

Harpist Dr. Alison Attar has enjoyed a rich and diverse artistic career. Experienced performing music in concert or accompanying dance, film, theater, and the visual arts, Attar is embraced by her colleagues as a vibrant, intelligent performer and educator. A champion of new music, Attar has performed with numerous new music groups, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's MusicNOW, Fulcrum Point, Contempo (formerly Contemporary Chamber Players), and the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group (England). She was a founding member of the quartet Pinotage (flute, harp, viola and mezzo-soprano) and the Marinos Trio (guitar, harp and mandolin). Attar's interest in historical harps, specifically multi-row instruments, led to performances internationally. Highlights of Attar's career include a 2017 tour of Cuba as guest harpist with the Chicago Harp Quartet, the Chicago Symphony's 2014 Beyond the Score project "A Pierre Dream," two productions (eight full cycles) of *Der Ring des Nibelungen* with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and her role as second harpist for the Grant Park Symphony.

Attar is highly regarded by her colleagues for her professionalism, leadership, versatility, vibrant and expressive sound and her uncanny rhythm. Dr. Alison Attar holds a B.M., M.M., and D.M. in harp performance and a B.A. in Italian culture, all from Northwestern University. She can be heard on over 20 recordings ranging from pop and jazz to Baroque opera and contemporary chamber music. A Harp Column Music Artist, Dr. Attar's historical editions, transcriptions and arrangements for modern pedal harp can be found on Harp Column Music.

Attar resides in a unique conservation community outside of Chicago with her husband and a menagerie of rescued pets. She is the proud mother of two terrific young men.