

atlantic harp duo

MARTA POWER – ELIZABETH JAXON

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Biography

Based in Paris, France, timeless source of artistic inspiration and cradle of the modern harp, the Atlantic Harp Duo ventures beyond the possibilities of a single instrument, enriching their music with the combined sonority of two harps. Founded in 2006 by Marta Power and Elizabeth Jaxon, both natives of the Great Lakes Region of the United States, the harp duo performs regularly on each side of the Atlantic.

Ms. Power and Ms. Jaxon both studied under Isabelle Perrin at the École Normale de Musique de Paris. Ms. Power received her Diplôme de Concertiste in 2008, and holds a degree in Musicology (Licence de Musicologie) from the Sorbonne. She has participated in numerous international harp competitions, winning prizes in the Félix Godefroid International Competition in Belgium and the North London Festival of Music and Drama, among others. Ms. Jaxon received her Bachelor's of Music in 2006 from the University of Illinois where she studied with Ann Yeung. In 2009, she earned her Diplôme de Concertiste from the École Normale de Musique de Paris. During her time in Europe, she was awarded prizes in several international competitions, including the First International Harp Competition of Szeged in Hungary, and participated in the world-renowned International Harp Contest in Israel in 2009. Ms. Power maintains an active teaching studio and performing career in Paris. Ms. Jaxon held the positions of lecturer of harp at Mahidol University College of Music, in Thailand and principal harpist of the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra from 2010-2013, and is now living in the Netherlands.

Since its conception, the duo has performed in the Great Lakes Region of the USA, as well as in Europe, Asia, Australia, and South America. Always striving towards the most informed musical interpretation, the duo has consulted directly with composers of the major works of their repertoire – Jean-Michel Damase, Bernard Andrès, and Caroline Lizotte. They have also commissioned several new compositions and regularly compile their own transcriptions in an effort to enrich the harp's repertoire.