

Helen Webby Harp & Pepe Becker Soprano

Harp Fest NZ, Monday 6 April, 2pm



***Still Sounds Lie*, Gareth Farr (1996, revised 2005).**

Settings of three poems by **Carolyn Mills**, inspired by Deep Bay in Queen Charlotte Sound.

I: Deep Bay

II: Stingray

III: Where the waves come from

Hihi, Helen Bowater (2007). For solo harp.

The “hihi” or “stitchbird” is a native bird which demands attention with its insistent, penetrating call. Helen Bowater was intrigued and drawn to this sound when exploring Tiritiri Matangi, an island and native bird sanctuary in the Hauraki Gulf. The hihi’s call and movements and the natural bush environment inspired this piece. *Hihi* was commissioned by Helen Webby with financial assistance from Creative New Zealand.

Moto Revivo, Mark Smythe (2022). For solo harp.

Mark Smythe is a New Zealand composer living in LA and predominantly writing film scores. His genres of expertise span romantic comedies to horror. He has received several awards for his compositions, has conducted professionally in Europe, taught film music at UCLA Extension, and since 2025 has been Department Head of Composing for Visual Media at Los Angeles College of Music. *Moto Revivo* is a sequel to *Moto Mojo for harp and delay pedal*, which Smythe wrote for Helen Webby’s CD ‘Pluck’. The piece begins with an enchanting minor-key melody, played as a single line before being layered with increasingly complex and hypnotic rhythms.

From: Folk Song Arrangements, Benjamin Britten (1976).

II: She’s like the swallow

IV: Bonny at morn

VI: David of the White Rock

The New Zealand Concert is sponsored by The Harp Society of
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