



Lynne Turner (USA)

First Prize Winner of the 2nd International Harp Contest in Israel, 1962

Lynne Turner joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1962, shortly after becoming the first American to win first prize in the International Harp Contest in Israel. Born in Saint Louis, she moved to Chicago at the age of 4 and started piano lessons with her mother, Evelyn, at the age of 8. Her father, Sol Turner, was a violinist in the CSO for 22 years; when she was 10, he introduced her to the harp, which became her chosen instrument. She first performed with the CSO at the age of 14, when she was the featured soloist in a series of youth concerts.

Turner studied with Alberto Salvi in Chicago and Pierre Jamet at the Paris Conservatory, graduating with highest honors and earning the *premier prix, première nommée, hors concours*. After completing her studies in Paris, she auditioned for CSO music director Fritz Reiner. She was 21 when she joined the CSO, the youngest musician in a major American symphony at that time. She has appeared worldwide as soloist with orchestras and ensembles including the Israel Philharmonic, the Sienna Festival Orchestra, and the New York Woodwind Quintet; visited scores of schools as part of the CSO's educational outreach program; and served on the faculties of DePaul University and Lake Forest College. In celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary, Turner performed at a gala concert in Jerusalem featuring first-prize winners of the Israel competition. She returned to Israel as a judge for the 17th International Harp Contest and was a juror for the inaugural Vancouver International Music Competition in 2017.

Other artists in Turner's family include her brother Richard, principal harp of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra since 1977; her son Bennett, an award-winning documentary filmmaker; and her daughter Rachel, a decorator and interior designer. Turner is currently in her 57th season with the Chicago Symphony.



Chantal Mathieu (France)

First Prize Winner of the 4th International Harp Contest in Israel, 1970

First prize unanimously at the Conservatoire de Paris at 14, then First prizes at the famous Israel International Harp Contest and at the Concours International de la Guilde, Paris, 2^d prize at the Geneva Concours International d'Exécution Musicale, **Chantal Mathieu**, born in Lille (France) leads a brilliant international career. Guest of the best orchestras including Berlin Philharmonic, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, London Sinfonietta, NDR Sinfonie Orchester, she also performs extensively solo and chamber music.

Passionate of contemporary music, Chantal Mathieu premiered numerous works dedicated to her by composers such as Franco Donatoni, J.-M. Damase, J.-F. Zbinden, B. Andres, J. Meier, M. Jarrell, whilst transcribing many pieces, notably by J.S. and C.P.E. Bach. Her numerous CDs released under several labels show the richness of her repertoire.

Chantal Mathieu worked in Germany for a while (Principal Harpist from the Norddeutscher Sinfonie Orchester Hamburg and Professor at the Hamburg Musikhochschule) before settling in Geneva. She then taught harp and chamber music at the High School of Music in Lausanne for over 30 years. Most of her students now hold important positions within the musical world.

In addition to these activities, Chantal Mathieu was a member of the Founding Committee of the Swiss Harp Association in 1988 and President from 1990-1996. She was also a member of the Board of Directors of the World Harp Congress which had chosen her to be Chairman of the 8th World Harp Congress 2002 in Geneva.

A recent graduate in Arts' medicine in Paris, Chantal Mathieu is currently President of the Association Internationale des Harpistes et Amis de la Harpe. In parallel, she pursues her career as interpreter and teacher in Masterclasses throughout the world, while enriching her discography containing more than 20 CDs.



Emily Mitchell (USA)

First Prize Winner of the 7th International Harp Contest in Israel, 1979

Emily Mitchell has earned critical acclaim as “a marvelous harpist” (The New York Times) who captivates her audiences with “playing of the utmost delicacy, beauty and subtlety.” (Records and Recording) In the words of The Washington Post, “Mitchell commands a vivid palette of colors and uses them with imagination.”

A 30 year career includes harp soloist for the 1982 Kibbutz Orchestra tour of the United States Eastern seaboard, presentation before The Queen Mother, King’s Lynn Festival, (1977), Prince Philip, British Embassy, Washington, D.C. (1980), First Lady Rosalyn Carter, The White House (1980), and House Speaker Tip O’Neill and members of Congress, House of Representatives (1981). She performed with Sir James Galway in Carnegie Hall with the Orchestra of St. Luke’s (1987). Media credits include The Today Show, Good Morning America, CNN, BBC, National Public Radio’s Performance Today, and People Magazine.

Mitchell toured for Columbia Artists (1982-1987). She was principal harpist for the EOS Orchestra (1992-2002). She taught on the faculties of New York University, and Purchase College, (1998-2008). Mitchell established a name in the television, motion picture, and recording studios of NYC (1992-2008). Mitchell’s discography includes her Celtic harp and vocal recordings for RCA Victor (1989-1993). Concert harp recordings include music by flutist/composer Gary Schocker for Albany Records (2012-2016).

A 1975 graduate of the Eastman School of Music with Performer’s Certificate, student of Eileen Malone, and a 1976 Associate, with Honour, the Royal College of Music, student of Marisa Robles, precluded Mitchell’s win of First Prize at the Seventh (1979) International Harp Contest in Jerusalem.

Mitchell relocated to Texas in 2008 to care for her mother, and was invited to teach on the faculty of Stephen F. Austin State University as Artist in Residence (2011-2018). Now residing in Albuquerque, New Mexico, near her eldest daughter and three grand children, she works with the El Paso (TX) Symphony Orchestra and Opera Southwest.



Gwyneth Wentink (The Netherlands)

First Prize Winner of the 13th International Harp Contest in Israel, 1998

Gwyneth Wentink is an internationally acclaimed harpist, cultural entrepreneur and arts advocate working across many genres and roles.

She is director and founder of *State of the United Arts*, an arts think tank and performance platform that produced *Canto Ostinato Audio Visual* and the currently touring audiovisual performance *In Code*.

Canto Ostinato Audio Visual has toured extensively in The Netherlands and in many cities as Tokyo, Sydney, New York and Moscow, and was chosen for the 'Kingsconcert' of King Willem Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands as well as for a performance during their recent state visit to Canada in 2015.

As a harpist both classical and experimental, Gwyneth Wentink has performed at world's most prestigious stages as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York, the Royal Albert Hall and Royal Opera Hall in London, and the Konzerthaus in Berlin, among others.

Many of today's leading composers have written works for Gwyneth including Theo Loevendie, Marius Flothuis and Terry Riley.

Wentink holds a position as solo harpist of the *Orchestra Revolutionnaire et Romantique* and the *English Baroque Soloists* under Sir John Eliot Gardiner.

Praised for her versatility, Wentink introduced the harp into classical Indian music, and plays regularly with greats like Pt Hariprasad Chaurasia.

Wentink has won numerous prizes, including the Dutch

Music Award, the highest distinction awarded to musicians in The Netherlands in 2007, the Israel Harp Competition and the Young Concert Artists Auditions in New York.



Sivan Magen (Israel)

First Prize Winner of the 16th International Harp Contest in Israel, 2006

Praised as a "harpist of extraordinary range", whose "brilliant sound and remarkable technical acumen shatter any stereotype of his instrument" (the NY Times), Sivan Magen is the only Israeli to have ever won the International Harp Contest in Israel, a winner of the Pro Musicis International Award and in 2012 was chosen by a committee headed by Dame Mitsuko Uchida as the winner of the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award. He appeared as a recitalist and as a soloist with orchestras across the US, South America, Europe and Israel, in venues such as Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, the Sydney Opera House and the Vienna Konzerthaus, and with orchestras such as the Israel Philharmonic, the Strasbourg Philharmonic, the Saint-Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the Sydney Symphony and the Vienna Chamber Orchestra.

An avid chamber musician, Magen has performed at the Marlboro, Aspen, Rosendal, Kuhmo, Delft, and Jerusalem International Chamber Music festivals, with Musicians from Marlboro, and collaborated with artists such as Nobuko Imai, Shmuel Ashkenazi, Gary Hoffman, Emmanuel Pahud, Susanna Phillips, the Danel, Calder and Dover quartets and members of the Guarneri and Juilliard Quartets. He is a founding member of the award winning Israeli Chamber Project and of Trio Tre Voci with flautist Marina Piccinini and violist Kim Kashkashian.

In addition to two solo albums for Linn records, Magen has released acclaimed recordings for Avie, Azica, Koch International, ECM, and with Musicians for Marlboro. In Spring 2017 he was a visiting Professor at the Paris Conservatory, and since September 2017 he has been the principal harpist of the Finnish Radio Symphony.



Anaïs Gaudemard (France)

First Prize Winner of the 18th International Harp Contest in Israel, 2012

An internationally recognized soloist, Anaïs Gaudemard quickly stood out in the musical world among the best current harpists and brilliant musicians of the new generation.

First Prize and Special award for the best interpretation of *The Crown of Ariane* by Murray Schafer at the prestigious International Harp Contest in Israel 2012, 2nd Prize and the Münchener Kammerorchester Prize at the ARD Munich Competition 2016, Anaïs Gaudemard stands out again by becoming « ECHO Rising Star » 2018/19 season hand-picked by the directors of the most important concert halls in Europe. She performed as soloist in venues such as the Wiener Konzerthaus, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Kölner Philharmonie, Barbican Center London, Philharmonie de Paris, Philharmonie du Luxembourg, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Lisbon, BOZAR Brussels, Palau da Musica Catalana, Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, Casa da Musica Porto, Konserthuset Stockholm and Amsterdam's Concertgebouw among others.

In 2015, Anaïs Gaudemard wins the « Thierry Scherz Prize » at the Festival des Sommets Musicaux in Gstaad. This prize awarded by the Foundation Pro Scientia & Arte offers her the opportunity to record her first CD with orchestra. Anaïs Gaudemard has chosen to dedicate it to Debussy, Boieldieu and Ginastera Harp concertos with the Orchestre de l'Opéra de Rouen Normandie released in November 2016 for Claves Records. This recording has been warmly welcomed by the press and has been nominated at the ICMA (International Classical Music Awards) 2017. In February 2019, her new album "Solo", dedicated to works by Scarlatti, Bach, Fauré, Renié, Hindemith, Hersant has been released for Harmonia Mundi.

Anaïs Gaudemard had the privilege to collaborate with orchestras such as the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, Münchener Kammerorchester, Symphonie-Orchester Des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Israel Symphony Orchestra, Collegium Musicum Basel, WKO Heilbronn, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, l'Orchestre de l'Opéra de Rouen Normandie, Gulbenkian Orchestra in Lisbon, I Pomeriggi Musicali in Milan, Ensemble Resonanz, Orchestre National d'Auvergne, Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire etc.; under the direction of Claudio Abbado, Leonard Slatkin, Kazushi Ono, Mariss Jansons, Nir Kabaretti, Emmanuel Krivine, Constantin Trinks, So Perry, Kevin Griffiths, Wen-Pin Chien, Jamie Phillips, John Axelrod, Stefano Montanari, Ton Koopman, Roberto Forés Veses, Jacques Lacombe, Andrea Sanguineti,... Anaïs Gaudemard is also this season "Associate Artist" of the Orchestre Symphonique de Mulhouse in France.

Anaïs Gaudemard studied at the CNSMD in Lyon, France (First prize unanimously awarded with the congratulations of the jury in 2013) then she continued her studies at the HEMU in Lausanne where she obtained the Master of Arts specialized « Soloist » with the highest honors and the First Jost Prize which recognizes the best performance of a concerto in 2015.

Since 2014, she is laureate of the Fondation d'Entreprise Banque Populaire which grants her an award to pursue this commitment in creation and the command of works for the harp. She is the dedicator of three works specially written for her by Charpy, Benzecry and Pépin.

Anaïs Gaudemard plays on a Style 23 Gold Concert Grand harp, offered by the harp maker Lyon and Healy, Chicago at the 18th International Contest in Israel.



Lenka Petrović (Serbia)

First Prize Winner of the 20th International Harp Contest in Israel, 2018

Harpist Lenka Petrović is the first prize winner of the prestigious 20th International Harp Contest in Israel in 2018 and is the first Serbian to win this prize. Additionally, she was awarded the Irina Kaganovsky prize for the best performance of Bedrich Smetana/Trnecek: Moldau at the same competition. A passionate soloist, Lenka is committed to performing a mixture of the traditional harp repertoire alongside transcriptions of non-harp works, showcasing the versatility of the harp.

Highlights of the 2018-2019 season included solo recitals in China, Argentina, Italy and the USA as a result of her first prize at the International Harp Contest in Israel. Lenka has performed at international harp festivals in Moscow, Zagreb and Belgrade and was featured at the Young Talent Concert at the 2017 World Harp Congress in Hong Kong.

Born in Belgrade, Serbia in 1995, Lenka began learning the harp at age 8. In 2017, she received a Bachelor's degree in harp performance from the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad, where she studied with Staša Mirković Grujić. In 2019, Lenka received a Master's degree from The Juilliard School, studying with New York Philharmonic's principal harpist Nancy Allen.

