



Take a harp. Shrink it down. Strap it on . Plug it in.

DEBORAH HENSON-CONANT

STRINGS OF PASSION

Music, Ideas & Humor in Concert

An inspirational, experiential lecture from-the-harp

The Boston Globe calls Deborah Henson-Conant's stunning performances "A cross between **Leonard Bernstein, Steven Tyler and Xena, the Warrior Princess.**" Rock guitar legend Steve Vai calls her the "**Jimi Hendrix of the harp**" and the **New York Times** credits her with "Reshaping the serenely Olympian harp into a jazz instrument."

Now she brings a lifetime of creative thinking to a performance that resonates with the creative corporate team.

"I've spent the past 2 decades reinventing my instrument, creating everything from One-Woman Shows to a fully orchestrated PBS music special in the process. **What this journey taught me was how ideas resonate through people, how groups collaborate, how leadership takes many different shapes.** This is what "Strings of Passion" is all about – expressed in words and music." (DHC)

Using the 7 strings in each octave of her instrument, Henson-Conant shows us that every creation begins with an **impulse**. To harness that impulse you need a **unifying concept**, that to think in new ways you must **deconstruct** old assumptions, **embrace the imperfection** of nascent ideas, and use the roles of both **leadership and follow-ship** to tease the idea into a 'playable' thing. Once it has form and structure, the instrument as a whole, the team, has **resonance**. All this leads to the moment of lift-off, or **performance**.

"I've broken the concepts into 7 strings, so we can explore each idea separately – but the excitement comes, when you put them all together. Like with a team, the person at the top, or the main melody derives richness from the whole. It's the resonance of the strings we don't consciously play that gives richness and resonance to the ones we do play." (DHC)

Innovation, bold ideas and action teams result because they dare to explore and excite the world around them. "Strings of Passion" opens the mind-share and heart-share of the attendees **and inspires them to dare that exploration.**

"Strings of Passion" is a powerful exploration of possibilities - moving your audience out of the ordinary and into the extraordinary! And in the end your team becomes the true star of the experience.

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Deborah Henson-Conant is a Grammy Nominated recording artist, a favorite speaker of the “Ideas Boston” conference and the creator of her own PBS music special “Invention & Alchemy.” Her collaborative, cross-discipline performance project “Inviting Invention” was a feature of the 2nd annual Boston Science Festival. She’s known as a boldly creative performer and thinker. “Strings of Passion” pairs those two together in a performance lecture like none you’ve ever experienced.

Deborah Henson-Conant’s “Strings of Passion”

String 1: The Impulse

Every creation begins with impulse: to touch, to do, to be, to know, to express...

String 2: The Unifying Concept

Creative innovation is diffuse until the disparate ideas are focused through a unifying concept.

String 3: The Principle of Deconstruction

Deconstruction is a highly creative act – every assumption we deconstruct makes room for breakthrough ideas.

String 4: Creative Follow-ship

Roles are fluid. Leadership doesn’t happen in a vacuum – it’s complement is follow-ship. By embracing and changing roles, you can access unknown creative aspects of yourself and your team.

String 5: Commitment to Failure

To move from impulse to great performance you must be willing to embrace experience of being bad. Once you do, the transformation speeds fantastically.

String 6: The Alchemy of Resonance & Collaboration

Resonance is the factor that makes a whole greater than the sum of its parts. Collaboration is the alchemy that moves an isolated idea into a vibrant movement.

String 7: Lift-Off – The Power of Great Performance

There’s a time for study, development and practice. All of this is towards the ultimate performance: the moment when an idea, a team, a product achieves lift-off. The ability to let go of the guide-lines at that point and to find the currents to glide on is the final string – the power of great performance.

Deborah Henson-Conant will lead your group on a journey through the strings of the instrument she helped invent, showing the unique meaning of each string as an innovation driver, and when linked, the sum of the parts unleashes the amazing power of the whole.