

# *Transformations*

The Newsletter of Composer Barbara Harbach

Spring 2011

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## Barbara Harbach's Music in the Concert Hall



The music of Barbara Harbach continues to be heard in many places across the U.S. and around the world.

On Oct. 12, 2010, her **Cherish-**

**Caress** for Cello and Soprano was performed at Trinity United Methodist Church in New Albany, Indiana, by the Araya Duo, comprised of husband and wife cellists Arturo and Jennifer Araya.

The World Premieres of **Nights in Timisoara** and **Chester** for string orchestra were given by the St. Louis Chamber Orchestra, Dr. James Richards, conductor on November 14, 2010 at Maryville Auditorium of Maryville University in St. Louis.

In early January, the third movement of her **Freedom Suite** for string quartet was played in Brazil at the Festival of Music in Santa Catarina: [www.femusc.com.br/11/](http://www.femusc.com.br/11/) by the UMSL's Arianna String Quartet. [www.ariannaquartet.com/](http://www.ariannaquartet.com/) The ASQ made its South American debut at Brazil's prestigious FEMUSC Festival in Jaragua do Sul.

**Freedom Suite** was played for the opening concert at this Festival of Nations event.

Every country represented at the festival performed. The composer made the ASQ an arrangement for string quartet from the quintet version.

The quintet version of **Freedom Suite** was performed on Martin Luther King Day, January 17, 2011 at the Touhill Performing Arts Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis. She wrote the piece in the Summer of 2010, inspired by the life of Harriet Scott, her husband Dred Scott and their two daughters, Eliza and Lizzie. Performers were the Dickson String Quartet ([www.thedicksonfive.com/](http://www.thedicksonfive.com/)), who are students at UMSL, with Charles Clements, double bass. More about the performance at [blogs.umsl.edu/news/2011/01/11/scott/](http://blogs.umsl.edu/news/2011/01/11/scott/).

Then, on January 30, the St. Louis Chamber Orchestra performed "Eliza and Lizzie" from **Freedom Suite** in the Maryville Auditorium. Admission to the concert was a donation for the Operation Food Search pantry.



On March 30, Barbara will be in concert at St. John's Church in Park Slope, Brooklyn. She will perform

several of her original works and arrangements, along with music by other contemporary and historic women composers as part of the Women's Work 2011 concert series. More about it at <http://www.myspace.com/womenswork>.

April 7 will bring another World Premiere: The composer writes, "I have written a piece for soprano/mezzo, violin and piano called **Harriet's Story**, which is in three movements. I created the lyrics to the first



two movements in the voice of Harriet Scott, and used Harriet Tubman's quotes in the third. It is a dramatic cycle. It will be the highlight of a conference we are holding here at UMSL,

April 6 and 7, 2011. The conference is entitled **Compromising Positions: Race, Gender and Sexuality in Missouri and the Midwest**. The premiere will be held April 7 at the Unity Lutheran Church in Bel-Nor ([www.unitybelnor-elca.org/](http://www.unitybelnor-elca.org/)), Missouri. Marliisa Hudson, soprano and Alla Voskoboinikova, piano will perform, with violinist David Gillham of the Arianna Quartet."

"Also, The Dickson String Quartet, again with Charles Clements on double bass, will perform **Freedom Suite** for string quintet on April 7 at the conference."

## CD News

On March 2 and 3, the London Philharmonic Orchestra, David Angus, conducting, recorded a CD of Ms. Harbach's string orchestra pieces at Henry Wood Hall of Trinity Church Square in London, England.

This CD will be released on MSR Classics as part of their critically acclaimed and honored **Music of Barbara Harbach** series.



On December 8, 2010, UMSL celebrated the release of Harbach's latest CD, Vol. 6 of **Music of Barbara Harbach – Chamber Music III – Reeds, Brass, Strings, Harpsichord & Piano**, MSR Classics 1257 - [www.msacd.com/1257/1257.html](http://www.msacd.com/1257/1257.html)

## In the Media

Barbara was the subject of an interview in the December 2010 issue of UMSL's **Perspectives in Leadership** newsletter. You can download a PDF of the issue at [umslice.org/index.php/executive-leadership-consortium/361-newsletters](http://umslice.org/index.php/executive-leadership-consortium/361-newsletters).

## Awards, Honors, Panels and Other Things

Barbara Harbach will receive the Grand Center Award for "Successful Working Artist." With 12,000 theatre seats within four blocks, 12 galleries and museums and over 1500 cultural events with 1.3 million visitors each year, Grand Center is unique in the country. Visit them at [www.grandcenter.org/](http://www.grandcenter.org/).

Barbara Harbach was awarded a Fellowship in the UMSL Center for International Studies for the balance of the 2010-2011 academic year. She will receive support for her project to compose a musical score to the poem **Incantata** by the Irish-born Paul Muldoon for chamber ensemble to be premiered October 31, 2011 in the Touhill Performing Arts Center, UM-St. Louis. Read the poem at [thepoeticquotidian.blogspot.com/2007/02/paul-muldoon-incantata.html](http://thepoeticquotidian.blogspot.com/2007/02/paul-muldoon-incantata.html) and visit the poet at [www.paulmuldoon.net/](http://www.paulmuldoon.net/)

She has also won an award from the UMSL Executive Leadership for the **Women's Networking Series, Celebrating 5 Years of Connecting Women**, The Award reads, "Honoring Barbara Harbach, DMA - With

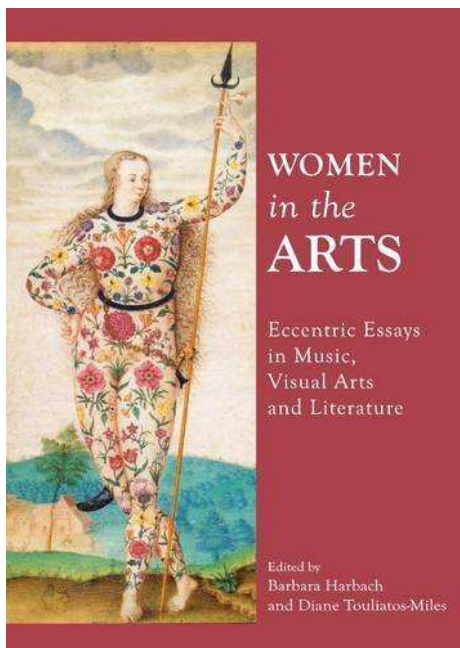




deep appreciation for her outstanding commitment and service to women's programs at the UMSL Executive

Leadership Consortium. - October 27, 2010.”

On February 3, she was a panelist for “When I Rise”, a UMSL and 9 Network of Public Media collaboration to raise awareness, increase understanding and strengthen the community. This was presented on February 3 in the university's J.C. Penney Auditorium and featured a screening of the film **When I Rise**, the story of Barbara Smith Conrad, a gifted University of Texas music student.



On December 8, 2010, UMSL celebrated the release of Dr. Diane Touliatos and Dr. Barbara Harbach's new book, **Women in the Arts: Eccentric Essays in Music, Art, and Literature**, Columbia Scholars Press, 2010. Dr. Touliatos and Dr. Harbach are the book's editors. More about it at [www.c-s-p.org/flyers/Women-in-the-Arts---Eccentric-Essays-in-Music--Visual-Arts-and-Literature1-4438-1672-8.htm](http://www.c-s-p.org/flyers/Women-in-the-Arts---Eccentric-Essays-in-Music--Visual-Arts-and-Literature1-4438-1672-8.htm).

The reception was sponsored by Gender Studies, Women in the Arts, the Office of Research Administration, College of Fine Arts and Communication, and the College of Arts & Sciences.

## Barbara Harbach on the Web

For more information about Barbara Harbach, visit [www.barbaraharbach.com/](http://www.barbaraharbach.com/). You can also contact Jeffrey James Arts Consulting at 516-586-3433 or [jamesarts@att.net](mailto:jamesarts@att.net).

