

Deborah Henson-Conant

“A combination of
Leonard Bernstein, Steven Tyler, and
Xena the Warrior Princess”

The Boston Globe

AT-A-GLANCE

RESUME HIGHLIGHTS

TV & Radio Features: PBS “Invention & Alchemy,” NBC Today Show, CBS Sunday Morning, NPR Weekend Edition, BET Jazz Central, MCET Interactive Kid’s TV

Featured Soloist: With symphonies like Boston Pops, National Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, etc.

Grants & Awards: Grammy Nominee 2007, ISC 1st Prize Instrumental Composition 2007, Meet the Composer, NEA Jazz Grant, Mass Artist Fellowship

Corporate Sponsors & Clients: NFL, Avon, Virgin, BOSE, Pepsi, Reebok, Home Depot, Steelcase, Camac Harps, Lyon & Healy Harps

Lectures / Workshops & Motivational Speaking: Meredith Corp., BOSE Corp., Paris Conservatory, Eastman School of Music, Cambridge Science Festival

Festivals / Theaters: Wolftrap, Tanglewood, Paris Bercy Stadium, Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Montreal Jazz Festival, Blue Note, Bottom Line, Lorient Celtic Festival, Great American Music Hall, Kennedy Center, Smithsonian, Salle Gaveau (Paris), Alter Oper (Frankfurt)

Special Projects: “Inviting Invention” cross-discipline performance collaboration series; “Stand Up & Sing, Harp Lady” One-Woman Show

PRESS QUOTES

“Imagine the talented love-child of André Previn and Lucille Ball!” *National Public Radio*

“She’s doing for the harp what Elvis and Chuck Berry once did for the guitar!” *Denver Post*

“Reshaping the serenely Olympian harp into a jazz instrument by warping it closer to the blues.” *New York Times*

“Never has a musician seemed equally at home at Wolftrap and Lollapalooza!”
Arizona Daily Sun

“Dazzling harp playing, gorgeous jazz/pop singing, comic timing and impressive songwriting!”
Austin American Statesman

“She plays the harp like a dream, sings and plays the blues with a deep spirituality...and animates everything she touches with a spine-tingling sense of gently propulsive rhythmic drive!” *Buffalo News*

“Calling Henson-Conant a harpist is like referring to Joe DiMaggio as a guy with a bat. Technically it’s accurate, but you’re only scratching the surface.”
Grand Rapids Press

For press clips, bio, discography, etc, please ask for a complete Press Booklet or visit HipHarp.com

Photo: Stephanie Zand
Available as postcard & 11x17 poster.
Hi-res photo available at HipHarp.com.

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Photo: Andrea Engels (Germany) / Hi-Res copy available at HipHarp.com

Deborah Henson-Conant tells stories with music

DISCOGRAPHY

- '06: Invention & Alchemy CD & DVD (as seen on PBS)
- '04: Artist's Proof (CDX - with video)
- '00: The Frog Princess (narration & music)
- '99: Songs My Mother Sang (harp & voice) (re-release)
- '98: The Celtic Album (celtic harp & harp ensemble)
- '98: Altered Ego (voice, harp, synth, bass)
- '97: Congratulations! You Made It This Far (CD single/card)
- '96: The Gift (improvisations on Christmas tunes)
- '95: Just For You (live in concert)
- '94: Naked Music (solo harp & voice)
- '93: Budapest (contemporary jazz)
- '91: Talking Hands (contemporary jazz)
- '90: Caught in the Act (contemporary jazz)
- '89: On the Rise (contemporary jazz)
- '87: 'Round the Corner (jazz standards)

Audio sampler available on request.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Deborah Henson-Conant is best known for her high-energy performances that blur the line between concert and theatrical event. She's a Grammy-Nominated recording artist and star of her own Public Television special, "Invention & Alchemy," with 80-piece orchestra.

She sings and plays the harp, with a theatrical narrative of storytelling and humor. She performs solo concerts and One-Woman Shows – and also appears frequently as a featured guest with orchestras, performing her original music. Her symphonic performance is captured in the award-winning 2006 CD & DVD "Invention & Alchemy."

She has been described as "the wild woman of the harp" by bandleader Doc Severinsen and "a cross between Leonard Bernstein, Steven Tyler and Xena, the Warrior Princess" by the Boston Globe. Her playing ranges from full-out bluesy to delicate ballads in a genre she describes as "Blues-Flamenco-Celtic-Funk-Folk-Jazz-Musical-Theatre." Her audiences cross generation, gender and genre.

Henson-Conant has toured with the Boston Pops, premiered her original music with symphonies throughout the US, played rock clubs and opera houses in Germany and Celtic Festivals in France, opened for Ray Charles at Tanglewood and starred in her own Public Television special; she's been featured on NBC, CBS, CNN, NPR and hosted TV shows for BET and BBC Affiliates. She's been interviewed by Charlie Rose, Joan Rivers, Billy Taylor, Studs Terkel, Scott Simon & Susan Stamberg.

Henson-Conant has revolutionized her instrument. She's brought vibrant passion and individuality to its sound – and in the process she herself has been transformed. Her work is an exploration of possibilities – a transformation that moves her audience out of the ordinary and into the extraordinary. If you're one of those people who thinks all harp music is soothing and insipid, think again. This is a feel-good, outside-the-box, bring-the-folks-you-love and celebrate-everything kind of show.

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