Winter Tour 2009

Gibsons

Fri., Nov. 27, 3 p.m. Heritage Playhouse \$25 at Coast Books or Windsong Gallery

Winnipeg

Sun., Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m. Pantages Theatre \$40 at 1-866-656-6838

New Westminster

Sun., Dec. 6, 2:30 p.m. Massey Theatre This is a joint concert with the Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir \$25 at 604-878-1190 or 604-521-5050 or www.vwmc.ca

Courtenay

Wed., & Thurs., Dec. 9 & 10, 7:30 p.m. Sid Williams Theatre \$35 & \$40 at 250-338-2430

Victoria

Fri., Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. Alix Goolden Performance Hall \$30 at Ivy's Books, Heritage Cat Clinic, Munro's Books, The Shieling & In Bloom Floral Boutique (Mayfair Mall)

Nanaimo

Sat., Dec. 12, 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Port Theatre \$17 & \$32 at 250-754-8550

North Vancouver

Wed., Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. Capilano College Theatre \$30 & \$33 at 604-990-7810

Vancouver

Sat., Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m. St. Andrew's-Wesley Church \$33 at Tickets Tonight 604-684-2787or www.ticketstonight.ca

Maple Ridge

Sun., Dec. 20, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m. The ACT, 11944 Haney Place \$21, \$30, \$35 at 604-476-2787

Details at www.winterharp.com.



Winter Harp

Winter Harp makes a new CD

Many people have asked us if we have a live CD -- and the answer is:

"Yes! Now we do."

Winter Harp Live features some of our mostrequested songs such as Ave Maria, Little Drummer Boy, Huron Carol and Away in a Manger. It is a delightful mix of songs with well-known carols, a beautiful Spanish carol, a lively Irish jig and some of our fun songs such as Watch Out and Solstice Dance. The CD, which features just music, captures the magic and energy of a live performance, making you feel as if you are there. So look for the *Winter Harp Live* CD at our CD sales table.

Lori Pappajohn honored in special artist celebration

Winter Harp director Lori Pappajohn was recently honored as one of 20 artists from her home town who have made significant contributions to theatre and music. Included in the list are opera singers Judith Forst and Joan Brownie Peebles, Raymond Burr (Perry Mason and Ironside), Bruno Gerussi of the Beachcombers, Stuttgart Ballet artistic director Reid Anderson and Loverboy's Mike Reno.

The 2009 Artist Celebration Series was created for New Westminster's 150th anniversary. Portraits of the artists and their work were exhibited in the Plaskett Art Gallery this past summer.



High atop a camel, Joaquin Ayala surveys the Egyptian desert.

A visit to the Holy lands

In January, Joaquin travelled to Israel and Egypt. Israel was on high alert because of the Gaza War. Tanks and armoured convoys routinely rolled down the streets of Jerusalem and heavily armed soldiers and civilians were everywhere. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre (where according to tradition Jesus was crucified and buried) was guarded by soldiers with automatic weapons standing at every corner and entrance.

In Egypt, Joaquin attempted to cram 5,000 years of Egyptian history into a two-week visit -- a daunting task.

Besides gliding down the Nile in a felucca, exploring ruins in the desert, and stopping at the many archaeological sites from Alexandria to Abu Simbel, he had the opportunity to savour Egyptian hospitality and traditional cuisine.

From Cairo, Joaquin flew to his home city of Barcelona for ten days.

Spa with a harp

Looking for a rejuvenating retreat? Visit Silver Hills Health Centre & Spa near Vernon. If you play harp, bring it and resident musician Lori Pappajohn will give you a few lessons. Or if you don't play harp, she'll get you harping. You can also enjoy the quiet woodland surroundings, hot tub, steam room, sauna, delectably delicious meals and glorious massages..... Details at www.silverhills.ca.

Become a harpist in five days

Enroll in BC's International Celtic Harp School this summer and become a harpist in 5 days. Located near Barkerville, the school includes harp classes for all levels. Call 1-800-442-2787 or visit www.imarts.com.

Changes, Changes, Changes

This year we've had a few changes -- and you'll see them on stage. To begin with, our percussionist Lauri Lyster, has just had a baby. So, needless to say she's at home taking care of her newborn.

Replacing her is Bruce Henczel. Bruce comes with an impressive pedigree -- one of the top percussion grads from UBC -- and he also plays viola. So expect some lush violin-viola-cello nyckelharpa trios this Winter Harp season.

Scott Hughes is back playing classical pedal harp again, taking a break from earning his Ph.D. in Education at Queen's University in Ontario.

This year's vocalist is Caroline Markos of the Peters Drury Jazz Trio fame. This acclaimed singer has performed across Canada and sings styles ranging from jazz to opera.

And lastly, Winter Harp director Lori Pappajohn is on sabbatical this year as she is writing music and working on the creation of the opening ceremonies for the World Harp Congress to be held in Vancouver in 2011 (Be sure to be there! www.worldharpcongress2011.com).



Janelle Nadeau and her Paraguayan harp teacher Sixto Corbalan.

Harping in Paraguay

Last winter Janelle Nadeau and her parents escaped Vancouver's rain and headed to South America. After spending three weeks in Chile sipping wine and enjoying the countryside, Janelle flew to Paraguay in search of a Paraguayan harp teacher. By chance, she came upon the best harp maker around who introduced her to the only harp teacher there who had some knowledge of English. He taught Janelle to play Paraguayan harp music which is steeped in love, heartache, patriotism, intricate rhythms and speed.

"Every time he got excited he would forget to speak English and ramble off in Spanish," laughs Janelle.

Janelle fell in love with the lively, passionate music and bought a Paraguayan harp which the maker shipped to Canada. And it arrived in one piece!



Winter Harp percussionist Lauri Lyster gave birth to a baby girl on Nov. 21. Here Lauri is with little 8.5-pound Scarlet just after giving birth. Lauri is on sabbatical from performing this season as she and her husband Simon take care of their newborn.

Drummer visits Europe

Earlier this year, Lauri Lyster and her husband Simon spent two weeks with their jazz band, The New Orleans Ale Stars, touring Holland and Belgium. They played at festivals to thousands of people and enjoyed the people and the beautiful architecture of Holland.

Then they headed to Ireland, where they drove along the coast from rugged Connemara in the west, south via the Cliffs of Moher and the traditional Irish music capital of Doolin to the remote Gaelic Dingle Peninsula. They also visited Kerry National Park, medieval Kilkenny and finally vibrant Dublin.

Lauri and Simon heard lots of traditional Irish music in the pubs, walked the rugged coastline and green valleys and enjoyed the Irish gift of the gab and friendliness.

Lauri bought a bodhran drum from a maker in Northern Ireland -- so stay tuned for its appearance next year at Winter Harp.

They come from far and wide

Winter Harp's Winnipeg concert draws people from far and wide. Each year a couple flies in from Lethbridge, Alberta to see the show. Another couple makes the five-hour drive from Detroit Lake, Minnesota. And many other people drive two to four hours across the snow-covered prairie to see the show. Last year one couple flew in from Montreal.

Those coming from long distances were some of the first to buy tickets this year. When tickets went on sale the second week of September, close to 500 sold in the first week.

Many ticket buyers wanted to share the concert with family and friends, so it was not uncommon for people to buy 10 to 25 tickets at a time. One person bought 37. Many remarked that this was the best concert they'd ever been to.

So, if you are in Winnipeg, order your tickets today, as they'll be gone quickly. Call 866-656-6838.

Welsh Choir performs with harps

Back by popular demand: Winter Harp is performing with the Vancouver Welsh Men's Choir again this December.

If you want to see this concert, buy your tickets today, as they get snapped up quickly. You can hear the acclaimed 90voice male choir singing with harps at Massey Theatre in New Westminster on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2:30 p.m.

The concert features the choir and Winter Harp each performing on their own and then together. It's like two concerts in one. Tickets at 604-878-1190 and 604-521-5050.



Touring Asia -- Mark Ferris joined the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra for a two-week Asian tour with stops in Seoul, Korea, Macao and the Chinese cities of Guangzhou, Beijing and Shanghai.

He and his wife Gloria toured these and other cities with American violinist Hilary Hahn. Mark played both violin and mandolin (the latter for Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet suite). In the photo above, Mark visits the water village outside

Shanghai, complete with Venetian-style gondola boats.



Famed jazz/pop harpist Deborah Henson-Conant (centre) performed in Seattle recently. Her hilarious musical In the Wings featured a chorus line of harpists -- one of them Janelle Nadeau who also starred as Gabe, the ever-so-cool music agent. Here Janelle and Lori Pappajohn pose with Deborah after the show.

Winter Harp CDs

Winter Harp Live

Just released, Winter Harp's newest CD captures the magic and energy of a live performance. The CD features some of our most-requested songs such as Ave Maria, Little Drummer Boy and Huron Carol. The CD features music only.

A Night in Winter

This CD is a beautiful mix of medieval, English and Spanish carols - from upbeat tunes with percussion solos to hauntingly beautiful lullabies. Harps, flute, violin, medieval instruments, oud, sitar, percussion and singing combine in gorgeous carols that will have you dreaming of falling snow and crackling hearth fires.

A Child's Christmas in Wales

Dylan Thomas' timeless tale is beautifully and evocatively retold by Alan Woodland making this CD a Christmas classic. The recording also includes Laurie Lee's touching tale Carols in the Cotswolds. Both stories interspersed with carols on harp. A magical literary journey to Christmas' past.

Christmas Night

Warm your winter nights with this CD which features ancient Spanish and Celtic carols as well as well-known favorites. Exotic, delicious Yuletide music at its best. This CD was nominated for a VIBE award.

Winter Harp

Well-known carols and rare medieval carols, this CD has been featured numerous times on CBC Radio. Winter Harp was named one of the top 10 CDs of Christmas by the Georgia Straight. "Everything about this album reflects beauty and balance." - Christmas Reviews

Celtic Harp for Christmas

The quintessential Christmas album - all your favourite carols to warm your heart on a cold winter night. Harp, flute and cello. A top-seller for its distribution companies Canada wide.

Harp Dance

Harp Dance features some of Winter Harp's most popular pieces including Camel Caravan and the fiery Baroque Flamenco. Celtic dances mix with Spanish and medieval music to create an upbeat collection. Harp Dance was nominated for a Westcoast Music Award.

Celtic Harp of Dreams

A hauntingly beautiful collection of Celtic and medieval songs. A favourite of CBC Radio's Jurgen Gothe. Lori Pappajohn on Celtic harp and flutes with cello, medieval instruments and percussion.

To order CDs

To order CDs, send \$22 (includes shipping) in cheque payable to Lori Pappajohn, and mail to 63 Courtney Cres., New Westminster, BC V3L 4M1. CDs can also be ordered gift wrapped in Christmas paper. The name of the recipient will be handwritten on a small card together with your message. Gift wrapped, mail-ordered CDs cost \$27 (includes shipping).

Hear samples of the CDs at www.winterharp.com.

To join our mailing list or for information contact: winterharp@telus.net.

Winter Harp would like to say thank you to Celtic Creations (at Lonsdale Quay), arts promoter Tony Antonias, producer Kevin Mooney, Winter Harp tour manager Marilyn Rummel, M & P Mercury Sales and Ange Frymire of Vocal Point Communication.

