

Konsertin ohjelma - Programme

Campfire Songs

My guitar piece *Campfire Songs* explores the theme of nostalgia, describing how experiences become memories. A nostalgic opening melody evokes the past moments spent and stories told around a campfire. As the piece unfolds, it evokes a sense of longing and reflects on the bittersweet fleeting nature of those precious moments.

Composer: Nuutti Huhtilainen

Performer: Sebastian Ampuja

Puppet Dance

My composition Puppet Dance combines traditional melodies with modern harmonies and twelve-tone elements, employing unconventional guitar techniques to create unique sonic effects. The result is a peculiar blend of humor and eeriness, evoking imagery reminiscent of horror films. The melodies strive for simplicity and beauty, while the harmonies utilize twelve-tone structures and modern dissonance to generate tension and conflict.

Composer: Xie Yuchi (谢予迟)

Performer: Linda Svačinová

Yuto Obata "Blue Toe for Two Guitarists with a Prepared Guitar"

The piece focuses on the faint resonances within the guitar. The two guitarists play a single guitar from both sides of the instrument with some "tools." The title "Blue Toe" comes from an incident before the early session with the collaborators Mark and Henri. Mark dropped his guitar on his toe, leaving it bruised blue. "Blue" as loneliness, "Toe" as physicality, these words inspired me during the composition process. I invite you to carefully listen to the delicate soundscape created by the two guitarists' musical and physical close interaction.

Composer: Yuto Obata

Performers: Mark Bulatovic, Henri Hytti

Hypnagogia

Hypnagogia is a term that refers to a transitional state between wakefulness and sleep, and the hallucinatory sensory experiences during that state. The piece wanders through something familiar, that is based on reality but isn't fully rooted in it.

Composer: Arttu Ahovaara

Performer: Temmuz Tunç

Conflux

The work draws elements from both flamenco and Eastern plucked string instruments, translating their character and idioms to the guitar duo. With passages ranging from suspenseful and free-flowing to lively and elegant, the music gradually transitions between and combines the two styles through a stream of consciousness, uncovering a unified expression - a conflux - with striking gestures and evocative moods.

Composer: Shenran Wang

Performers: Madalena Porto, Xie Yuchi (谢予迟)

VÄLIAIKA

No Name

Kommentoidakseen nykytaidemusiikin trendiä esitellä sävelmateriaali hitaassa temmossa ja usein matalalla dynamiikalla *No Name* alkaa esittelemällä kahden vierekkäisen sävelluokan luoman häkin ja hitaasti kasvattaa jännitettä lopulta johdattaen sävelmateriaaliin, joka myöhäisen postmodernismin hengessä pyrkii oikeuttamaan tulevaisuuden katsomalla lähes nostalgisesti vuosikymmeniä ja vuosisatoja taaksepäin. Teoksen minimalistisista piirteistä huolimatta säveltäjä näkee teoksen teksturaalisena tunneilmaisuna, joka peilaa 2000-luvun ensimmäisen kvartaalin päättymistä.

Säveltäjä: Mathias Waenerberg

Esittäjä: Kukka Lukkarinen

Commenting on the contemporary music trend of introducing the musical material in a slow tempo and often in a low dynamic as well, *No Name* begins by introducing the minimalist cage of two neighboring tone classes, slowly building tension that results in tonal material that, in the spirit of the late postmodernist era, tries to justify the future by looking almost nostalgically back to the past decades and centuries. Despite having minimalist tendencies, the composer sees the work as a textural expression of emotions reflecting on the end of the first quarter of the 2000s.

Composer: Mathias Waenerberg

Performer: Kukka Lukkarinen

Immortal

The inspiration for the piece *Immortal* stems from the Chinese classic novel *Journey to the West*. The aesthetic style is thoroughly "Eastern," technically incorporating distinct elements of the guzheng and pipa while retaining the guitar's inherent character. Melodically, it features prominent "Silk Road" influences, and its overall structure pays homage to the novel's satirical critique of power hierarchies. The greatest technical challenge— or defining feature —of the performance lies in its "de-instrumentalization," requiring a temporary departure from traditional guitar idioms by adopting Eastern musical and aesthetic sensibilities.

Composer: Xie Yuchi (谢予迟)

Performer: Eetu Yrjänä

Interstice

Exploring the space that intervenes between things - the unseen, the almost-heard, the fragile, something that lingers in the cracks of resonance. Each guitar's lowest string is detuned just enough to create subtle vibrations, where harmonics emerge, interact, and dissolve. These sounds never fully settle, always shifting, inviting us to listen closely to what lies in between.

Composer: Domantas Balsas

Performers: Linda Svačinová, Sampo Harju, Mark Reid Bulatović, Xie Yuchi

Hypered!

The guitar is a traditional instrument. Assumptions are part of the normality of guitar music. From this, the idea of a 3 x 6-string synthesis emerged: hyperguitar.

Säveltäjä: Lauri Marjakangas

Esittäjät: Aapeli Ikäheimo, Matias Kari, Veeti Forström

Säveltäjät - Composers

Arttu Ahovaaran musiikki on usein modernistista mikrotonaalisuudessaan sekä tekstuuripainottuneisuudessaan, mutta ilmaisee myös folkkimaisten melodioiden ja tanssirytmien kautta eri tunnelmia laajalla skaalalla. Muusikon uran hän on aloittanut jazzpianistina, ja myöhemmin opiskellut sävellystä Tukholmassa Per Mårtenssonin johdolla. Vastikään opinnot ovat jatkuneet Sibelius-Akatemiassa, opettajana Lauri Kilpiö.

Arttu Ahovaara's music is often modernistic in its microtonality and texture based moments, but expresses a wide variety of ambiances through folky melodies and rhythms. The groundwork for his musical career was built as a jazz pianist, which later on evolved with composition studies in Stockholm under the guidance of Per Mårtensson, and recently continued in Sibelius Academy with Lauri Kilpiö.

Domantas Balsas is a Lithuanian composer and performer actively engaged in the contemporary academic music scene. His compositions combine a subtle sonic architecture, microtonal elements, and an experimental approach to timbre and instrumentation. Currently, Domantas is studying composition at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre and furthering his studies at the Sibelius Academy.

Nuutti Huhtilainen is a 2nd year undergraduate composition student in Sibelius Academy. His composition teachers include Riikka Talvitie, Timo Andres and Leevi Räsänen. He has a master's degree in musicology from the University of Helsinki, and alongside composition he studies orchestral conducting under Jorma Panula. He also works regularly as an arranger and producer.

Lauri Marjakangas began his music career with the electric guitar, later developing an interest in jazz and folk music, and eventually found himself on a collision course with art music. The clash with contemporary music shook Marjakangas' approach to making music so profoundly that he ultimately embarked on an exploratory journey into a world where, the deeper one goes, the more one believes one will eventually reach the bottom. Over time, Marjakangas has begun to understand that, in reality, this well of art music may be a bottomless source of inspiration from which one can freely search for their own voice.

Yuto Obata is a Japanese composer based in Helsinki. Obata's music features delicate acoustics, aiming to expand the sonic possibilities of acoustic instruments and create a unique sonority. International ensembles such as the Norrbotten NEO and the Avanti! Chamber Orchestra have performed his works.

Mathias Waenerberg on opintojaan Sibelius-Akatemiassa Riikka Talvitien johdolla viimeistelevä säveltäjä, joka suhtautuu taiteeseen kokonaisvaltaisesti ja keskittyy musiikissaan perustelemaan tekniset valintansa ilmaisun kautta. Kandidaattiopintonsa hän suoritti Tapio Nevanlinnan opetuksessa. Waenerberg työskentelee myös muusikkona, näyttelijänä ja toisinaan myös musiikin johtajana.

Mathias Waenerberg is a composer finishing his studies at the Sibelius Academy under the guidance of Riikka Talvitie. He approaches art holistically and focuses in his music on justifying his technical choices through expression. He completed his bachelor's studies under the instruction of Tapio Nevanlinna. Waenerberg also works as a musician, actor, and occasionally as a conductor.

Shenran Wang is a Finnish-Chinese composer and pianist, currently in his 3rd year of composition studies under Matthew Whittall at Sibelius Academy. His music is melodically driven and eclectic in style, often exploring musical ideas from diverse perspectives. Much of his recent output is for chamber ensembles, with his art song receiving one of the 1st prizes at the L.I.E.D. Composition Competition. Wang also has an engineering background, which has the occasional tendency to sneak its way into his works.

Xie Yuchi(谢予迟) is a Chinese guitarist and composer now at the 1st year of his master degree in Sibelius Academy, majoring in classical guitar and composition. He focuses on guitar composition for many years and now studying composition with Lyytikäinen Pasi and Haapanen Perttu. **His compositions are rich in Eastern influences,** combining traditional, simple melodies with elements of atonality, twelve-tone techniques, and modern harmonies.

Kitaristit - Guitarists

Sebastian Ampuja is a guitarist originally from Jokioinen began studying classical guitar at the Sibelius Academy in 2022 in Petri Kumela's class. In addition to his major, he is also interested in early music, which he studies under the guidance of Eero Palviainen. Sebastian enjoys making music together, chamber music, and working with composers. Outside of music, he is also interested in chess, among other things.

Jokioslähtöinen kitaristi **Sebastian Ampuja** aloitti klassisen kitaran opiskelun Sibelius-Akatemiassa 2022 Petri Kumelan luokalla. Pääaineen lisäksi häntä kiinnostaa myös vanha musiikki, jota hän opiskelee Eero Palviaisen johdolla. Sebastian nauttii yhdessä tekemisestä, kamarimusiikista, sekä säveltäjien kanssa työskentelystä. Musiikin ulkopuolella häntä kiinnostaa muun muassa shakki.

Mark Reid Bulatović is a guitarist and composer whose artistic interests are placed at the intersection of ecology, intimacy and ritual.

A recent graduate of the Sibelius Academy, he has participated in international festivals in Shanghai, Edinburgh and Helsinki with a variety of groups.

Mark Reid Bulatović on kitaristi ja säveltäjä, jonka taiteelliset kiinnostuksen kohteet sijoittuvat ekologian, intimiteetin ja rituaalin risteyskohtaan.

Sibelius-Akatemiasta hiljattain valmistunut muusikko on osallistunut kansainvälisille festivaaleille Shanghaissa, Edinburghissa ja Helsingissä erilaisten ryhmien kanssa.

Henri Hytti is a classical guitarist pursuing a Bachelor's degree at the Sibelius Academy under Petri Kumela. Experienced in chamber music, he performs with the KitaraOrke ensemble, which specializes in contemporary music for guitars, kanteles, and other plucked instruments. Henri also has a deep interest in early music and recently began studying the theorbo as a secondary instrument with Eero Palviainen.

Henri Hytti on klassinen kitaristi, joka opiskelee Sibelius-Akatemiassa Petri Kumelan johdolla. Henri on kerryttänyt merkittävästi kokemusta kamarimusiikista, ja soittaa parhaillaan KitaraOrke-yhtyeessä, joka koostuu kitaroista, kanteleista ja muista näppäilysoittimista erikoistuen nykymusiikkiin. Henri on myös hyvin kiinnostunut vanhasta musiikista ja on hiljattain valinnut sivuinstrumentikseen teorbin, jota hän opiskelee Eero Palviaisen kanssa.

Aapeli Ikäheimo on 18-vuotias klassista kitaraa opiskeleva nuori, jolla on paljon monipuolista esiintymiskokemusta klassisen musiikin konserteissa ja myös pop/jazz musiikin parissa. Hän aloitti kitaransoiton opintonsa Itä-Helsingin musiikkiopistossa 2013 isänsä Mikko Ikäheimon ja Miika Snåren johdolla. Nykyään Ikäheimo opiskelee Sibelius-Akatemian nuorisokoulutuksessa Janne Malisen johdolla. Ikäheimo on esiintynyt paljon soolona ja kamarimusiikkiyhtyeissä, mutta myös orkesterin jäsenenä ja Sibelius-lukion sinfoniaorkesterin solistina..

Aapeli Ikäheimo is an 18-year-old classical guitarist with diverse performance experience in classical music concerts, as well as in pop/jazz music. He began his guitar studies at Itä-Helsingin musiikkiopisto in 2013, under the guidance of his father Mikko Ikäheimo and Miika Snåre. Currently, Ikäheimo is studying at the Sibelius Academy's youth program under Janne Malinen. He has performed extensively both as a soloist and in chamber music ensembles, as well as a soloist with the Sibelius-lukion sinfoniaorkesteri.

Medini Arul Jothi is an Indian classical guitarist studying a Bachelor's degree at the Sibelius Academy under Andrzej Wilkus. She has participated in the Tampere Guitar Festival in 2019, 2021, and 2024, as well as appearing as a youth artist in the Riihimäki Summer Festival in 2022.

She previously studied with Patrick Vena in the Helsinki Conservatory and with Andrzej Wilkus in the Sibelius Junior Academy. She also studies violin concurrently, studying with Petri Aarnio.

Kukka Lukkarisen (s. 1999) matka instrumenttinsa parissa alkoi Vantaan musiikkiopistosta Klaus Helmisen opissa vuonna 2008. Tällä hetkellä hän viimeistelee maisterintutkintoaan Sibelius-Akatemiassa Petri Kumelan johdolla. Lisävahvistusta opinnoilleen Kukka on saanut lukuisilta mestarikursseilta sekä vaihto-opinnoistaan Baselin Musiikkiakatemiasta Pablo Márquezin luokalta.

Kukka on esiintynyt aktiivisesti niin soolokitaristina ja kamarimuusikkona kuin nykymusiikin, vanhan ja kevyen musiikin yhtyeissäkin. Hän työskentelee myös aktiivisesti säveltäjien kanssa, ja on kantaesittänyt lukuisia soolokitara- ja ensembleteoksia.

Madalena Porto is a British-Portuguese classical guitarist. In 2021 she enrolled in her undergraduate studies at Escola Superior de Música e Artes do Espetáculo in Porto, studying under Artur Caldeira. During her studies she has participated in projects such as contemporary music ensemble and chamber music groups; she has also participated in festivals such as the IGF Festival in Bath and the Big Guitar Weekend in Glasgow. Currently she is studying at the Sibelius Academy, under Ismo Eskelinen as an ERASMUS student.

Eetu Yrjänä (s.2001) opiskelee maisteriopinnoissa klassista kitaraa Sibelius-Akatemian solistisella linjalla Andrzej Wilkuksen johdolla. Opintonsa hän on aloittanut Janne Malisen opilla Pakilan musiikkiopistossa, sekä jatkanut Malisella päästyään Sibelius-Akatemian nuorisokoulutukseen.

Lukuisten ulkomaisten maestrojen, kuten Marcin Dyllan, Lorenzo Michelin ja Lukasz Kuropaczewskin mestarikursseilla ja työpajoilla ympäri Eurooppaa antamat tiedonjyvät ovat vahvistaneet Yrjänän taiteellista kyvykkyyttä. Hän on myös aktiivinen useissa eri kamarimusiikkikokoonpanoissa ja opiskellutkamarimusiikkia opettajinaan mm. Marko Ylönen, Teppo Koivisto, Antti Tikkanen ja Petri Aarnio.

Viime vuosina Yrjänä on konsertoinut ahkerasti ja esiintynyt Sibelius-Akatemian konserttien lisäksi mm. Riihimäen kesäkonsertit -festivaalin ja Kantakaupungin kitarakonsertit -yhdistyksen konserteissa. Kandikonsertistaan hän saierinomaisen arvosanan.

Yrjänä eteni finaaliin ainoana suomalaisena ja palkittiin kolmannen sijan palkinnolla Tampereen kansainvälisessä kitarakilpailussa kesällä 2024. Hänen taiteellista työskentelyään on tukenut mm. Suomen kulttuurirahasto.