

Apple Orange Pair duo biography
(351 words)

Apple Orange Pair (Emily Boyer, horn, and Colleen Potter Thorburn, harp) is a duo committed to engaging audiences through a growing repertoire for this unexpected pairing. Since its founding in Connecticut in 2010, the duo has premiered fourteen new works by emerging composers. Five of these new works are featured on their debut album, “Seeds,” released in 2013. Apple Orange Pair regularly serves as an ensemble-in-residence at new music festivals and universities, where they present workshops on contemporary composition for their instruments and bring to life new works by student and faculty composers. They have performed as ensemble-in-residence at Connecticut Summerfest at Hartt School of Music in Hartford, where they are returning for a second season this June, and are serving as ensemble-in-residence for Central Connecticut State University’s music department for the 2016-2017 academic year. Apple Orange Pair has been honored as the recipient of commissioning grants from the American Harp Society and the Yale School of Music’s alumniVentures program. They have also participated in several chamber music residencies at Avaloch Farm Music Institute in New Hampshire.

Apple Orange Pair maintains a robust performance base along the U.S. East Coast and has presented concerts in New York, New Haven, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Richmond, among others. Past performance activities include a 2016 concert tour of the Mid-Atlantic region including performances at An die Musik in Baltimore, Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, and the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Apple Orange Pair has also presented concerts in Virginia at Bluefield College in Bluefield, on the Spencer-Miller Memorial concert series in Abingdon, and at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. In Connecticut, Apple Orange Pair collaborated with local businesses and artists for innovative concert programs throughout the state to benefit regional charities, such as the Connecticut Food Bank. Conference performances include a regional artist recital at the 2015 Northeast Horn Workshop at Pennsylvania State University, a featured concert and master class at Mid-Atlantic Harp Day in Philadelphia, and recitals at the American Harp Society’s 11th National Summer Institute at Utah State University and the International Horn Society’s 2016 Symposium at Ithaca College.