

Caroline Léonardelli

Caroline Léonardelli classical harpist has an accomplished career at as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestra musician and teacher. Born in France, Caroline graduated with first prize in harp from the Paris Conservatoire under the guidance of Jacqueline Borot at the age of 18. Caroline went on to advanced study with Judy Loman through the McGill University School of Music. During her youth, Caroline studied in France with Lily Laskine, one of the most celebrated harpists of the 20th century.

Caroline is principal harpist with the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra and the Gatineau Symphony Orchestra. Caroline has also performed as a guest with numerous orchestras including the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, the London (Ontario) Symphony, Symphony Nova Scotia, and Opera Lyra.

Caroline is a member of several chamber ensembles including the Four Seasons Harp Quartet with harpists Jennifer Swartz, Lori Gemmell and Caroline Lizotte, the Para Arpa harp duo with Caroline Lizotte, and a voice and harp duo with mezzo soprano Julie Nesrallah. Caroline has performed in ensemble at numerous festivals including the Elora Festival, Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, and Baie des Chaleurs International Festival.

Choral work is a passion for Caroline. She has performed a wide range of repertoire with numerous choral ensembles. The 2005 Evergreen Wishes CBC produced concert of the Ottawa Children's Choir, featuring Caroline performing John Rutter's Dancing Day received a Gabriel Award.

Caroline has completed a number of recording projects, all of which have received critical acclaim. The releases include Panache with mezzo soprano Julie Nesrallah, Impressionisme by the Para Arpa harp duo, and A Christmas Story with the Ottawa Bach Choir. Caroline is currently recording Marjan Mozetich's Eldorado with the Penderecki String Quartet and Songs of Nymphs for solo harp.

Caroline has a full class of students and is affiliated with the Ottawa Youth Orchestra Academy.

Classical Harpist