

# MASTERS OF THE CELTIC HARP

*Two Sides of Celtic by the Foremost Harpers of Ireland & Scotland*

---



## William Jackson

William Jackson has been a major figure in traditional Scottish music since being a founding member in 1976 of the influential folk group, Ossian, whose outstanding recordings remain a benchmark for Scottish music. The band, whose music influenced a generation of musicians, extensively toured the U.S. and Europe. Acclaimed for his musicality on the Celtic harp, he is also a renowned composer whose work is inspired by the history and landscape of Scotland.

In 1999, his song, "Land of Light" was selected as the winner of the year-long "Song For Scotland" competition, coinciding with the restoration of the Scottish Parliament, to select a "new anthem for a new era in Scotland." He has an impressive list of commissioned works and subsequent recordings, including *The Wellpark Suite*, *St. Mungo*, and *Inchcolm*. The Scottish Chamber Orchestra commissioned *A Scottish Island*, which fused traditional and classical music.

As a solo performer, he has toured extensively throughout Europe and North America, and has performed at many festivals, including the Edinburgh International Harp Festival, Somerset Folk Harp Festival, Ohio Scottish Arts School (Oberlin) and the Rio International Harp Festival. As part of his work combining traditional and classical music, William has composed for and performed with The Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Cape Cod Symphony and Asheville Symphony Orchestra.

"He's got the best ear of anyone I've ever come across, and he has total command of the Scottish traditional idiom." (Sounding Strings)

*Iain MacInnes, BBC's 'Pipeline' program*

"... the great thing about Jackson - the skill and artistry of the man - lies in his lightness of touch. William Jackson will leave you asking for more."

*Alastair Clark of the Scotsman*

<http://www.wjharp.com>

---

## Recording Credits

**2004 Swannanoa's Master Music Maker award for Lifetime Achievement**

**2015 Traditional Scottish Music Hall of Fame inductee with Ossian**

**2016 Somerset Folk Harp Festival Lifetime Achievement Award recipient**

Composition (2016, 4-CD set); The Music of Ireland and Scotland (with Gráinne Hambly in 2009), The New Harp (2008), Land of Light, Duan Albanach, A Scottish Island, The Celtic Suites, Inchcolm, The Ancient Harp of Scotland, Celtic Experience Vol. 1-3, Notes from a Hebridean Island

*With Ossian:* The Carrying Stream, Light on a Distant Shore, Borders, Seal Song, Dove Across the Water, The Best of Ossian, Ossian, St. Kilda Wedding

*With Others:* Billy Jackson & Billy Ross: The Misty Mountain

**Booking Now for their Upcoming Tour Schedule**

Please Contact: Kathy DeAngelo, 856-795-7637, [kathy@harpagency.com](mailto:kathy@harpagency.com)

[www.harpagency.com](http://www.harpagency.com)

---

