

Steph West



Traditional Harp Music from the British Isles

An English harper, singer and arranger, Steph is passionate about the folk music of the British Isles. By exploring the links between the clarsach (or Celtic) harp and English traditional music, Steph is creating a space for the harp in current English traditional music. Meanwhile she is still topping up her supply of Scottish and Irish harp tunes, bringing a bright Celtic sound to the Cotswold and Chiltern hills.

The Clarsach or Celtic harp is one of the oldest instruments of the British Isles, heard throughout the courts of Ireland, Scotland and Wales until the 18th century. Once again growing in popularity, this instrument combines the ethereal beauty of the early material with the vitality of modern folk music. All the while, the harp never loses its magical sound and magnetic appeal.

Event and Wedding Services

There are few things as atmospheric as an elegant musician playing gorgeous music on one of the most eye-catching instruments of all time: the harp. With an enticing sound that welcomes your guests, the harp effortlessly creates an atmosphere that is warm and relaxed.

The exotic beauty of the harp fits into any environment whether intimate or grand, lightly enhancing the space. The gentle sounds can carry across a room yet not intrude into conversation.

Why choose a Celtic harp?

The sound of the Celtic harp or Clarsach has graced the courts of Ireland, Scotland and Wales for centuries. Part of a living tradition, the distinct musical heritage of the harpers has been handed down for generations.

The traditional repertoire ranges from soulful airs to lively dance tunes, from pastoral songs to courtly dances. Underpinning this wide variety of music is the tradition of learning and playing music by ear.

The smaller size of the Clarsach makes it very portable, allowing it to be carried onto galleries or awkward spaces which would be unreachable for a pedal harp.

The harp can be used during a civil or religious ceremony or to accompany your wedding banquet or drinks reception.

Example Civil or Religious Ceremony:

- 20 - 30 minutes of music while the guests arrive
- Processional piece as the Bride enters
- Signing of the Registers
- Exit of the happy couple and 5 - 10 minutes as your guests leave the church.

Parties / Receptions / Short Events:

Example Drinks Reception:

- One hour of harp music while your guests gather

Banquets / Wedding Breakfasts / Long Events:

Example Celebratory Meal:

- Two hours of live music over three hours (3 x 40 minute sets)

For Further information
contact Terry

