

HUTE 47

Monty and Phyllis Adams provide a refreshing program with just the right amount of zaniness and sophistication demonstrating how two entirely different instruments work and sound.

When the two instruments are played in combination, the music becomes enchanting.

Monty and Phyllis Adams are recognized for their innovative flute & harp transcriptions. They have arranged music of many different styles from baroque, classical, romantic, and opera to current popular and jazz tunes. Their CDs, *Opera by Request* and *Universal Peace* are available on CD Baby and iTunes, and many of their arrangements are published on Sibelius.com. Monty and Phyllis were featured at the 25th National Flute Association convention in Chicago, and recordings are frequently played on leading classical radio stations across the country.

Biography for Monty Adams

“Monty Adams is an excellent flutist, who has played first flute on occasion next to me in the Chicago Symphony... His tone is beautiful, brilliant, his intonation and rhythm are impeccable. ...He should definitely be heard!” Ray Still, Principal Oboe, Chicago Symphony Orchestra (1954 – 1993)

“Monty is a first-class flute player possessing shimmering tone, and fluid technique...a great talent!” Julius Baker, Principal Flutist, New York Philharmonic (1965 -1983)

Monty Adams received a M.M. in flute performance from Northwestern University and was the recipient of the Eckstein Prize and Nichols Award. He studied flute with Julius Baker, Harold Bennett, Kenneth Emery, Walfrid Kujala, James Pappousakis, Donald Peck, and Albert Tipton. He also studied conducting with John Paynter, Paul Aliopoulos, and Mitchell Arnold and conducted the flute choir at Northwestern University.

Monty joined the faculty of the Music Institute of Chicago in 1996 as a flute teacher and chamber music coach. He has been the conductor and music director of the Lakeside Flutes since 2001 and began the position of conductor of the Ridgeville Band of Evanston in September 2010.

Monty has performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, even substituting as principal flute at Ravinia and Orchestra Hall concerts, and performed as a regular member of the several Chicago Symphony chamber ensembles for over 20 consecutive years. Prior to returning to Chicago in 1981, he was the principal flutist with the U.S. Air Force Band and Orchestra in Washington D.C. under the direction of Arnold Gabriel.

Biography for Phyllis Adams

“Phyllis is one of the most gifted young harpists I’ve ever had the pleasure to hear – sensitive, imaginative, possessing a strong technique and beautiful tone. All in all, a fine performer.” Gloria Agostini, Professor of Harp, Yale University

Phyllis Adams, one of Chicago’s premiere harpists, has studied with Gloria Agostini, Alice & Jeanne Chalifoux at the Salzedo Harp Colony in Camden, Maine, Edward Druzinsky, Mary Jo Green, Taka Kling, Karen Lindquist and Carol McClure.

Phyllis was a member of the Chicago Civic Orchestra for several seasons while attending Northwestern University, where she graduated with a B. M. degree in harp as a student of Edward Druzinsky.

Prior to coming to Chicago, as a freshmen college student at University at Louisville, she was appointed to the second harpist position of the Louisville Orchestra under the direction of conductor, Jorge Mester.

Phyllis has also performed with the Chicago Symphony in the capacity as an extra & substitute harpist and toured with the CSO under the baton of Sir George Solti, performing at Carnegie Hall and at the Ravinia Festival under James Levine. For many subsequent summers, she performed as the principal harpist with the Milwaukee Symphony under the direction of conductors Lukas Foss and Paul Polivnik.

Phyllis has performed as principal harpist and concerto soloist in most of Chicago’s suburban orchestras after her 1979 debut at the Kennedy Center in the Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto with the Stuttgart Ballet.

From 1985 to 1990, Phyllis served as Lecturer in Harp at Illinois State University in Bloomington-Normal, Illinois and a number of her students have gone on to achieve international careers as harpists.

Phyllis was the Artistic Consultant and Staff Harpist for Venus Harps of Chicago for 22 years. In that capacity, she created and produced “The World of Harp,” the first classical radio series featuring harp music, underwritten by Venus Harps and aired on Chicago’s WNIB Classical Radio 97.1 FM with Chicago’s beloved radio host, Miller Peters.