

# INTENSE HARP TRAINING WEEKS

## 2008

January 21 – 27

February 18 – 24

March 10 – 16

April 21 – 27

May 12 – 17

September 22 – 28

October 20 – 26

November 24 – 30

With one or two lessons of a half hour each day (Tuesday to Friday) with Dr Janet Harbison and an invitation to observe life and work at the Harp Centre during a 'normal' week with a workshop experience over the weekend.

Janet Harbison has over 40 years experience performing and teaching the Irish Harp and is the founder and director of the Irish Harp College, a training, examination and qualification system (evolved from the Harp Foundation examination system 1993). Dr Harbison's method of training has produced many of Ireland's foremost young artistes who are becoming well established world-wide. Since 2002 she established the Irish Harp Centre in Castleconnell, Ireland's first dedicated bardic college for the harp since the middle ages.

### **Your Intense Training Week starts on TUESDAY MORNING AT 10 am**

So arrange to arrive in Ireland/Castleconnell not later than Monday evening. We look forward to meeting you Tuesday morning for a Welcome Reception at 10 am.

Training days are Tuesday – Friday; with weekend workshops through Saturday finishing with the Harp Orchestra experience on Sunday afternoon.

### **Programme options:**

- Intensity 1 Two ½ hour lessons with Janet per day (Tue-Fri) with Extras (See below)
- Intensity 2 Two ½ hour lessons per day (Tue-Fri) just the lesson and session times
- Intensity 3 One ½ hour lesson per day (Tue-Fri) with Extras
- Intensity 4 One ½ hour lesson per day (Tue-Fri) just the lesson and session time

### **Accommodation and catering:**

The Irish Harp Centre caters for all your needs! Although there is student accommodation available at the Harp Centre, this is not available until the weekend as the rooms are used as classrooms during the week. It is recommended you stay at one of our locally located B&Bs. (We will send you descriptions, directions and costs separately). At lunchtime, you will be served a substantial meal at the Harp Centre and a self-serve light tea / supper when you wish in the eveningtimes. (You will be introduced to the food sources in the kitchen; and coffee / tea whenever you like with cookies in the jar!). Alternately, in the evening-times, you might like to

try one of the excellent range of places to eat in Castleconnell. Clothing-wise, you are advised to dress for comfort: include one good fleece/woolly jumper, walking boots and rain wear.

## YOUR SCHEDULE

### Up to Monday ...

Arrive! Our Music School is busy from 4 pm every day with over 400 students being taught by 22 teachers. It is a busy house, so we regret that we are unavailable to welcome you on Monday evening. If you are flying into Shannon Airport or arriving by bus or train at Limerick Station and you would like to be picked up and brought to your accommodation, we recommend our local Taxi service run by Mike Murphy at 00 353 86 8328247. We look forward to welcoming you on Tuesday morning when we will allocate your lesson times and talk about any special features in the week.

### Tuesday

10 am WELCOME RECEPTION at the Harp Centre.  
10.30 - 11 Group session  
11.15 - 12.15 Lessons A & B / Practise time  
1 pm Lunch (The substantial meal of the day!)  
3 - 4 Lessons C & D / Practise time  
4 - 8.30pm Teaching observation 1 (mainly solos)  
8.30 Senior's session (group tuition for our professionals!)  
9.40 + Folk Session at Bradshaw's Pub

### Wednesday

10.30 - 11 Group session  
11.15 - 12.15 Lessons A & B  
12.30 Early Lunch  
1.10 pm Palliative Harp Therapy (PHT) observation (Dep. Centre at 12.50 ret. 2.30 pm) at St.Vincent's, Lisnagry, a nearby national facility for severely disabled children  
3 - 4 Lessons C & D  
4 - 8 Teaching observation 2 (mainly groups)  
9.40 + Trad Session at The Kingfisher Pub

### Thursday

10.30 - 11 Group session  
11.30-12.30 Lessons A & B  
3 - 4 Lessons C & D  
4 - 9 Teaching observation 3 (mainly groups)

### Friday

10.30 - 11 Group session  
11.15 - 12.15 Lessons A & D  
3 - 4 Lessons C & D  
4 - 9 pm Teaching observation 4 (mainly senior solos)

## THE WEEKEND

### Saturday

#### Daytime:

**10.30 - 4pm HARP WORKSHOPS** (Lunch 12.30 - 2)

*Our monthly harp weekends have harpers coming to the Centre from all over Ireland and overseas.*

See the schedule for the forthcoming workshop themes / special guest tutors

## Evening:

### HARPER'S SESSION

Beginner's Session from 7.30 – 8.20; Concert 8.30- 9.30. Tea & Tart break followed by Everybody's Session (until midnight or so!)

## Sunday

- 9.10 am Depart Centre for Harp Mass at Castleconnell with participating musicians  
9.30 Harper's Mass at Castleconnell Parish Church (RC). 3 minutes walk  
11 – 1 pm Optional: Private lessons arranged with Harp Centre Tutors.  
(Must be booked in advance)  
1 pm Light lunch at the Harp Centre  
2 – 5 pm NATIONAL HARP ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL (Check as there are some  
Sundays this does not happen; e.g. Half Term holidays).

*The National Harp Orchestra is our junior orchestra which undertakes concerts and tours Europe-wide. There are about 24 members comprising at least 20 harpers who also play other traditional instruments including fiddles, flutes, whistles, bodhrans, concertinas and mandolins. There are also a number of non harp players on uilleann pipes, singers and dancers. The age range of performers is from 10 to 18. You are encouraged to observe!*

For travellers who don't depart until Monday morning, Sunday evening accommodation is available at the Harp Centre at an extra charge of €30. There are a number of options for dining in the village including at Charco's pub (highly recommended) which is 10 minutes walk from the Centre and has an excellent bar menu.

## HARPS at the Harp Centre

You are encouraged to bring your own harp, but we are also happy to hire you a harp for the week (please give us lots of notice!) Almost all our harps are 34 string Irish / Celtic harps by CAMAC of France. Models in use: Hermine, Aziliz, Janet

## THE 'EXTRA'S:

- ½ hour group session starting each day with a programme tailored to the group
- Teaching observation with Janet with discussion on the method and repertoire
- Observation of PHT in progress (Palliative Harp Therapy) in a Mentally Disabled Facility with discussion of the music and improvisation techniques
- Participation in or observation of 'Senior Harper's Night' (Tuesday) of training in a variety of the Arts of Harping (Session, Entertainer's, Church & Wedding, PHT, Teacher training, Stage ensemble, Ensemble leadership)

# Fees for 2008

4 days of intense training (Tuesday to Friday) with / without 'extras':

Intensity 1	Two ½ hour lessons per day with Dr Harbison with 'Extras'	€800
Intensity 2	Two ½ hour lessons per day with Janet	€740
Intensity 3	One ½ hour lesson per day with Janet with 'Extras'	€640
Intensity 4	One ½ hour lesson per day with Janet	€512

Weekend Workshop (Friday pm - Sunday lunch) €168

You will deal directly with your B&B for your accommodation.

**If you are a student attending a full time university course, reduce your fee by 20%**  
(We will need a note from your university confirming your status and course undertaken)

## Add your costs:

Intensity 1 / 2 / 3 / 4      ...€.....

Weekend                      €      1 6 8 .

Total                      €                      less student %?                      \_\_\_\_\_

# APPLICATION

Date of your week with us: ..... to .....

Your name .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

Email .....

Dietary needs / allergies? .....

Your booking is confirmed on full payment (having first checked availability with our office)

Book online and pay by PAYPAL on our website: [www.irishharpcentre.com](http://www.irishharpcentre.com)

or send this application with your cheque payable to 'Irish Harp Centre' or VISA details to:

The Administrator, Irish Harp Centre, Castleconnell, Co.Limerick, Ireland

## Some details for us please!

Your name: .....

How many years have you taken lessons so far? .....

Would these be Classical / Folk / Traditional Irish / General ? (please underline)

Would you consider yourself to be a Beginner / Improver / Intermediate / Advanced?

Have you ever undertaken professional work with the harp? .....

For Professional Players: How many years of professional experience already? .....(yrs)

In: Solo Performance ; .....(yrs) Group Performance: .....(yrs)

Background Entertaining ; .....(yrs) Harp Teaching; ..... (yrs)

Other instrument teaching (specify please) ..... (yrs)

Palliative Care / Harp Therapy; .....(yrs) Orchestral (Concert) Harp: .....(yrs)

### **Tick your areas of interest:**

- General assessment and deciding where-to from here
- Technique training / review
- Ornamentation & Variation training
- Repertoire expansion (Tick the Arts you wish to study)
  - Goltraí, Geantraí, Suantraí (Improvisation for the accompaniment of poetry and storytelling)
  - Historical (or Classical Irish) Repertoire (17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries)
  - Lamentations and Slow Airs
  - The Romantic & Folk Repertoire (19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries)
  - The 'New Irish' (or Formal Modern Harp Composition) Repertoire
  - Dance Music Repertoire
  - Song and Harp Accompaniment
  - Sacred and Ritual Music
  - Music for Health and Comfort
  - Composition
  - Arrangement
  - Accompaniment.
- Stage performance (solo recital, concert pieces)
- Session participation training
- Group leadership training
- Professional Entertainer training (staging, etiquette, management advice)
- Popular Irish Entertainer repertoire
- Mixed music Entertainer repertoire
- Wedding Ceremony Music programming & training
- Career consulting
- Church Music training (Liturgy and Programming; also choir/soloist/congregation leading)
- Teacher training
- Palliative Harp training

Tick as many boxes as you wish – if you have specific priorities, please number them with number 1 your top priority.

Print this off and fax it back to us on 00 353 61 372712 or scan and email.