

Here's a behind-the-scenes look at the work Deborah's been doing to prepare for the DVD filming and CD recording of her original show with the Grand Rapids Symphony. The concert/filming takes place in front of a live audience Nov. 11, 12 & 13 at DeVos Performance Hall in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

What does it take to prepare for a live concert DVD with full orchestra?

First, it helps to know that Deborah's orchestral shows combine elements of concerts, music theatre and one-woman shows ... with a cast of 70. The 70, in this case, are the incredibly talented, spirited players of the Grand Rapids Symphony. *(See photo next page)*

1. Composing & Arranging

Because this is an original show, Deborah needs to compose and prepare all the music for a 70-piece orchestra. That's something she can't do alone. She works with a creative and administrative team - everyone from musicians, conductors and directors to the careful people who photocopy and bind the music.

2. Rehearsals & "Maquettes"

Deborah invents all the music in her "MusicLab" and tests it using electronic instruments - but that's nothing like hearing it live! All the material needs to be tested by real musicians before the final concerts are filmed. For that, Deborah uses both rehearsals and "Maquettes."

REHEARSALS: Sometimes Deborah rehearses with single musicians or small ensembles - but last July she flew to Grand Rapids with Producer Jonathan Wyner and Stage Manager Mary Roy to hear the whole symphony play through the first draft of the music. After discussions with the conductor and players, Deborah came back to her MusicLab to begin the long process of editing and revising.

MAQUETTES: are "Scale Models" of the show - a chance to perform a smaller version of the show in front of a live audience. The show structure and all the creative material is the same, it's just the size of the ensemble that's smaller. The next maquette is Sept. 24 and will include eight musicians plus Deborah and Conductor David Lockington. *(details at right)*

3. Script & Concept Development

For a show of this scope everyone needs to literally be "on the same page," so Deborah, together with Producer Jonathan Wyner and Creative Coach Lee Faulkner, created the outline for a script and then Deborah spent weeks filling in that outline. Unlike the script for a play, this script doesn't just include the dialogues, monologues and stage movement, but it outlines each musical piece, section by section, so that the video director knows which members of the orchestra are playing which musical "roles" at any given time.

All of this is just Deborah's part of the prep. At the same time, players, directors, conductors, producers, stage managers are all working on their own part of this wonderful puzzle!

This project is made possible by a private grant from Peter M. Wege and the Wege Foundation. To learn more about this project and the players involved, visit HipHarp.com.

At right: The front of the concert trading card we made for this show. Photo: Brion Price



Appearances

SNEAK PREVIEW FOR BOSTON AREA FANS!

Chamber Ensemble "Maquette"

David Lockington, Conductor

Sat. Sept. 24 • 2 pm

Arlington Center for the Arts

41 Foster St • Arlington, MA

Limited Seating! • Tix \$22.50

Tix: www.HipHarp.com

The Boston Globe Presents

"An Elite Group of Innovative Speakers" at the

IDEAS Conference 2005

Thu. Oct. 6: 8am - 5:30pm & Fri. Oct. 7: 8am - 2 pm

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

Tix: www.boston.com/ideasboston or (800) 222-8734

Check above website for the exact times and locations of Deborah's presentations.

LIVE CONCERT & DVD / CD RECORDING!

Live Concert DVD/CD Recording

Grand Rapids Symphony

David Lockington, Conductor

with special guest: John Varineau

Fri. Nov. 11 & Sat. Nov. 12 at 8 pm

and Sun. Nov. 13 at 3 pm

DeVos Performance Hall • Grand Rapids, MI

Become a part of symphony history as Deborah and the GRS record their new multi-format DVD/CD.

Tix: www.ticketmaster.com / 616-456-3333

2006 Caernarfon Festival • Wales

Workshop & Concert • Fri. Apr. 21 & Sat. Apr. 22
Deborah's appearance sponsored by CAMAC Harps

COMING IN 2006/2007:

Album Release Events in Grand Rapids, MI & Boston, MA; Syracuse Symphony, touring in Germany, West Coast, New England and more

The universe is in a constant state of flux - and so is Deborah's tour schedule. Check HipHarp.com Tour Schedule and/or join her Cyber-Fan Club for tour updates and specials.

Missed a show?

Keep up-to-date on DHC's schedule

Join Deborah's email list online:

www.HipHarp.com