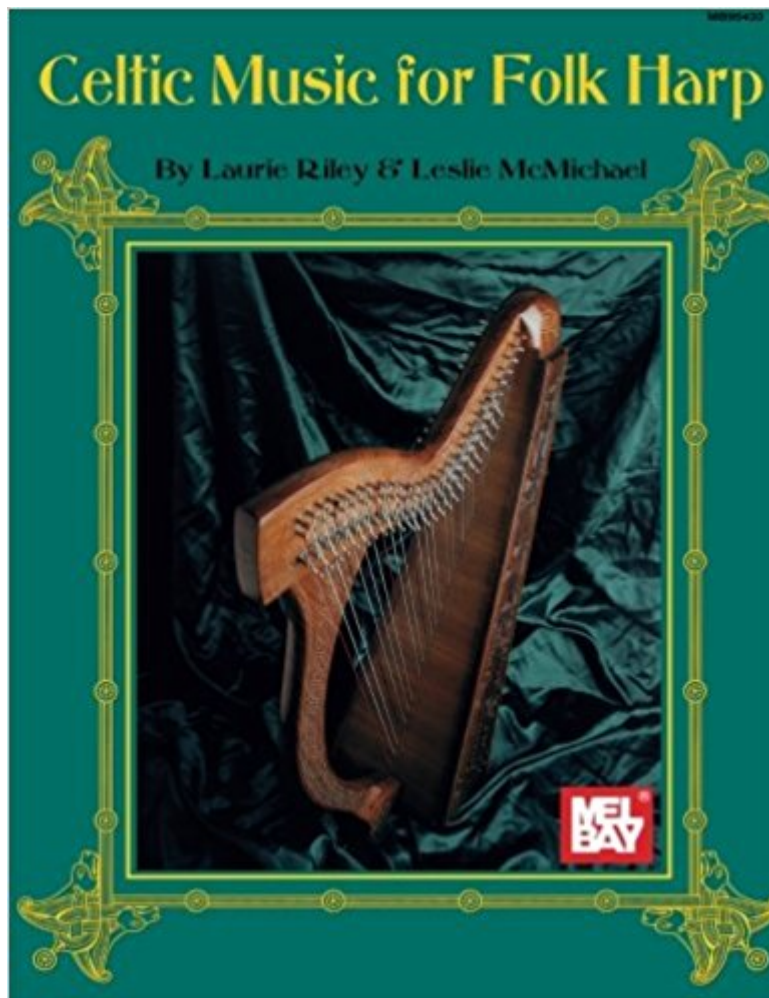


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# Mel Bay Celtic Music For Folk Harp



## Synopsis

This book is intended to be an introduction to a style of music which has a long and noble history that is inextricable intertwined with that of the ancient harp. The tunes contained in this book were chosen for their playability on the folk harp as well as for ease of separating into categories of skill.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Leslie McMichael feels lucky to be doing what she loves for a living. A graduate of Wellesley College, her musical pursuits include teaching, performance, recording, and composition. In 1992, Leslie co-founded the Vashon Island Harp School with Laurie Riley and Michael MacBean. The school, located a short ferry ride from Seattle in Washington State, is dedicated to bringing harp players together and expanding the horizons of what harp can be. A long-time pedal harpist, Leslie enjoys sharing her background of classical music and technique with both folk and pedal harpists. She has received training in the Suzuki method for young harpists and now heads the harp department at the Suzuki Institute of Seattle, in addition to directing two other Suzuki programs in the greater Seattle area. At Vashon Island Harp School, Leslie has directed the adult and children's harp ensembles, introduced lever harpers to the joys of pedal harp and taught beginning improvisation and ensemble playing. She takes great delight in presenting harpists and harp music in unusual situations! I didn't know a harp could do that! is a remark often heard at Laurie Riley's concerts. Known for her ability to make a harp sound like a whole new instrument, she can make it speak, make it laugh and cry. Audiences feel her music as a visceral experience. A professional

musician since the age of ten, Laurie has toured throughout the US, in Canada, and in Ireland. She plays selections from around the world, from historical times, as well as compositions of her own. The richness of various cultures' musical styles offers endless ways to express what I play. Whether it's Celtic, South American, Scandinavian, Israeli, Ukranian... there is something new in each tradition." Through her playing, the double-strung harp has emerged as an exciting new sound in the world of harps. She was instrumental in designing the modern double-strung harp which has become popular in recent years among harpers. Two rows of strings played at the same time make this instrument sound like a duet of two harps. She has recorded eleven albums of harp music, authored five books, and made five instructional videos. She also judges harp competitions and teaches for harp organizations in the US and abroad.

Celtic Music for Folk Harp is my favorite book to play from! The notation is clear and easy to read, and the information about each tune is interesting and helpful in getting the right feel for each song. It contains many beautiful tunes, and I especially like how they are grouped together by skill levels--ranging from moderate to advanced. I was a beginning harpist looking for new material when I purchased the book, and wondered if I was getting beyond my level too soon. However, the moderate level songs were not too hard to start out with and once you master them, it's easy to move on to the next level, so don't be intimidated by the skill levels! This book has helped me improve my playing and allowed me to add several new songs to my repertoire. I highly recommend it for all beginning to intermediate harpists looking for some lovely tunes to play.

Fantastic beginner harp book! This is just what I needed. So many so called beginner books are just a little too hard for me. I wanted some easy music to just play and play.

Great music book, with some lovely tunes! Laurie Riley and Leslie McMichael did a wonderful job arranging these traditional Celtic harp pieces, in addition to including information on how each one should be played. They also note the "difficulty level" of each tune, (i.e., "moderate - advanced"), and include some lyrics as well. The last three tunes are offered for wire-strung harp, but can be played on a regular folk harp as well...A great find!

My daughter's harp teacher asked us to buy the Mel Bay Celtic Music for Folk Harp book. I was happy to find it on .

this book provided a jolt to the memory of old irish tunes, great fun

This harp book reveals a little of what excellent advanced masters of the harp, like Riley and McMichael, can etude. Makes great listening, if you can figure it out. Otherwise you have to buy their CDs!

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