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EESTI MUUSIKA INFOKESKUS ESTONIAN MUSIC INFORMATION CENTRE

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 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. Every newsletter contains a summary of recent events and offers a preview of upcoming activities.

RECENT EVENTS

The summer season is ending in a flurry of activity for Estonian musicians, who have been involved in numerous musical events both at home and abroad. At the end of August, the **Tallinn Chamber Orchestra** under the baton of **Juha Kangas** performed at the XIV International Mozartiana Festival in Gdansk, Poland, together with the violin soloist **Robert Traksmann**. **Tõnu Kaljuste** conducted two concerts at the Baltic Sea Festival at the Berwaldhallen in Stockholm. A concert together with the Swedish Radio Choir commemorated the victims of the tragic M/S Estonia ferry disaster of 1994, whereas „Music of All Colours“ presented music by **Arvo Pärt**, performed by various Estonian soloists and the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra. Cellist **Aare Tammesalu** participated in the International Classical Music Festival of Cyclades in Greece as well as in the Barbados Classical Music Festival, where he performed chamber music and gave masterclasses.



Tallinn Chamber Orchestra. Photo by Kaupo Kikkas

A large number of annual summer festivals have again taken place, with two traditionally popular festivals drawing especially large audiences – the **Leigo Lake Music Festival**, which takes place in a picturesque landscape with lakes in Southern Estonian, and the **Birgitta musical theatre festival** in the historical ruins of Pirita Convent, which this year commemorated the 80th anniversary of the birth of the founder of the festival, Maestro Eri Klas. The **15th Tallinn Chamber Music Festival**, directed by Pille Lill, featured top Estonian musicians as well as guests from Denmark and Russia. The festival programme included the world premiere of „**Siuru laulud**“ („Songs of Siuru“) for soprano, saxophone, cello, and accordion by **Aaro Pertmann**, performed by Pille Lill, Eve Neumann, Jaak Lutsoja, and Andreas Lend.

The end of August also marks the beginning of a new and enthralling concert season. The season's opening concert of the **Association of Estonian Professional Musicians** took place at the end of August and featured outstanding young cellist **Valle-Rasmus Roots** and highly acclaimed pianist **Sten Lassmann**, who performed the Sonatas for Cello and Piano by Johannes Brahms.



Valle-Rasmus Roots and Sten Lassmann

UPCOMING EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

On September 1, the world premiere of **Marianna Liik's** „**Kurzschluss**“ for orchestra will take place at the Lucerne Festival at the KKL Luzern Concert Hall. The new work was commissioned by Roche Young Commissions in 2017 and will be performed by the Lucerne Festival Academy Orchestra under the baton of Ruth Reinhardt.

See also: [**Lucerne Festival**](#)



Marianna Liik

On September 1, Raimo Kangro's (1949–2001) musical „**Juku**“, written in 1998, will be premiered in the city of Narva as a part of the 2019 **Narva Opera Festival**. The family musical, with a libretto by Leelo Tungal, is based on the popular Estonian joke character Juku. The stage director is Andrus Vaarik, the conductor Jüri-Ruut Kangur and mezzo-soprano Juuli Lill sings the title role. The world premiere of „Juku“ marks the 70th anniversary of the birth of Raimo Kangro. The **Narva Opera Festival** taking place **from August 28 to September 12**, will also present Peter Kohlmetz Møller's opera „Dust“, featuring human-sized puppets. Georg Friedrich Händel's „Orlando“ and Vincenzo Bellini's „Norma“ are to be staged in contemporary settings, the latter featuring soprano Katrin Targo in the title role and bass Kristjan Mõisnik as Oroveso.

See also: [Narva Opera Festival](#)



On September 3, the opening concert of 11th Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition will feature two pieces written by **Lauri** – „**Toccata (In Memoriam Notre Dame de Paris)**“ for organ and „**Minuet in Twilight**“ for violin, oboe, cello and organ, which also will receive its world premiere.

See also: [Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition](#)



Lauri Jõelet. Photo by Mari Arover

On September 4 and 11, the young Estonian composer and conductor, **Pärt Uusberg**, leads two concerts in Rapla and Tallinn as a part of the **Arvo Pärt Days**. Uusberg conducts his new piece „**Keldi palve**“ as well as works by Arvo Pärt that have inspired him most. The performers are the **Tallinn Chamber Orchestra** and chamber choir **Head Ööd, Vend**. The Arvo Pärt Days, dedicated to the music of Arvo Pärt, is taking place **from August 31 to September 11** as a part of the Nargenfestival, directed by Tõnu Kaljuste.

See also: [Nargenfestival](#)



From September 18 to 27, the **Estonian National Symphony Orchestra** will be touring Austria, the Czech Republic and Germany. The orchestra will play at prestigious concert halls including the Golden Hall of the Musikverein in Vienna, the Brucknerhaus in Linz, Rudolfinum's Dvořák Hall in Prague, and the Festhalle Viersen among others. The programmes conducted by **Neeme Järvi** and **Mihhail Gerts** will feature the symphonic poem „Dawn“ by Heino Eller, Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47 by Jean Sibelius with Nicola Benedetti and Ye-Eun Choi as soloists, and Anton Bruckner's Symphony No. 4 in E-flat Major and the patriotic cantata „Helgoland“ together with the **Estonian National Male Choir**. The tour is organised by leading artist management agency IMG Artists.

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



Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and Neeme Järvi. Photo by Mait Jüriado

On September 22, **Jüri Reinvere's Sonata for Cello and Piano** will receive its world premiere at the Usedom Music Festival. The concert at the Stolpe Castle in Germany features Erika Geldsetzer (violin), David Geringas (cello) and Ian Fountain (piano) and will also include music by Peter Tchaikovsky and Clara Schumann.

See also: [Usedom Music Festival](#)



Jüri Reinvere

On September 24, the season-opening concert of the **Pärnu City Orchestra** under **Kaspar Mänd** will present the world premiere of **Rein Rannap's Oboe Concerto** – the first in Estonian music – with charismatic soloist **Riivo Kallasmaa**. The programme also includes „Hymns to the Nordic Lights“ by Tõnu Kõrvits and Symphony No. 41 in C Major („Jupiter“) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

See also: [Pärnu City Orchestra](#)



Riivo Kallasmaa

From September 27 to 29, bass **Ain Anger**, a prominent Wagnerian who is in international demand for the principal roles of the German, Italian and Russian opera repertoire, will give song recitals in Tartu, Tallinn and Kuressaare. The programme will include music by Richard Strauss, Franz Schubert, Carl Loewe, and Modest Mussorgski. **Kristin Okerlund** will be the piano accompanist.

See also: [Eesti Kontsert](#)



Ain Anger

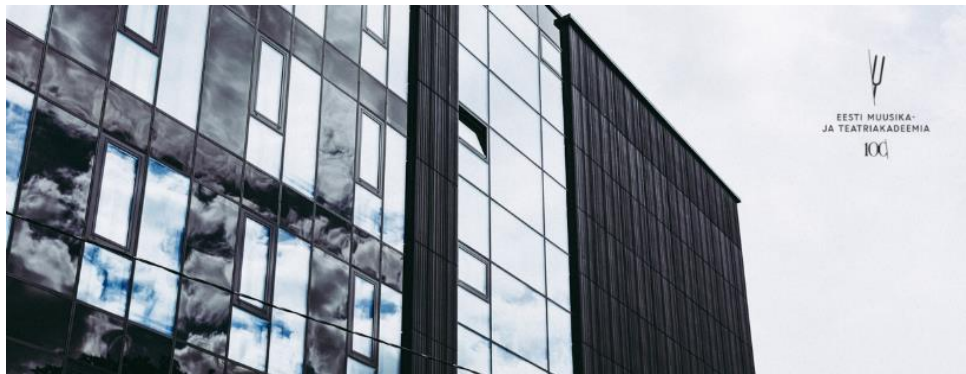
On September 28, the ballet „**Moorland Elegies**“ with music by **Tõnu Kõrvits** will premiere at the Vanemuine Theatre in Tartu. The director-choreographer is Wang Yuanyuan (Beijing Dance Theatre, China), the musical director and conductor is Martin Sildos. The cast includes soprano Karmen Puis, together with the Vanemuine ballet troupe, orchestra and choir.

See also: [Vanemuine Theatre](#)



From **September 28 to October 2**, the **Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre** will start its centennial celebrations, which coincides with the opening of the long-awaited new concert hall of the Academy. The **festive ceremony on September 28** will feature the **EAMT symphony orchestra** and **choir** with **Arvo Volmer** conducting, in a programme including music by Arvo Pärt, Heino Eller, Eino Tamberg and the world premiere of „**Ta kõneleb vaiksel**“ for choir and symphony orchestra by **Tõnu Kõrvits**. Many concerts and performances will follow over the next four days, presenting classical, jazz and folk music, chamber music concerts, opera, and drama performances, which will highlight the wide range of musical and theatrical activities of the Academy.

See also: [Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre](#)



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