

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Run through 5/8/05

Contact for more information: (781) 483-3556 • eugene@HipHarp.com • www.HipHarp.com

## Mother's Day Weekend Sizzles in Beantown Deborah Henson-Conant in a 4-Day Concert Event

Deborah Henson-Conant will perform 4 shows Mother's Day Weekend (May 5-8) at the Regent Theatre in Arlington, MA: Thurs, May 5 - "Wild Women Unite" benefit concert to raise \$10,000 for breast cancer research; Fri & Sat, May 6-7 - Henson-Conant's one-woman show; Sun, May 8 - a special Mother's Day Matinee, with members of the Boston Classical Orchestra, conducted by Steven Lipsitt.

The Boston area knows Deborah Henson-Conant as the performer who shot to national prominence by landing a recording contract with GRP Records and playing jazz on the harp. Since leaving GRP in the early 90's, Henson-Conant has reinvented herself and

**"Bending the rules and shattering the notion of what a harpist can do."**

*CBS News Nightwatch*

her work repeatedly, incorporating jazz into a broader, cross-over style that includes blues, flamenco, Celtic, funk, folk

and rock. She left the jazz club scene in the 90's for theaters and festivals, then expanded to the orchestral concert stage, debuting at Boston Symphony Hall with the Boston Pops in '95. This fall, she's pulling these two worlds together and producing her first orchestral concert DVD.

For more information on these shows and on Deborah Henson-Conant, see page 2, or visit [www.HipHarp.com](http://www.HipHarp.com) or contact Eugene Song at (781) 483-3556.

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**WHO:** Deborah Henson-Conant

**THURS. 5/5 8pm** - "Wild Women Unite": a benefit concert for breast cancer research

**FRI-SAT. 5/6 - 5/7, 8pm** - One-Woman Shows

**SUN. 5/8, 3pm** - Matinee with members of the BCO

**WHERE:** The Regent Theatre • Arlington, MA

**HOW MUCH:** \$22.50(adv) / \$25.00 (day of) /\$35 (Sun. VIP)

**TIX/INFO:**

[HipHarp.com](http://HipHarp.com) / (888) DEB-STUF or [RegentTheatre.com](http://RegentTheatre.com) / (781) 646-4849

**High-Res & In-Concert Photos:** [www.HipHarp.com/publicity.html](http://www.HipHarp.com/publicity.html)

**Downloadable Video & Audio:** [www.HipHarp.com/media.html](http://www.HipHarp.com/media.html)



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**“...a combination of Leonard Bernstein, Steven Tyler, and Xena the Warrior Princess.”**  
*- Ed Siegel, The Boston Globe*

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**SHOW DESCRIPTION** - Music ... Theatre ... Comedy ... Passion. Deborah Henson-Conant tells stories with music and plays the solid-body electric harp. A mix of virtuosic playing and musical storytelling in a style she calls, "Blues-Flamenco-Celtic-Funk-Folk-Jazz."

**THUR, MAY 5 - 8PM - Wild Women Unite for the Cure:** A Benefit Concert - "Team Wild Women" and "Wild Woman of the Harp" Deborah Henson-Conant join forces to raise money and

awareness for breast cancer research. Together, with the Regent Theatre and Wild Women Outfitters, they plan to raise more than \$10,000 in this one evening concert. To read more about how these Wild Women all happened to meet go to: [www.HipHarp.com/wildwomen\\_story.html](http://www.HipHarp.com/wildwomen_story.html).

**FRI & SAT, MAY 6-7 - 8PM** - Songs, stories and sing-alongs: a one-woman show! Deborah brings it back to basics for two nights at the Regent Theatre in Arlington.

**SUN, MAY 8 - 3PM** - Deborah will be performing this special Mother's Day Matinee with members of the Boston Classical Orchestra and their conductor, Steven Lipsitt.

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**“Calling Henson-Conant a harpist is like calling Joe DiMaggio a guy with a bat. Technically it’s correct, but you’re just scratching the surface.”**  
*Grand Rapids Press*

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PAGE THREE: Artist Bio – Mother's Day Weekend - May 5-8, 2005  
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**ARTIST BIO** - Deborah Henson-Conant sings and plays the harp, tells stories and composes music that runs the gamut from tender to bombastic. The Boston Globe describes her as an "electrifying harpist/singer/comedian" and NPR's Scott Simon says, "imagine the talented love-child of André Previn and Lucille Ball." Forget the 6-foot-tall gold concert harp; Henson-Conant straps on her custom-designed solid-body electric harp, plugs in, and plays music that ranges from intimate ballads to flamenco rock. Her shows are always a mix of musical storytelling and virtuosic playing in a genre she calls, "Blues-Flamenco-Celtic-Funk-Folk-Jazz."

Henson-Conant hit the music charts in the late 80's with her three albums on the GRP label. Since then she's established her own indie record label and released a dozen albums from straight-ahead jazz to Celtic, with blues, folk-pop and spoken word in between. She's jammed on- and off-stage with performers from Bobby McFerrin to Eileen Ivers, opened for Ray Charles at Tanglewood, and soloed with orchestras from the Boston Pops to the Prague Radio Orchestra. She's appeared as a symphony soloist, band-leader and one-woman show in rock clubs, opera houses, symphony halls, jazz clubs and festival stages throughout the US and Europe.

She's lectured at the Paris Conservatory, presented Creativity Lectures for business executives, been featured on "The Today Show," "CBS Sunday Morning" and NPR's "Weekend Edition," and received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Massachusetts Artists Fellowship, and "Meet the Composer." She's just received a project grant from the Wege Foundation to produce a performance DVD of her own orchestral works. She's a "cross-genre" artist whose performances are defined by high energy, eclectic music and intimate theatrical twists. For more info, including downloadable audio and live concert video, go to <http://www.HipHarp.com>.

**TOURING** - Deborah Henson-Conant makes her home in the Boston area, but tours internationally, performing her original one-woman-shows and soloing with symphonies at theaters and festivals around the world (full tour schedule at <http://www.HipHarp.com>).

### **MORE PRESS QUOTES:**

"She dresses like a showgirl, plays the pants off the harp, and tells tall tales with the ease of a standup comic. Imagine a talkative Harpo Marx in a mini-skirt and you begin to get the picture." - Plain Dealer, Cleveland

Henson-Conant conjures "the entire sound of a traditional Mexican street band one minute, laying into a ferocious Hendrix-inspired rock workout the next, all with equally unerring flair and finesse..." The Metro, Edinburgh, Scotland

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