

JANET HARBISON

Trip to London
By Strangford Water
Viking!
Anach Cuan and Jigs (Traditional and Harbison)
My Darling Bridget's Hand (O'Carolan, Arr.Harbison)
Journey into Exile and Suantraí
Farewell Joël
Kyrie

All pieces, except where otherwise specified, are composed by Janet Harbison.

Bright New Morning

Born in Dublin, Dr. Janet Harbison is equally at home in traditional Irish and classical art music. Her early career was punctuated by winning every national harp competition and a number of internationals, including the All-Ireland Championship, the Isle of Man Millenium Competition and the Rencontres Internationales de Harpe Celtique, Dinan. In 1980, she became the first harper to tour the world with Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann.

Appointed Curator of Music at the Ulster Folk Museum in 1986, Janet Harbison instigated a number of cross-community cultural heritage projects - the most dynamic of which was the Belfast Harp Orchestra, subsequently the Irish Harp Orchestra. Early collaborations with The Chieftains brought world fame and a Grammy Award for their first joint album; the orchestra has also toured throughout Ireland, the UK, North America, Europe and the Middle East.

In 2016, Janet returned to Northern Ireland as Visiting Professor of Music at Ulster University at Magee College, L'Derry. Revisiting her academic interests in ethnomusicology, psychology, linguistics and pedagogy, much of her time is now spent researching, writing and organising the considerable archive of the Belfast Harp Orchestra, the Irish Harp College, and managing her considerable catalogue of publications. In March 2020, she presented the keynote speech at the Ulster University Belfast symposium on ,Irish Harp, by Note, Rote and Reason' and today, she continues to perform, compose and teach as a freelance musician and musicologist.

Janet Harbison is the inspiration for Camac's "Janet" Irish harp.





