

FATMA CEREN NECİPOGLU
(1973 - 2009)

Born in Istanbul in 1973, Ceren Necipoglu was the harp instructor on the faculty of Anadolu University State Conservatory in Eskisehir, where she was invited to establish the harp department in 2002. Being featured as a young concert artist at the 24th International Istanbul Music Festival, Ms. Necipoglu has played concerts in Turkey and abroad. Her solo performances and in ensemble took her to Germany, Switzerland, Kuwait, USA Hungary, France, Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Brazil and Syria. Having a keen interest in performing new music, Ms. Necipoglu was invited to the 8th World Harp Congress, to perform contemporary harp music by Turkish composer Hasan Uçarsu and American composer Garrett Byrnes, where her performance was praised for its "spiky and superb" quality. She concertized in Turkey performing new music for flute and harp, collaborated with well-known horn player, Turgay Hilmi, from Cyprus/Germany, on a project of contemporary music for horn and harp, and performed concerts on traditional court music from the Ottoman Era. Ms. Necipoglu gave the Turkish premiere of the Harp Concerto, "A Persian Reflection for Harp and Orchestra" (2006), by Iranian composer Amir Mahyar Tafreshipour, in Eskisehir in January, 2009.

Ms. Necipoglu was a graduate of Indiana University School of Music with a MM Degree in Harp Performance, where she studied with Distinguished Professor of Harp, Susann McDonald. She studied chamber music with virtuoso performers like Thomas Robertello, Kate Lukas and Dennis Parker in Indiana University and Louisiana State University, respectively. In Turkey, Ms. Necipoglu graduated from Istanbul University State Conservatory and from Bogaziçi University, where she majored in Translation and Interpreting. She appeared as a soloist with Bursa Regional State Symphonic Orchestra, Eskisehir Greater Municipality Symphonic Orchestra and made a concert tour with Anadolu University Symphony Orchestra in Turkey. She played concerts and on CD recordings as principal harp with Bilkent Symphony Orchestra in Ankara, Bursa Regional State Symphonic Orchestra, Anadolu Symphony Orchestra, Ohio Light Opera, Louisiana State University Opera and Mediterranean Youth Orchestra. Ms. Necipoglu was the first Turkish harpist to receive a scholarship to attend the Academie Musicale de Villecroze in France under the direction of renowned harpist Marie-Claire Jamet (2002).

Ms. Necipoglu enjoyed a career both as a performer and teacher. Her students won international prizes. As an ardent believer in the importance of communication and cooperation among colleagues and students, she initiated and served as the coordinator and artistic director of the 2nd Turkish Harpists National Reunion in 2006.