

## the Harpella™ - Signature Series

Introducing the premier edition of a new worship instrument *The Harpella™ - Signature Series*, the world's first electronic harp with automatic key change. The harp is a Biblical instrument that was prominent in the days of the Temple in Jerusalem, but is now experiencing a resurgence in worship. With this new high-tech instrument the heavenly sound of the ancient harp can now be easily introduced into today's contemporary worship settings.

### *Conventional harps have limitations that have made it difficult to integrate for use in the Church:*

- Conventional harps require constant tuning.
- Harps must be set into the correct key signature prior to playing a song. This normally is achieved by activating pedals or levers that tension the strings to pitch for the right combination of sharps or flats.
- These systems are awkward to use as it takes time to switch and often can not be changed quickly enough to keep up with other musicians.
- Learning to use levers or pedals also can be challenging.
- The key change system on a pedal harp is expensive and requires a technician to keep the system fine tuned.
- Effectively amplifying the sound of a conventional harp can also be challenging as accoustic harps tend to feedback making it difficult to set at volume levels that are usable.
  
- *The Harpella™* addresses these difficulties by using a computer controlled system that can change the key of the harp instantly.
- *The Harpella™* never requires tuning as the pitch of each string is electronically set to the correct pitch at all times!
- *The Harpella™* is connected directly to your sound system and never feeds back.

*The Harpella™* is being released as a premier "Signature Series" bearing the signature of the inventor "Michael-David" for the first 100 instruments with the promise of future software upgrades at no additional cost. These future upgrades represent significant high-tech features that are documented on the reverse of this page.



# Harpella™ Signature Series

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## Harpella Version 1.0

In the first release of the Harpella™ the instrument will feature instant key change. Conventional harps require the engaging of pedals or the flipping of individual levers which mechanically change the pitch of the strings to accommodate the correct number of sharps or flats required for a given key signature. This can be difficult to learn and awkward to activate. This release of the Harpella™ version 1.0 remedies the difficulty by making rapid key changes with the touch of one control on the screen of a computer (a touch screen lap top is recommended, but will function on a regular laptop). The Harpella™ version 1.0 also never needs fine tuning as the instrument is always in tune. This is achieved through the processing of the sound of the string with the Harpella software. Although the strings should be tensioned close to pitch to give the proper feel of tightness to the strings, the problem with conventional harps needing constant tuning has been solved with the Harpella’s sound processors controlled by computer always pitching the sound of each nylon string to the correct frequency.

## Future Features and Releases

The following future releases will incorporate the following features:

**Scale Mode** - instant access to unusual tunings and modes for ‘Blues’ (great for jazz music) and ‘Asian’ scales (Pentatonic scales in any key with the touch of one control or via MIDI pedal control\*)

**Chord Mode** - chords can be selected via MIDI pedal control\* muting unwanted strings, active strings are lit making it easy to learn even for beginners.

**Enhanced Lighting Control** - The Harpella™ body is lit with high intensity LEDs and with enhanced lighting control the audio spectrum can be mapped to the light spectrum so that low frequencies will illuminate the low end of the spectrum (i.e. red, orange, yellow) and the higher frequencies will illuminate the higher end of the visual light spectrum (i.e. green, blue, indigo, violet). The LEDs can also be set to illuminate the harp with one or more color combinations that are either static or react to the frequencies of the music and can be controlled via MIDI.

**Musical Instrument Digital Interface** allows the harp to:

- play sounds on a synthesizer/keyboard
- trigger synthesized background chords while playing live harp sounds
- record and play back notes that can be printed as a score
- self-playing feature allows the harp to play back similar to a player piano (notes light strings as harp sound is played back in sampled harp sound) This feature enables students to read music notation on screen and see the lit strings that are to be played
- Playback any MIDI file as melody and harmony with the sampled sound of the Harpella
- play musical phrases and then add additional looped layers in real-time (i.e. accompany yourself by playing a chord pattern then layer the lead line)
- key changes can be controlled automatically when playing along with a MIDI arrangement
- lighting settings on the harp can be controlled automatically via MIDI

These future software releases will be available as a download via the internet. The upgrades will enable the enhanced features to be used as each feature is released.

(\*MIDI pedals are available at music stores and are an accessory that is purchased separately at an extra cost. A MIDI keyboard could also be used as a controller for these functions)