

EMIK

EESTI MUUSIKA INFOKESKUS ESTONIAN MUSIC INFORMATION CENTRE

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The [Estonian Music Information Centre](#) is committed to the representation, advocacy, promotion and support of Estonian classical and contemporary music and musicians both in Estonia and abroad. The EMIC newsletter aims to present an overview of new Estonian compositions, undertakings of Estonian musicians and music organisations and musical life in Estonia in general.

HAPPY 2020!

December was once again a month full of wonderful music. Alongside the beloved holiday season must-haves, a lot of splendid orchestral and ensemble works were presented by Estonian musicians both at home and abroad.

The month of Christmas also marked the 100th anniversary of the **Heino Eller Tartu Music College**, which was celebrated at the gala concert together with the Eller Sinfonietta and soloists. The **Tallinn String Quartet** was also in a festive mood, impressively celebrating its 35th anniversary, as was the saxophone quartet **SaxEst**, which marked 20 years since the ensemble's founding.

One of the big news headlines was made by the **Estonian National Symphony Orchestra**, which announced **Olari Elts** as Music Director and Chief Conductor from the season 2020/2021. The current Chief Conductor **Neeme Järvi** will continue to work with ENSO as the Honorary Conductor for Life.

Read more: [Estonian National Symphony Orchestra](#)



Olari Elts. Photo by Jaanus Lensment

The new year, and January in particular, also seems to be getting a very promising start. The traditional New Year's Concert at the Estonia Concert Hall, with the **Estonian National Symphony Orchestra** under **Mihhail Gerts** presenting Estonian bandoneon player **Kaspar Uljas** and Spanish violinist **María Dueñas**, offered a dazzling programme of Latin American music for a spectacular beginning to the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN JANUARY

On January 5 and 14, **Pärt Uusberg's** choral works will be presented in Canada. „**Kõik muutub lauluks**“ will be performed by Ensemble Laude with Elizabeth MacIsaac conducting at the St Mary's Anglican Church in Saanichton. The Vancouver Youth Choir under Carrie Tennant will perform Uusberg's „**Sicut cervus**“ at the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra's New Music Festival in Vancouver.

See also: [Ensemble Laude](#), [Vancouver Symphony](#)



Pärt Uusberg. Photo by Kairit Leibold

On January 9, the **Estonian National Symphony Orchestra** with conductor **Jun Märkl** will perform the Piano Concerto No. 1 and Symphonic Poem „The Preludes“ by Ferenc Liszt and Hector Berlioz's Symphonie Fantastique at the Estonia Concert Hall. **Kristi Kapten**, the winner of the 2011 International Piano Competition in Tallinn and a frequent performer on stages all over the world, will be the soloist in the heroic and brilliant Piano Concerto.

See also: [Estonian National Symphony Orchestra](#)



Kristi Kapten. Photo by Mait Jüriado

From January 10 to 12, various concerts at the **Radio France** in Paris will focus on the music of **Arvo Pärt**. The orchestra, choir and choir school of the Radio France together with cellists Jean-Claude Auclin, Marion Gailland, Renaud Guieu, violinists Sarah Nemtanu and Arabella Steinbacher, pianists Vanessa Wagner and Karol Mossakowski among other musicians will perform Pärt's music, including „L'Abbé Agathon“, „Fratres“, „Missa brevis“, „Magnificat“, „The Deer's Cry“, „The Beatitudes“ and works by John Cage, Johann Sebastian Bach, Jean Sibelius, and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

See also: [Radio France](#)



Arvo Pärt. Photo by Kaupo Kikkas

From January 24 to 31 Finland-based bass **Koit Soasepp** will appear as a lackey in Richard Strauss's „Ariadne on Naxos“ by Katie Mitchell at the **Finnish National Opera**. Opera conducted by Hannu Lintu also features Mika Pohjonen as the tenor (Bacchus) and Miina-Liisa Väreälä as the prima donna (Ariadne) among others.

See also: [Finnish National Opera](#)



Koit Soasepp

On January 26, the Palace Music concert series at the Kadriorg Palace in Tallinn features the **Prezioso** string quartet. The programme consists of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's String Quartet in G Major KV387 and Ludwig van Beethoven's String Quartet in C minor, Op. 18.

See also: [Palace Music](#), [Prezioso](#)



Prezioso Quartet. Photo by Mait Jüriado

On January 30, the **Tallinn Chamber Orchestra** will perform at the Ragenhaus in Bruneck, South Tyrol. **Risto Joost** leads the orchestra in Arvo Pärt's „Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten“, „Fratres“, Felix Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in D minor with Carolin Widmann as soloist, and Erich Wolfgang Korngold's Symphonic Serenade in B-flat major, Op. 39.

See also: [**Südtiroler Kulturinstiut**](#)



Tallinn Chamber Orchestra. Photo by Kaupo Kikkas

Please check the [**CALENDAR**](#) on the EMIC website for more events.