

## Deborah Henson-Conant

The Grand Rapids Symphony • David Lockington, Conductor  
reignite the symphony orchestra in their new DVD & CD

# Invention & Alchemy

We invite YOU to come celebrate in  
**NYC - Boston - LA - Grand Rapids - Denver**  
**May 10 thru June 17**

"Whatever it is that tranfixes an audience, she's got it." **The Boston Globe**

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

For years, reviewers, fans and press have struggled to describe the Deborah Henson-Conant experience to those who've never seen her. Finally, everyone can see for themselves in "Invention & Alchemy." This isn't just **ANY** DVD. It's a full-length concert program, a multi-camera, surround-sound disc, shot in hi-definition. It has an Emmy-winning director, a Grammy-winning sound engineer and a program of symphonic music theater that brings Deborah's show closer than the front row. It's big. It's beautiful. It's Deborah Henson-Conant's one-woman show with a cast of 80! Look inside ...

[www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com)



Inside: Release Parties, DVD Description, Tour Schedule...

Is there a "???"  
by your name,  
please let us know if  
you want to stay on  
this list. How?  
1. Send us your label.  
OR  
2. Email or fax and  
give us the name &  
address on this mail-  
ing label. Let us know  
if you have address  
changes. Our contact  
info is on pg. 4

PRSR.T. STD.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 2226  
WORCESTER, MA

Deborah Henson-Conant • Spring/Summer 2006 • Newsletter  
DEBORAH HENSON-CONANT • www.HipHarp.com • email: info@hipharp.com • Booking: (781) 483-3556  
P.O. BOX 1039  
ARLINGTON, MA 02474

# Invention & Alchemy on DVD & CD

Deborah Henson-Conant • The Grand Rapids Symphony • David Lockington, Music Director

In November of 2005, Deborah Henson-Conant took to the stage with 80 of her friends to record the new concert DVD & CD "Invention & Alchemy." If you were among the nearly 6,000 people in the audience during the filming, you know what's in store for you on this DVD. For the rest of you ... get ready for a whole new experience!

**T**hink the symphony orchestra only plays serious classical music composed by dead guys? Think only angels play the harp? THINK AGAIN!!!

"Invention & Alchemy" reignites the symphony and brings you the *new face* of collaboration between symphony, composer, audience and performers.

It all starts in the mind of Deborah Henson-Conant – a mind where stories meet music, invention meets alchemy and a whole symphony orchestra can transform from a Mexican street band into a sultry musical harem in a split second.

Henson-Conant plays electric harp, sings and leads this wild adventure like a tour guide of the imagination. She also writes the stories, music, lyrics and orchestrations – and her shows feature orchestra members the way a movie features actors. She's performed with orchestras from the Boston Pops to the Prague Radio Orchestra, but she fell in love with the Grand Rapids Symphony when she first visited as a guest artist in 1999. Now that love affair is captured on DVD & CD.

## THE CONCERT PROGRAM

The eleven segments of the concert program are like a collection of musical short stories that come to life on stage. The orchestra becomes a science lab in "Danger Zone," complete with lab coats and bubbling test tubes. In "996," Lockington transforms into a sultan, leaving the conductor's podium wielding his cello like a scimitar. Henson-Conant marches to the back of the orchestra for a duet with timpanist David Gross in "Catcher in the Rye," sings a haunting lullaby in "The Nightingale," plays the soundtrack for an imaginary movie in "Merceditas" and takes a trip in a time



machine in "Baroque Flamenco," all with the help of her talented friends - the 80 members of the Grand Rapids Symphony.

## SPECIAL BONUS FEATURES!

In addition to the 97-minute concert program, the DVD includes the following:

### BEHIND-THE-SCENES

This 18-minute film with interviews, rehearsal footage and concert excerpts is a companion piece to the concert. For six days, videographer Rick DiGregorio followed Deborah, the crew and the musicians, filming everything from the makeup artist to the harp techs to Deborah's one-on-one rehearsals with players, then put it all together in this video backstage pass.

### WHITE RABBITS

10 interactive video portals by filmmaker Ian Brownell let you peek behind the program as it rolls. In these segments, Deborah and producer Jonathan Wyner tell the stories-behind-the-stories and reveal some of Deborah's performance techniques.

### HEALING THE WATERS

Members of the Grand Rapids Ballet join Henson-Conant, conductor Lockington (on cello) and associate conductor John Varineau (on clarinet) for a tribute to the project's sponsor and champion, Peter Wege. "Healing the Waters" is an intimate pas de deux inspired by Wege's environmental project of the same name, and is an homage to Wege's passion for the arts and environment.

For more about  
"Invention & Alchemy"  
including downloadable photos,  
press release, video trailer,  
a Who's Who of Cast & Crew:

[www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com)



**Be the first to see the DVD! Come to the release parties! Buy the DVD & CD online.**

**Each "Invention & Alchemy" release event is unique.**

**The Grand Release** is a **Hip Party** at **Steelcase Town Hall** in Grand Rapids, MI, a huge **converted warehouse space** with **state-of-the-art video facilities** and **giant projection screens** rolling larger-than-life scenes from the DVD. You'll enjoy drinks, hors d'oeuvres and a chance to see the stars of the show in person as they perform and then autograph the very first available copies of the DVD and CD!

**The Boston-Area Release** is a **three-day event** on **Mother's Day Weekend** in the historic **Regent Theatre** in Arlington, MA. **Bring your Mom!** Moms, bring your families! **We've added a Sunday Matinee** for families and groups with younger members. All shows include **live performance** and **big-screen scenes** from the DVD.

**The New York City Release** is in the intimate Thalia theater at the renown "Symphony Space" on Broadway and includes both **scenes from the DVD** and **Deborah's solo performance**.

**The L.A. Celebration** takes place over two weekends. First, Deborah appears as a special guest of the **Topanga Philharmonic**, presenting **selections from the DVD** in a casual outdoor family concert. Then she'll play two solo shows in an intimate venue just outside L.A.

**DHC on the Hallmark Channel**  
For this feature, filmmaker / producer Stu Siegal filmed DHC in concert, at home and on a visit to the famous tree "Belinda." For airdates, check: HipHarp.com or newmorningtv.tv

**Host an Event**  
Diverse organizations are hosting DVD signing celebrations in unique and unlikely venues throughout the 2006-2007 season. For more on how to host an event, contact info@Hipharp.com

**On the Apple Website**  
Look for an interview with producer Jonathan Wyner about the creation of "Invention & Alchemy" at apple.com

For more events visit HipHarp.com

## Strictly Speaking...

**Speaking engagements ... with a musical twist!**

**IDEAS Boston - Youth Summit '06**

In Partnership with The Boston Globe

**May 3rd • 8:30AM - 3PM • www.bgcb.org**

Deborah joins a diverse group of dynamic, engaging thinkers to inspire teens.

**Inforum - Women's Economic Club**

**May 9 • 5:30 - 7:00 pm • Members Only**

"Deborah Henson-Conant - the Hip Harpist"

An Arts & Culture Affinity Group Event  
University Club • Grand Rapids, MI

## DVD & CD Release Parties

### GRAND RAPIDS, MI.

with special guests David Lockington & John Varineau

**Wed. May 10 • Steelcase Town Hall**

All proceeds benefit the Grand Rapids Symphony

Events from 6:30 - 9:30 pm • Tix: (616) 454-9451 x125

Sponsor VIP Reception: 5:45 - 7pm • Sponsorships Available

Contact mdenboer@grsymphony.org

### BOSTON-AREA

Mother's Day Weekend - Fri & Sat (8pm) • Sun (2pm)

**May 12-14 • Regent Theatre • Arlington**

See HipHarp.com for details including a Sun. Eve "Wild Women" cancer benefit

[www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com) / 888-DEB-STUF

### LOS ANGELES

**Sat. May 20 • 2 pm • Topanga Canyon**

Topanga Philharmonic - Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum

Tix: [www.TopangaCoopPreSchool.com](http://www.TopangaCoopPreSchool.com)

**Sat. Jun 3 • 8pm & Sun. Jun 4 • 3 pm**

Sylvia Woods Harp Center • Glendale

[www.HarpCenter.com](http://www.HarpCenter.com) • 1-800-272-4277

### DENVER

**Sat. Jun 10 • 7:30 pm • Cameron Church**

Improv Workshop: Sun. Jun 11 • 1-4pm • Musician's Assoc.

Info at Kolacny Music: (303) 733-7335

### NEW YORK CITY

**Sat. June 17 • 8 pm • Symphony Space**

Tix: 212-864-5400 / [www.SymphonySpace.org](http://www.SymphonySpace.org)

The Universe is in a constant state of flux - and so is DHC's tour schedule. Always check the online calendar for confirmations. For email updates with discounts, specials and late-breaking news, join the CyberFan Email mailing list at the website or email us at info@Hipharp.com and ask us to join you up!

### You can see into the future

Visit Deborah's online calendar for a full list of DVD Release events, upcoming shows & media appearances including 2006-2007 shows in France, UK, New York State, West Coast and more ...

[www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com)

**New! On DVD & CD!**



Release date May 10, 2006 --  
Pre-order now at [HipHarp.com](http://HipHarp.com)

**Sheet Music:** From solo harp to harp ensembles to improv instruction with playalong CD. Solo harp music includes "The Nightingale" and "Nataliana" from Deborah's new "Invention & Alchemy" DVD & CD.

**Specialty CDs: Songs My Mother Sang** CD & Songbook for children and the **Congratulations Birthday Card CD** available through Deborah's website as well as "The Gift" holiday CD and "The Frog Princess" musical story for children.

**"Out of Print" CDs: Naked Music, Talking Hands & others** available in limited supply.

**Amplification Kit:** Everything you need to turn an acoustic harp into an electro-acoustic instrument: pre-amp, pickup, cables & instructions.



**Artist's Proof ('04)**  
Enhanced CD (Audio & Video) Includes "Way You Are Blues," "Land of You," "Never Too Late," & others. (10 Audio cuts & 3 video cuts)



**Altered Ego ('98)** Many of Deborah's "hits" including: "The Nightingale," "Belinda," "Dogs of Somerville," "Congratulations! You Made it This Far."



**Just for You - Live in Europe ('95)**  
Harp, bass, percussion & vocals. Upbeat original latin, swing and world-beat jazz.



**'Round the Corner ('87)** Jazz Standards for harp, bass & drums. "Take Five," "Summertime," "Over the Rainbow" and other familiar jazz tunes.



**The Celtic Album ('98)**  
Improvisation on traditional Celtic tunes with a few blues twists.

## Catalog & Order Info

No matter how you got here,  
we're glad you're here!

Maybe you got this newsletter in the mail, maybe you picked it up in a coffeeshop, or from a friend's kitchen table -- or maybe you're waiting in line to buy CDs at one of Deborah's shows. No matter where you are -- you don't have to wait in line! You don't even have to wait ON line! You can go there and buy CDs anytime from one of our friends (below), or direct from Deborah's office at [www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com).

### ORDERING INFO:

[www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com)

**888-DEB-STUF**

(888-332-7883)

(Visa, Mastercard, Discover & AMEX Accepted)

OR VISIT OUR FRIENDS:

[www.CDBaby.com](http://www.CDBaby.com)

(for standard CD orders)

[www.HarpCenter.com](http://www.HarpCenter.com)

**800-272-4277**

### BOOKING INFO

Tel: (781) 483-3556

Fax: (781) 483-3987

Email: [info@HipHarp.com](mailto:info@HipHarp.com)

Box 1039 • Arlington, MA 02474

[www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com)

There's more to Deborah's website than CDs & Tour Dates!

**Visit [HipHarp.com](http://HipHarp.com) for:**

Live Concert Photos • CD & Sheet Music Catalog & Order Form • Tour Schedule • Audio & Video Downloads  
Stories & Essays • Hi-Res Press Photos • Burnt Food Museum • Cartoon Gallery • FAQs • Quotes, Blurbs & Bios

Special thanks for help in editing this newsletter to: Catharine David, Shara Dunn, Deborah Ferragamo, Rachel Rausch, Jonathan Wyner & Gunnar Madsen.

Photos in this newsletter: "Invention & Alchemy" main image by Brion Price (Orlando, FL); shots from the DVD by Dianne Carroll Burdick (Grand Rapids, MI) or screen shots from the DVD

Join DHC's Cyber-Fan Club at [www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com) • Mail Order: (888) DEB-STUF • Booking: (781) 483-3556 / [info@HipHarp.com](mailto:info@HipHarp.com) • DHC Spring/Summer '06 Newsletter • Filename: DHC\_SpHst06\_060510v5 • page 4