



Eesti Muusika Infokeskus
Estonian Music Information Centre

Estonian Music & Musicians • October 2025

NEWSLETTER

Partnership with Zinfonia Expands Access to Estonian Music

This autumn, the Estonian Music Information Centre launched a partnership with Zinfonia, a widely used international online platform for music professionals. Becoming part of this global portal – a key resource for orchestras, choirs, and ensembles seeking and ordering repertoire – represents an important step forward in bringing the music of Estonian composers to a broader audience.



In collaboration with the platform, EMIC will go forward to make available orchestral works and large-scale vocal-symphonic pieces by some of Estonia's most highly regarded composers, including [Helena Tulve](#), [Tõnu Kõrvits](#), [Madli Marje Gildemann](#), [René Eespere](#), [Galina Grigorjeva](#), [Lauri Jõelet](#), [Ülo Krigul](#), [Märt-Matis Lill](#), [Ester Mägi](#), [Kristjan Randalu](#), and [Tatjana Kozlova-Johannes](#), among others. Over 20 works are already accessible, more great works will be added in the coming months.

Zinfonia is a widely used online platform serving the orchestral, operatic, and chamber-music world by facilitating music rental and licensing. It allows users to search for works by composer, title, instrumentation, and duration, view catalogues from many international publishers, and place rental requests through a unified order workflow.

Artur Lemba's Anniversary Celebrated with a Concert and New Publications

The 140th anniversary of composer, pianist, and educator **Artur Lemba** was celebrated with a memorable concert and the launch of three newly published scores. The concert, held on 11 October in the enchanting hall of the Arvo Pärt Centre, featured three of Lemba's exquisite chamber works — the String Quartet (1934), Piano Quartet (1938), and Piano Quintet (1946) — performed by the string quartet **M4GNET** and pianist **Sten Lassmann**. The evening offered listeners a rare opportunity to experience the breadth and emotional richness of Lemba's chamber music and discover the ideas surrounding his works.



During the event, the Estonian Music Information Centre (EMIC) presented three freshly printed editions of Artur Lemba's works. The publication project was supported by the Estonian Ministry of Culture, with music engraving by **Mari Amor** and **Taavi Hark**, and careful editing by **Sten Lassmann**. The newly engraved and edited scores are now available in EMIC's **Music Store**:

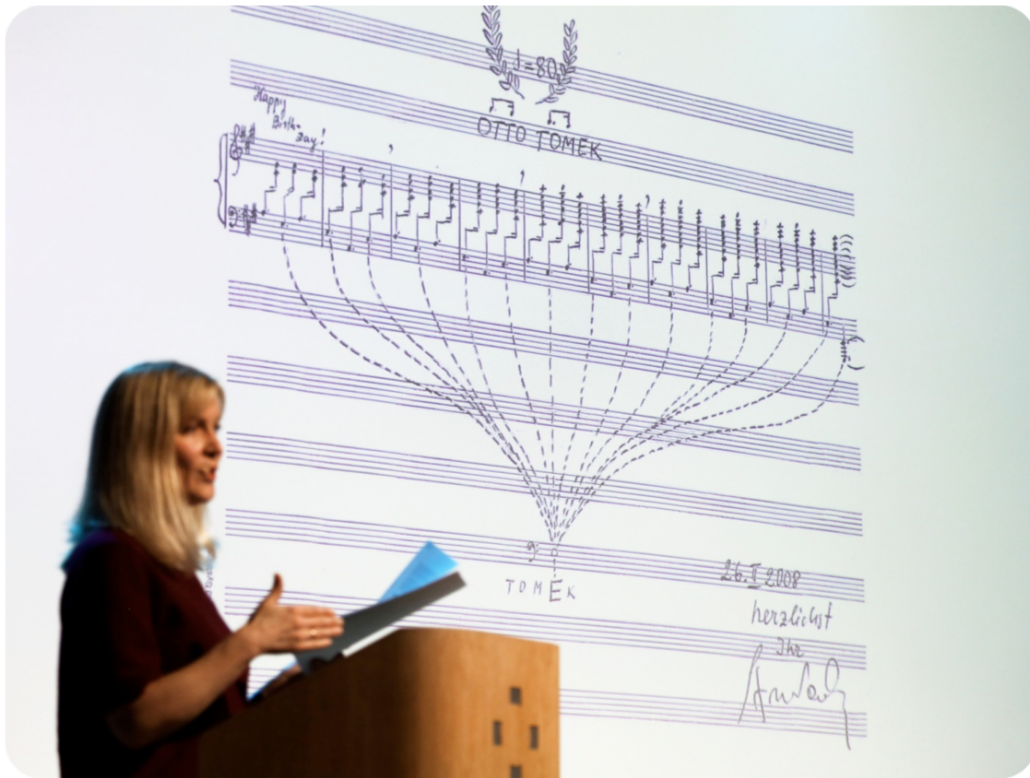
- **String Quartet** (1934)
- **Symphonic Suite for Two Pianos** (1946)
- **Piano Sonata No. 1** (1950)



Artur Lemba's extensive body of work is distinguished by its lush Romantic style and lyrical, melody-rich expression. Although he composed in a wide range of genres — including two symphonies, three overtures, four operas, chamber music for various ensembles — as a distinguished pianist he was most devoted to the piano. His piano repertoire includes five concertos, two sonatas, two sonatinas, more than twenty études, preludes, and other miniatures. Lemba's opera *Sabina* (1905) and *Symphony No. 1* (1908) were the first works of their genre in the history of Estonian music.

The International Conference Placed Pärt's Music in the Broader Context

The international research conference "[Arvo Pärt: Ideascapes](#)", held at the Arvo Pärt Centre on 17–18 October, brought together scholars from various fields to discuss the musical and intellectual legacy of the composer, who celebrated his 90th birthday this year. During the two-day conference, scholars from Estonia, Finland, Austria, Sweden, France, and the United States presented their research. On the first day, discussions focused on Pärt's modernist and early tintinnabuli compositions, while the second day addressed the philosophical, semiotic, and theological aspects of Pärt's music, as well as the creative process more broadly.



The keynote speakers were Christoph Wolff, one of the most highly regarded scholars of Bach and Mozart and emeritus professor at Harvard University, and Eero Tarasti, professor at the University of Helsinki. The conference brought together an outstanding group of contributors, among them semiotician Peeter Torop; cultural historian Marek Tamm; musicologists Leopold Brauneiss, Kerri Kotta, Toomas Siitan, Mark Tatlow, Anu Veenre, Marie Antunes Serra, Kristina Körver, and Maarja Tyler; theologian Peter Bouteneff; and cultural journalist and essayist Joonas Hellerma.



Festival AFEKT Celebrates the 90th Anniversaries of Pärt and Lachenmann and the Centenaries of Berio and Boulez

The 24th International Contemporary Music Festival AFEKT took place from 24 to 28 October in Tallinn and Tartu, continuing on 25 November in Tapa and again on 5 December in Tallinn. AFEKT featured performances by leading names in contemporary music, including the acclaimed [Ensemble Musikfabrik](#), the [Estonian National Symphony Orchestra](#), conductor [Susanne Blumenthal](#), pianists [Michael Wendeborg](#) and [Tähe-Lee Liiv](#), mezzo-soprano [Iris Oja](#), cellist Leho Karin, clarinetists [Soo-Young Lee](#) and [Mirjam Avango](#), flautists [Leonora Palu](#) and [Monika Mattiesen](#), as well as students of composition and music technology.



The programme included world premieres of works by [Jüri Reinvere](#), [Jānis Petraškevičs](#), and [Ailís Ní Ríain](#), as well as Estonian premieres of pieces by renowned composers such as Georges Aperghis, Pierre Boulez, and Jörg Widmann. AFEKT moves in step with the major events of the global contemporary music scene, celebrating the 90th birthdays of living classics Arvo Pärt and Helmut Lachenmann, as well as the 100th anniversaries of modernist masters Luciano Berio and Pierre Boulez. The festival's theme, "Two Feelings – Zwei Gefühle," refers to Helmut Lachenmann's composition "...zwei Gefühle..."

You Can Support the Global Reach of Estonian Music!

Estonian music is so much more than just notes and sounds—it is our identity, culture, and history, carrying immense potential. To better showcase and share Estonia's musical masterpieces with audiences worldwide, EMIC needs to enhance and modernize its online platform(s).

Our goal is to create a user-friendly, interactive, and innovative environment that connects Estonia's musical heritage with the possibilities of modern technology.

To make our unique and ever-growing music collection even more dynamic and accessible, we encourage you to [support us](#). You are welcome to join us in opening the world to Estonian music!

Yes, You Can!