

PRESS RELEASE
Kotka / Kouvola August 21, 2014



**NOT LONG NOW TO THE FINALS OF THE III INTERNATIONAL UUNO KLAMI
COMPOSITION COMPETITION!**

The tantalising finals of the III International Uuno Klami Composition Competition, which attracted a vast number of entries, are almost at hand. The five works selected for the finals will be given their world premiere performances at the Kuusankoski Hall at 7 pm on Thursday November 13 and at the Kotka Concert Hall at 7 pm on Friday November 14, 2014. The Jury will decide the winner only after hearing both finals concerts and the results will be announced and the prizes awarded immediately after the concert in Kotka. Members of the audience will also have a chance to vote for their favourite.

The Competition Office received a total of **265 entries** representing **37 nationalities**. From these the Jury consisting of leading contemporary composers Kalevi Aho (Finland), Magnus Lindberg (Finland), Erkki-Sven Tüür (Estonia) and conductor Yasuo Shinozaki (Japan) selected five works for the finals. These are *Martialis Epigrammata* by **Alexander Munro**, Germany; *Mioritic Roots* by **Teodor Nicolau**, Finland/Romania; *Sinfonietta* by **Axel Ruoff**, Germany; *Suite de los espejos* by **Luca Vago**, Italy; and *Gryf* by **Sauli Zinovjev**, Finland. Like the Jury, the composers will be present in person at the finals concerts and their rehearsals.

Finals soloists from the top of the world of opera

The five chosen works will be performed at the finals by one of Finland's leading orchestras, the **Kymi Sinfonietta**. The conductor, **Yasuo Shinozaki**, who is also a member of the Jury, will be returning to conduct the Kymi Sinfonietta for the first time since his term as the orchestra's Artistic Director ended in spring this year.

The soloists in the finals concerts are singers who have made an impressive international career and collaborated with numerous top orchestras and contemporary composers: coloratura soprano **Piia Komsa** and charming baritone **Gabriel Suovanen**, a laureate of many prestigious competitions, among them the Timo Mustakallio. The announcements during the concerts will be in the expert hands of **Jussi-Pekka Rantanen**, an Yle newsreader familiar to many in Finland. The Finnish Broadcasting Company (Yle) will be broadcasting the Kotka concert live.

Other events in the finals week

There will also be a variety of other events during the finals week. At 6 pm on Wednesday November 12, Dr **Helena Tyrväinen** and Dr **Juha Torvinen** will be reporting (in Finnish) recent

research findings about Uuno Klami and being a composer, and **Joachim F.W. Schneider** will be reflecting on how winning the 2009 International Uuno Klami Composition Competition has affected his career and his life.

Jussi-Pekka Rantanen will be interviewing the finalists before the concerts in Kouvola (in the Hirvelä Room of the Kuusankoski Hall on Thursday November 13) and Kotka (in the Vausti Restaurant at the Kotka Concert Hall on Friday November 14). Various partner restaurants are also putting on a special Uuno Klami menu in Kotka and Kouvola during the autumn, there will be a Uuno Klami exhibition at the finals halls, and a Spot Uuno! campaign.

Tickets for the finals concerts selling well

The tickets for the finals concerts are selling well. They are on sale at, for example, Lippupalvelu, the Kymi Sinfonietta office (tel. +358 05 234 4891) and other Kymi Sinfonietta ticket outlets. Be sure to book in good time!

Further info:

The International Uuno Klami Composition Competition Patrons' Association

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