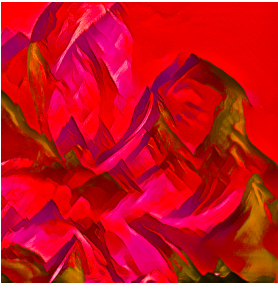


The background is an abstract composition of warm, earthy tones including shades of red, orange, yellow, and brown. It features bold, expressive brushstrokes and sharp, angular geometric shapes that create a sense of depth and movement. The overall effect is a vibrant, textured surface that serves as a backdrop for the text.

# SHARLENE WALLACE

harpist | composer | recording artist

[sharlenewallace.com](http://sharlenewallace.com)



It's not about the harp. It's about texture, layers, pushing the envelope of spaciousness into the momentum of rhythmic and arrhythmic movement... but mostly it's about instinct and freedom. – Sharlene Wallace

## SHARLENE WALLACE

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### BIO 1 (100 words)

Sharlene Wallace is a Canadian lever and pedal harp player, composer, educator and visual explorer, all through which she expresses her relationship to spaciousness, the natural world and intuition. Winner of two international lever harp competitions, she has given concerts and workshops across Canada, the United States and in Europe. Sharlene has released nine albums, including two electronic projects, *Lilac Embers* and *Trees.Listen*. A dedicated educator for over four decades, she has taught pedal and lever harp privately, at four universities and in workshops across North America. Sharlene's own performance degree was with Judy Loman at the University of Toronto.

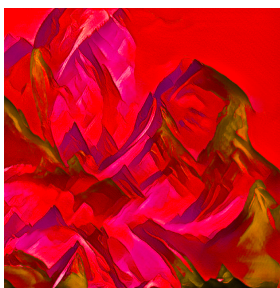
### BIO 2 (200 words)

Sharlene Wallace is a Canadian lever and pedal harp player, composer, educator and visual explorer, all through which she expresses her relationship to space, the natural world and intuition.

Winner of two international lever harp competitions, Sharlene has given concerts and workshops across Canada, the United States and in Europe and toured with Ron Korb (flutes), George Koller (bass), Joseph Macerollo (accordion), Kim Robertson (Celtic harp) and Susan Piltch (flute, piano). Sharlene is a founding member of *Iona Passage* with pianist Eric Robertson and fiddle player Anne Lindsay.

Sharlene is an influential figure in the lever harp world for her performances, recordings, compositions, teaching and for her use of this instrument in contemporary and original music. Commissions written for Sharlene include Rodney Sharman's *Music for Lever Harp, Strings and Percussion* and Alfredo Rolando Ortiz's *Niagara Moon*.

Sharlene's own compositions are featured throughout her nine independent albums. In 2024 she released two albums for lever harp and electronics: *Lilac Embers*, an album of Shar-compositions for acoustic and electric lever harps with electronics by Jean Martin, and *Trees.Listen*, a co-composition recording-performance-environmental project with composer Frank Horvat for Celtic harp and fixed electronics. *Trees.Listen*'s live performance includes photo / video projections by Sharlene.



**SHARLENE'S HIGHLIGHT PERFORMANCES:** CBC Onstage Concert Series (ON), Celebration of the Arts (ON), Celtica Festival (Italy), Elora Festival (ON), Dryden Concert Series (ON), Evenement Harp (Quebec), Festival of the Sound (ON), Goderich Celtic Roots Festival (ON), Huron Waves Music Festival (ON), International DIIVA Series (ON), ISFHC Harp-Con (USA), MERA Schoolhouse Concert Series (ON), Mississauga Chamber Music Concert Series (ON), Musicora Music Mania Festival (France), Ohio Harp Gathering (USA), Orangeville Concert Series (ON), Royal Ontario Museum Concert Series (Toronto), Somerset Harp Festival (USA), Stratford Summer Music Festival (ON), THEOP Concert Series (ON), TVO Studio 2 (ON), University of Guelph Concert Series (ON), Vancouver Island MusicFest (BC), 11th World Harp Congress (BC)

## BIO 3 (345 words)

Sharlene Wallace lives in a normal Toronto house bursting with an abnormal number of harps. From that tightly strung fortress of song she launches campaigns across Canada, the US, Italy and France with music that listeners describe as Celtic, Classical, South American or contemporary, but it's really all just Shar. She placed first in international lever harp competitions in the USA and Brittany (you should have seen the victory parades – so many harps!) and students and music lovers all over Canada have cherished her performances since the time when the CD was new.

Sharlene has played lever and pedal harp with orchestras and festivals everywhere, toured with Ron Korb (flutes), George Koller (bass), Joe Macerollo (accordion), Susan Piltch (flute, piano) and Harp & Holly (Sandra Swannell, Terry Young, Rob Ritchie). Lately she has been making music with pianist Eric Robertson and fiddle player Anne Lindsay in a trio called Iona Passage. For the record, though, she doesn't own a passage, just a lot of harps.

Somehow, between all of that travelling and playing Sharlene found time to create nine recordings of her own music and arrangements. **Trees.Listen**, with co-composer Frank Horvat, was released in October 2024. It's a nine-piece suite for Celtic lever harp and electronics inspired by the ancient Celtic Ogham script and the book *To Speak for the Trees* by botanist, biochemist, biologist Dr. Diana Beresford-Kroeger. This project includes an album, sound installations, and a performance that premiered at the University of Guelph Arboretum in September 2024. One month later, she released **Lilac Embers**, an album of all Shar-music written for Celtic harp with electronics by Jean Martin.

Sharlene has taught lever and pedal harp privately, in four universities and in workshops across North America, including over three decades for Island Mountain Arts in Wells, BC. She herself has a performance degree from the University of Toronto where she studied with harp oracle Judy Loman, who is 47 feet tall and 172 years old.

Sharlene also is a graphic designer, photographer, part-time pollster and will defend accordion music to the very end.

**SHARLENE'S CDs:** **the rhyme & the river** | **Journey of Shadows** | **Beyond the Waves** | **Island Mountain** | **Anticipation** – with Susan Piltch (flute, piano) | **Q&A** – with Kim Robertson (Celtic harp duo) | **In Night's Deep Silence** – with George Koller (bass) | **Trees.Listen** – with Frank Horvat (co-composer, fixed electronics) | **Lilac Embers** – with Jean Martin (electronics)