Mary Reid -- Harp

With a varied musical appetite, Mary performs as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral harpist, and in the community. She has a passion for giving recitals that showcase the harp's full potential, especially in rural communities and settings where live music is a novelty.

Previous solo recitals include Skye Chamber Music, Isle of Arran Music, Classic Music Live! Falkirk, the Bowes Museum, Ripon Cathedral, and Holkham Hall in Norfolk, as well as at London's Wigmore Hall. She has performed on recordings for Linn Records with Trevor Pinnock, with the Gabrieli Consort and on Paul Patterson's CD of harp works.

With a passion for chamber music, Mary often works with smaller groups: Theatre of Sound, the London Sinfonietta, OperaUpClose, and the London Concertante to name a few. She recently formed the Howells Reid Duo with flautist Matthew Howells. In new music settings, Mary has performed several world premieres including works by Richard Bissell, Thomas Chevis and Gareth Wood.

Freelance orchestral work has included performances with Scottish Opera, the Royal Opera House, Opera North, Aurora Orchestra, CBSO, BBC Philharmonic, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, London Mozart Players, and RSNO at the Edinburgh International Festival.

Mary absolutely loves taking the harp to settings where people might not otherwise hear live music and goes regularly into schools, day centres and hospitals. Mary works with the Live Music Now Scotland charity, leading workshops and mentoring younger musicians in SEN settings, as well as giving participatory performances for adults living with dementia.

Now based in central Scotland, Mary gained both her MA in Performance with Distinction and her Bachelor of Music (1st Class Hons) from the Royal Academy of Music in London, studying with her harp professor of ten years Professor Emerita Skaila Kanga. Prior to attending conservatoire, Mary studied with Marcia Dickstein in Los Angeles, Sarah Bullen in Chicago and Sophie Askew in Edinburgh, her original hometown.