

Barbara Harbach

(Professor of Music, Music History and Harpsichord)

Dr. Barbara Harbach, Professor of Music at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, tours extensively as both concert organist and harpsichordist. Her appearances include recitals throughout North America, Korea, Japan, Denmark, Europe, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Russian Siberia as well as solo and continuo roles with symphony orchestras. She holds academic degrees from Pennsylvania State University (B.A.), Yale University (M.M.A.), Musikhochschule

(Konzertdiplom) in Frankfurt, Germany, and the Eastman School of Music (D.M.A.). In 2002, Harbach received an honorary doctorate in music, honoris causa, from Wilmington College, Ohio for her lifetime achievement as a composer, performer, editor and publisher.

Her lively performances and recordings have captured the imagination of many American composers, and the body of work written for and dedicated to Harbach is substantial. Musical America has called her "nothing short of brilliant," and Gramophone has cited her as an "acknowledged interpreter – and, indeed, muse – of modern harpsichord music."

She was host of the weekly television music series Palouse Performance seen throughout the Inland Northwest.

As a composer, Harbach has written symphonies, works for chamber ensemble, string orchestra, organ, harpsichord, musicals, choral anthems, film scores, modern ballets, and many arrangements for brass and organ of various Baroque works. She is also involved in the research, editing and publication of manuscripts of eighteenth-century keyboard composers as well as historical and contemporary women composers. Her work is available in both recorded and published form through MSR Records, Naxos Records, Gasparo Records, Kingdom Records, Albany Records, Northeastern Records, Hester Park, Robert King Music, Elkan-Vogel, Augsburg Publishing, Agape Music and Vivace Press. Harbach is also the editor of Women of Note Quarterly.

In 2007 MSR Classic Records released two CDs of her compositions: Orchestral Music – Symphony, Reverie & Rhapsody (MSR Classics 1252) recorded with the Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra, and Chamber Music Vol. I – Ensemble, String Quartet & Woodwind Quintet (MSR Classics 1253) with the Ensemble Istropolis, Moyzes String Quartet, Woodwind Quintet and Brass Quintet.

Harbach initiated Women in the Arts – St. Louis, a celebration of the achievements of women creators. The over 850 events by various cultural organizations in the St. Louis region provided audiences with new and historical examples of the work of women writers, composers and artists. In 2006 for her work Women in the Arts – St. Louis she was the recipient of the Arts Education Award from the Missouri Arts Council; the Missouri Citizen for the Arts Award; the Yellow rose Award from the Zonta International Club of St. Louis; the UM-St. Louis College of Fine Arts and Communication, Faculty Excellence Award. In 2007 she was awarded the Hellenic Spirit Foundation Award.

Harbach is a prolific recording artist (solo and ensemble), and she has been heard on St. Paul Sunday Morning, Pipedreams, Adventures in Good Music, BOB and BILL, Eastman Brass, Audiophile Audition, and Live from Chautauqua. Her performances and compositions have been profiled on radio stations as well as TV. She is editor of Women of Note Quarterly and has been the Director of three Women in Music Symposia at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

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