* presents six *FREE* concerts at the Regina Public Library Central Branch for this 2012-13 season. □□These concerts feature RSO musicians as soloists and ensemble members.

This series of free concerts has been a huge success last season, with well over 1000 people attending. Set in a non-traditional performance space, the *RSO Free Concert Series* developed its own audience, as well as delighted visitors to the library who may have come just to find a book, but also discovered live classical music. \*PLEASE NOTE: Some of the concert times have changed. Please refer to this listing:

**Heights and Depths** □ Wednesday, January 16, 2013 7:00 p.m.

**Shades of Love** □ Sunday, February 17, 2013 2:00 p.m.

**Central Park Strings** □ Thursday, March 21, 2013 7:00 p.m.

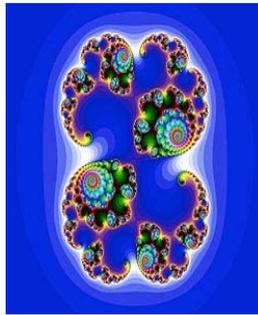
**Second Winds Ensemble** □ Thursday, April 25, 2013 12:00 p.m."

# Neat Things



## Visual Harp

In August 2012, I received a **Saskatchewan Arts Board** grant to research the relationship between sound and image. Over the past six months, and with the help of **University of Regina** Computer Science Professor, David Gerhard, and his student Ryan, I have been using a computer programme which connects live harp sounds to graphics. I will announce dates of demonstration and concert events showcasing this new art form in a future issue of Harp Notes.



## Regina Summer Harp Institute

**July 22<sup>nd</sup> to July 26<sup>th</sup> 2013**

(Registration start date: March 15<sup>th</sup>)

I will be offering a one-week harp intensive at the **Conservatory of Performing Arts** this Summer. Group size will be limited to 6 people. You will be able to enjoy a 30-minute individual lesson in the morning followed by an ensemble playing workshop in the afternoon. We will use the “Northern Lights” harp ensemble book, available for purchase upon registration. Please contact the Conservatory of Performing Arts to register. Phone number: 585-5830. Pre-requisite: at least one year of harp playing.

If you have no experience on the harp yet, I will be offering an Introduction to the Harp in the Fall. Date to be confirmed.

## Harp Circles in Saskatchewan:

Harp circles have been spotted in Saskatchewan in an increasing number! This is great news for all of us who play harp and want to experience playing for others and as a group. Please be aware that you may take part in more than one group if you wish!

### Circles in Regina:

1. Regular harp circles held around Regina, emphasis is placed on socializing with a lot of playing as well, please contact Kelly at **584-9516** for further information. Next circle: January 26<sup>th</sup>.

NEW!

2. Living Skies Harp Players, emphasis is placed on playing as an ensemble, with a lot of socializing as well.

**First meeting: February 23rd.**

We will be using the harp ensemble book "Northern Lights"; copies will be available for purchase at my home.

Please contact me at **540-6428** for further information.

### Circles in Saskatoon:

I am delighted to report that my encouragements to start a harp circle in Saskatoon have born fruit: a new group has started to meet, its first gathering took place two week-ends ago, Muriel Miller hosted it in her home. Here is what Muriel had written to me about it:

"You are welcome to come for brunch at 11:00 or come at 1:00 to play – what ever fits your day better.

Brunch is potluck. Feel free to bring whatever you wish to share - I am making quiche, tea and coffee. We'll have an opportunity to get to know each other a bit over the meal.

Around 1 pm, we can begin sharing some music. Bring your harp if you can, if not, we can trade off with the instruments on hand.

Bring your portable music stand, if you have one. Bring whatever music books you wish (please put your name in your books to prevent any mix-ups!)

Many of us have Sylvia Woods' "Teach yourself to play the folk harp" book - perhaps for this first gathering, we can play a few tunes from this book.

I am so looking forward to meeting you all and to playing music together.

Best Regards,

Muriel Miller

Home phone, 373-2154"

If you wish to attend future circles in Saskatoon, please contact either Muriel Miller at

**373-2154** or email her at [murielmiller@sasktel.net](mailto:murielmiller@sasktel.net) (for circles taking place in the Spring) or Liane Dagenais [lianehome@hotmail.com](mailto:lianehome@hotmail.com) for Saskatoon circles in the winter months.