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EESTI MUUSIKA INFOKESKUS ESTONIAN MUSIC INFORMATION CENTRE

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2019

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.

RECENT EVENTS

The Music Endowment of Cultural Endowment of Estonia and the **Estonian Music Council** marked the **International Music Day** on October 1 with the Music Awards Gala Ceremony, held at the newly opened Concert Hall of the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Musicians and ensembles, chosen from publicly nominated candidates, received recognition for outstanding achievements during the last season. Award winners in various categories included early music performer **Reinut Tepp**, clarinettist **Toomas Vavilov**, conductor **Kaspars Putniņš**, the contemporary music ensemble **Una Corda**, composer **Timo Steiner**, and many others.

The **7th Estonian National Competition of Young Choral Conductors** was held in Tallinn in October, with 22 conductors participating. After working with high-level Estonian choirs in three rounds, **Pärt Uusberg**, who is also acknowledged as one of the most remarkable Estonian composers of the younger generation, was awarded the 1st Prize.



Pärt Uusberg. Photo by Vahur Lõhmus

Another conductor to achieve competition success in October was **Ingrid Roose**, who was awarded 1st Prize and the special Prize of the Choir of the Paris Orchestra at the **9th International Competition for Young Conductors** held in Versailles and Paris. Shortly after returning from France, Roose conducted a remarkable gala evening of Estonian opera music. Popular arias, as well as forgotten masterpieces, were performed by Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, choirs and various soloists.



Ingrid Roose. Photo by Kaspars Teilāns

October also saw the beginning of the Jubilee celebrations for composer **Erkki-Sven Tüür**. The Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, and chamber choir Collegium Musicale gave several portrait concerts to mark this anniversary. The concerts included performances of Tüür's Symphony No. 9, „Lighthouse“, Violin Concerto No. 2, „The Path and the Traces“, „Flamma“, Estonian premieres of „Phantasma“ and „Solastalgia“ as well as a programme of a cappella choral music.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

From November 11 to 14, the contemporary music group **Ensemble U:** will travel to Canada to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of the composer Udo Kasemets (1919–2014) with concerts and workshops. A concert at the University of Toronto will feature Kasemets's „Trigon“, „3/7 D'un Morceau en Forme de Poire“, „4'33 Fractals“, „Future is past... is now“ as well as works by Märt-Matis Lill, Tatjana Kozlova-Johannes, and Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina.

See also: [**Ensemble U:**](#)



Ensemble U:

On November 14 and 16, Arvo Volmer will conduct the **Naples Philharmonic** in Naples Hayes Hall in Florida, USA. The programme features the world premiere of Hannah Lash's Piano and Harp Concerto with Lash herself as a harp soloist, as well as Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor with Jeremy Denk on the piano and Sergei Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances, Op. 45.

Read more: [Naples Philharmonic](#)



Arvo Volmer. Photo by Kaupo Kikkas

On November 16, the contemporary music ensemble **Una Corda** will give a concert titled „The Portrait of an Unknown Musician“ together with tenor Valter Soosalu at the St. Nicholas' Church in Tallinn. Premieres by Ülo Krigul and Galina Grigorjeva, alongside the works by Raimo Kangro, Johann Sebastian Bach, Pekka Jalkanen, and live-compositions by Una Corda will be presented.

See also: [Una Corda](#)



Una Corda. Photo by Mait Jürjato

From November 16 to 31, the **Estonian National Male Choir**, which was founded in 1944 by the composer and leader of the Estonian choral movement Gustav Ernesaks, will celebrate its 75th anniversary. Concerts in Tallinn, Tartu, and Pärnu under the present chief conductor **Mikk Üleoja** will include music by Felix Mendelssohn, Ko Matsushita, Riho-Esko Maimets, Max Reger, Justė Janulytė, and Giovanni Bonato.

Read more: [state concert institution Eesti Kontsert](#)



From November 21 to 29, the Concert Hall of the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre will host the **9th Estonian Piano Competition**. The competition will consist of three rounds, all of them open to the public, with the final round allowing the best competitors to perform with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra. The chairman of the five-member jury of the 9th Estonian Piano Competition will be Professor Graham Scott from the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.

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



From November 21 to 30, Berlin-based Estonian baritone **Lauri Vasar** will appear as the Earl of Gloucester in Aribert Reimann's opera „Lear“ by Calixto Bieito at the **Paris Opera**. The opera based on William Shakespear's play features Bo Skovhus as King Lear, Gidon Saks as King of France, and Derek Welton as Duke of Albany among others.



Lauri Vasar

On November 22, the portrait concert of **Tõnu Kõrvits** at the Estonia Concert Hall presents the premiere of his „Nocturanus“ written for gongs and string orchestra. The composer plans to place the gongs in the form of a solar system in the center of the concert hall, and the audience will have the opportunity to sit in the „open space“ and focus on its sounds. The new work will be performed by Tallinn Chamber Orchestra under Risto Joost with Madis Metsamart and Vambola Krigul as the percussionists.

See also: [state concert institution Eesti Kontsert](#)



Tõnu Kõrvits. Photo by Kaupo Kikkas

From November 23 to December 1, the second edition of the early music festival **Tallinn feat. Reval** will feature musicians both from Estonia and abroad. The festival opens with cantatas by Johann Sebastian Bach and Georg Philipp Telemann performed by the joint baroque orchestra and soloists under Heiko ter Schegget (Netherlands). Various programmes will be presented by international guests, including ensemble Zefiro (Italy), ensemble Aventure (Netherlands), lute players Anna Kowalska and Anton Birula (Poland) alongside leading Estonian early music performers.

Read more: [Tallinn feat. Reval](#)



On November 30, the **Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir** together with the **Hong Kong Sinfonietta** under **Kaspars Putniņš** will perform at the Hong Kong City Hall in Hong Kong, China. The programme consists of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Requiem, Veljo Tormis's „Curse Upon Iron“, Arvo Pärt's „Fratres“ and Hong Kongese premiere of „Adam's Lament“. The vocal soloists are Maria Valdmaa (soprano), Marianne Pärna (alto), Raul Mikson (tenor), Olari Viikholm (bass), and Uku Joller (bass).

Read more: [Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, Hong Kong Sinfonietta](#)



Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir. Photo by Kaupo Kikkas

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