

HARPIST LISA TANNEBAUM SPRING RESIDENCY INCLUDES PERFORMANCE WITH THE GRAINGER ACADEMY OF THE JOFFREY BALLET

IPO Artist-in-Residence adds performance of her new harp arrangement of Enrique Granados 12 Spanish Dances, to her traditional educational stops

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Park Forest, IL – World-renowned harpist Lisa Tannebaum returned to the Chicago Southland for her biannual Chicagoland residency. An Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra Artist-in-Residence since 2022, Tannebaum visits twice annually for a weeklong educational residency.

This spring, in addition to her regular appearances at Prairie State College (Chicago Heights, IL), Tannebaum expanded her visit with a special performance at the IPO Annual Gala. There, she brought Spanish flair to the harp through her signature project, *Enrique Granados' 12 Spanish Dances*, presented in collaboration with the **Grainger Academy of The Joffrey Ballet** featuring choreography by **Oğulcan Borova**, and flamenco artist **Claudia Pizarro**.

Originally written for piano by Granados, these works are filled with rhythmic pulse, lyricism, and dramatic tension rooted in Spanish dance traditions. Tannebaum recently recorded nine of the twelve Dances in Paris, continuing her long-term commitment to presenting the full cycle in performance and on record. This collaboration with dancers from the Grainger Academy of The Joffrey Ballet and Flamenco Artist, Claudia Pizarro, brings the music back to its physical roots, where rhythm and gesture meet in real time.

Ms. Tannebaum's versions preserve the drive and harmonic richness of the originals while revealing colors and nuances on the harp. Tannebaum is currently the only harpist performing multiple Dances from the complete cycle with her own transcriptions, making this project a distinctive contribution to the harp repertoire and a premier to this interdisciplinary performance.

Following the gala, Ms. Tannebaum spent a day at Glenwood Academy (Glenwood, IL) giving an introductory presentation on the harp to 1st through 4th graders. She also returned to Prairie State College for two days in Chicago Heights to host four sessions of her popular *How to Listen to Music Effectively* seminar. Attendance was limited to students enrolled in the applicable classes.

“In my *How to Listen to Music Effectively* Seminar, we explore music through movement, drawing, storytelling, and even use kazoos,” says Tannebaum. “These activities help participants engage music through multiple senses, deepening their understanding of music. I hope students leave with tools they can use when listening or practicing their instrument. The more we understand what we're hearing, the more we enjoy it.”



“I believe in IPO’s Marilynn Tannebaum Youth Music Education Institute. To teach is rewarding to both student and teacher. As a teacher, I hope to empower my students to listen, feel, and interpret music for a meaningful, lifelong love of artistic expression.”

In past residencies, Tannebaum conducted Masterclasses for harp students, interactive programming for elementary students highlighting an African folk tale while teaching melody, rhythm, and history of the harp, and *How to Listen to Music* seminars for Prairie State College general music classes.

ABOUT LISA TANNEBAUM

Hailed for her “expressive musicality and creativity” by The New York Times, Lisa Tannebaum has performed solo, chamber and orchestral repertoire at major venues and festivals throughout Europe and the United States. Her unorthodox story inspires those pursuing their artistry and passion in non-traditional time.

Whether touring Europe with the Broadway show 42nd Street, with The Fantasticks at the legendary New York Sullivan Street Theatre or playing both on land and at sea on the Queen Elizabeth II transatlantic crossing, Ms. Tannebaum has enjoyed her diverse career. Ms. Tannebaum’s “superb talent” (D.J. Luksetch, The Star) has also been featured in solo, chamber and orchestral performances with notable conductors and composers such as Sergiu Comissiona, James DePreist, and John Corigliano.

Ms. Tannebaum received a BA in Physics from Carleton College and an MFA in Harp Performance from State University of New York at Purchase, NY. She has served as a faculty member at the Amadeus School in Chappaqua, NY and the Northern Westchester Center for the Arts, as well as appearing on numerous television shows. She also created the first Suzuki Harp studio in the Northeastern United States.

Ms. Tannebaum’s dazzling performance at Carnegie Hall celebrated the release of her CD My Harp, My Heart. Reviews of her playing have circulated glowingly in the public press. The New York Concert Review stated, “grace and a master of dynamic variation.” A review from Harp Column Magazine describes Ms. Tannebaum’s playing as “Pitch Perfect... Her sound is full of color and brilliance but never harsh, taking charge at just the right moments.”

Ms. Tannebaum continues to work and record her harp transcriptions of the Granados Dances, originally written for piano. She collaborates regularly with up-and-coming composer, Andrew Seligson. Ms. Tannebaum is currently on the faculty of the Cap Ferret Music Festival, where she concertizes, teaches, and gives workshops every summer.

Ms. Tannebaum is the president of [Music in The Woods](#), a non-profit organization that provides educational opportunities for students, and musical enrichment for the community. She performs the Concierge Concert Series, an innovative project redefining what the concert experience feels like. To learn more about Lisa Tannebaum, visit [LisaHarpist.com](#).

ABOUT ILLINOIS PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

The 2025/26 concert season marks the 48th for Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, the three-time Illinois Council of Orchestras “Professional Orchestra of the Year.” Under the leadership of Gibb Music Director Stilian Kirov and



Executive Director Christina Salerno, the mission of IPO is to utilize the universal expression of music to create profound, inspiring and personal connections between the people and communities of Chicago's Southland.

During the 2025/26 season, IPO will perform several classical concerts at their home venue, the state-of-the-art, 1,100 seat Ozinga Chapel at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, IL, while continuing to strengthen a partnership with the Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University for one concert. In addition to live orchestral concerts, IPO presents a myriad of educational youth offerings each year via its educational arm - The Marilyn Tannebaum Youth Music Education Institute. IPO also performs an annual summer chamber series, IPO Summer @ Olympia Fields Country Club.

From its community orchestra roots in Park Forest, the 69-member orchestra has grown into a critically acclaimed professional regional orchestra. Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra is supported in part by the Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University, Ozinga Foundation, Gerhard Manufacturing and Design, Michuda Construction, Old National Bank, and the Illinois Arts Council. For more information, visit ipomusic.org.

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