

Musician delivers gospel message through original songs

By: [Craig Howard](#)

Post on: [June 15, 2009](#)

When Kasia Haroldsen embarked on a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from her native Poland, she brought the gift of music to a place over 5,000 miles away.

Haroldsen served in the Provo-Utah Mission for 18 months beginning in 1991. During discussions with those who were investigating the church, she would often play the guitar or piano, singing LDS hymns or original songs she wrote after her conversion in 1989.



Kasia (pronounced "Kasha") Haroldsen released her first CD of acoustic music in 2004. The native of Poland has prepared another compilation of songs for a new album titled "Savior of My Soul." Photo by Craig Howard.

Titles like "Hope," "Patience," "Prayer" conveyed the sense of enlightenment and peace central to Haroldsen's journey to baptism. Following her mission, Haroldsen continued writing music that spoke of her faith in Christ and gratitude for the gospel.

Now, over 20 years since joining the church, Haroldsen is married with five children. She and her husband, Eldon, are part of the Pines Ward in the Spokane East

Stake. Despite all the changes – music remains an integral aspect of Haroldsen’s life. She teaches piano lessons and her two oldest children, Julian and Alina, are beginning their third year with the Spokane Youth Symphony. Kasia and her kids also play Polish, classical and Celtic music at retirement homes in the Spokane area.



Haroldsen has recently compiled thirteen songs for an album titled “Savior of My Soul” which she hopes to release sometime later this year. The CD will include a blend of original songs – some written shortly after her baptism and others from the time following her mission – as well as traditional hymns. In addition to vocals, Haroldsen plays guitar, violin and piano.

The album, Haroldsen said, is intended to recreate the messages she delivered while serving her mission.

“These songs express my testimony of the Savior,” Haroldsen said.

In 2004, Haroldsen recorded a CD that sold in Spokane-area stores like Auntie’s Bookstore and Hastings. The album, titled “Lubie” (pronounced loo-bee-ya) included acoustic tunes sung in Polish. The arrangements reflected Haroldsen’s diverse musical influences from Johann Sebastian Bach to Louie Armstrong.

Over the years, Haroldsen – who has a degree in music education from Southern Utah University – has serenaded crowds at Gonzaga University, the Spokane Folk Festival, Auntie’s and Eastern Washington University. When promoting her first album five years ago, she was a guest on KYRS, 95.3 FM in Spokane.

Despite the mainstream attention, Haroldsen speaks most fondly of her outreach efforts at LDS firesides where she describes her introduction to the church, her mission in Utah and how music has blessed her life.

“I try to express myself through music,” Haroldsen said.

The title track on Haroldsen’s latest album describes a vision she had less than a year before joining the church. It came at a time when she was, in her words, “searching for purpose.”

“I saw a light that was connected to my heart,” Haroldsen said. “It was a good light that was an answer to my prayers.”

A few months later, Haroldsen was on a train from Warsaw when she saw a pair of LDS missionaries.

“They told me about Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon and I had the same feeling that I did when I saw the light from before,” Haroldsen said.

Haroldsen began taking the missionary discussions while continuing to pray and study the scriptures. Within a few months, she was baptized.

“The Lord prepared the way,” Haroldsen said.

Haroldsen’s favorite LDS hymn – “Because I Have Been Given Much” – symbolizes her motivation to share the gospel to those in search of the same answers she was seeking in Warsaw over two decades ago.

“I’m just so grateful for the gospel in my life,” she said. “Music is one way I can share my testimony.”

Want to find out more?

To order a copy of Kasia Haroldsen’s first album or to inquire about a fireside event, visit www.kasiamusic.com or e-mail Kasia at kasia.haroldsen7@gmail.com