



Celebrating American Music
Robert Paterson, *Artistic Director*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: VICTORIA PATERSON

PHONE 212.217.0119
info@americanmodernensemble.org

DUO SCORPIO : SCORPION TALES CD
Available on Amazon, iTunes and CDBaby

American Modern Recordings is thrilled to announce the release of a groundbreaking new recording entitled ***Duo Scorpio: Scorpion Tales*** (AMR1035) featuring contemporary compositions performed by the New York City based harp duo **Duo Scorpio**, comprised of **Kathryn Andrews and Kristi Shade**. The album will be released on **American Modern Recordings (AMR)**:

Bernard Andrès – *Le Jardin des Paons*

Robert Paterson – *Scorpion Tales: Trinidad Scorpion, Promenade à deux, The Tale of Orion* **Caroline Lizotte**
– *Raga*

Sebastian Currier – *Crossfade*

Stephen Taylor – *Unfurl*

Bernard Andrès – *Parvis*

This is a debut album for both Ms. Andrews and Ms. Shade and is one of the first albums dedicated exclusively to contemporary compositions for the harp. It was recorded in 2011 at Westchester studios and produced by **multi-Grammy™ winning producer Adam Abeshouse**.

Diverse subjects such as Greek mythology, scorpion mating habits, architectural structure, and Indian art music inspire the works on this recording. Many of the compositions feature **unique musical approaches and extended techniques**, including using the harp to create unusual and percussive sounds. This album's production was **funded entirely by the crowd-sourced fundraising platform Kickstarter**.

The album features **three world premiere recordings, including the world premiere of *Crossfade* by Sebastian Currier**. ***Le Jardin des Paons*** is a recent composition completed in 1993; ***Scorpion Tales*** is also a world premiere and was commissioned by the **American Harp Society** and Duo Scorpio; ***Raga*** was commissioned by the **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation** for the "Québec in Concert" production and was originally composed in 2006 for harpists Judy Loman and Jennifer Swartz; ***Unfurl*** is a world premiere recording and was composed in 2005; ***Parvis*** was completed in 1974 and includes percussive sounds made by striking the body of the harp and using the harp's tuning key as a small mallet.

Duo Scorpio is a New York City based harp duo on a mission to expand the duo harp repertoire by commissioning new works. In 2010, the duo began searching for music for their newly formed ensemble and realized this particular part of the harp repertoire had yet to be fully explored in a contemporary setting.

Duo Scorpio was the recipient of the American Harp Society grant, which they used to partially commission Robert Paterson's "Scorpion Tales." The Duo premiered this piece at the American Harp Society's 50th Anniversary Conference in New York City in July 2012 and will be the featured

cover story in the next edition of *Harp Column* magazine. Duo Scorpio has performed with **Florence + The Machine at the Met Gala**, for **Metro Harp New York** and has performed together orchestrally throughout New York City most notably in **Carnegie Hall** and **Alice Tully Hall**.

CD Release Party will take place on September 4, 2012 at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music: 450 W. 37th Street, New York, NY. Performance at 8PM. Cocktails 6-8PM.

www.duoscorpio.com

\$20 in advance at 800-838-3006 or online at www.americanmodernensemble.org