



NETWORK *ULYSES*
FREE MUSIC AGENCY
IN COLLABORATION WITH *IRCAM*
INVITES

6TH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG COMPOSERS MAZSALACA, 12TH- 20TH OF AUGUST, 2012 MAZSALACA – RĪGA

The international meeting of young composers is a tradition, which goes back to 2002 and was started by the composer Andris Dzenītis and his companions. For the first three times the workshop took place in the legendary Castle of Dundaga, which is connected to many legends, but now, for the third time already, it is being organized in Mazsalaca – a small town in the north of Latvia, next to the snaky river Salaca.

The workshop is deliberately not being organized in cities – this is a possibility for technologically oversaturated and instantaneous demand-oriented people to feel themselves and to reconsider their spiritual values by being in simple or one could even say primitive conditions, by experiencing a modest and slow way of living. At the same time this one week is being dedicated to intense discussions, training, composing, presentations, individual training with lecturers, making new acquaintances, and enjoying the serene life.

Previous international workshops have gained a certain reputation both locally and internationally and have gathered more than 70 participants from different corners of the world, 16 lecturers – internationally known composers from 9 countries.

THEME

METAMORPHOSES OF CONTEMPORARY CHORAL AND VOCAL MUSIC

LECTURERS

**MICHAËL LÉVINAS (FRANCE)
VYKINTAS BALTAČAS (LITHUANIA)
TOIVO TULEV (ESTONIA)**

RESIDING MUSICIANS

We are happy to announce, that the residing musicians for this year's workshop will be the internationally recognized

LATVIAN RADIO CHOIR

Conductors Sigvards Kļava and Kaspars Putniņš

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOP

In order to participate in the workshop the candidates have to prepare mp3 audio recordings (advisable length – 5 to 10 minutes) of two or three previously composed vocal, choral (preferably) pieces or any other musical output (for two or more instruments, voices etc.), which, together with scores in digital format (pdf only), a detailed CV, photo and completed application form must be sent electronically to the workshop organizers until the **1th of February, 2012.**

E-mail: dundagaworkshop@gmail.com

The examining commission, which includes lecturers and members of Latvian Radio choir, will evaluate the submitted materials and will choose

6 active international workshop participants

and

8 participants with observer's status (observers).

This time **other 6** active participants (of totally 12) of the workshop will be selected by local music institutions of the Baltic region (Music academies, Composer's Unions)

The selected international composers will be announced by the 15th of March, 2012.

We kindly ask you to note in your application form whether you agree to participate as an observer, if you are not selected as an active participant!

According to the commission's decision the 12 chosen participants (**6 international composers and 6 composers from Baltic States**) will be asked to compose a short piece for Latvian Radio choir.

There is a common theme for the commissioned musical pieces –

Shakespeare's dream

You will be free to choose any texts of Shakespeare or even use this topic just as a subject of inspiration, as the basis of the main idea of composed piece.

The chosen participants will have to conclude and send the compositions to Latvian Radio choir no later than the **1th of July, 2012.**

The pieces must be fully completed by then. The workshop will be devoted to working together with lecturers and musicians in order to sharpen up the details and introduce realistic modifications.

The selection of pieces will be used by Latvian Radio choir for their further programs, performed in contemporary music festival *Arena* in Riga and some international, traveling projects.

The determined age limit is 35 years. However, the organizers prefer not to object if this limit is exceeded for participation.

OBSERVERS

The service will be equal and it will be possible to attend the group work sessions, however the observers are not obligated to compose any piece for workshop. Observers will have the same rights to attend all activities of the workshop (including individual lessons with lecturers, lectures, rehearsals, participate in discussions and presentations).

PROCESS

During the nine days of the workshop every participant will attend private consultations with all lecturers, as well as present his/her music, take part in open rehearsals, seminars and discussions. Each lecturer will read two lectures on current issues of contemporary music. The theme of the workshop is only the axis around which different discourses concentrate. During the workshop all conditions for creative, individual work will be provided.

CONCERTS AND FREE TIME

Two concerts will take place during the workshop, where Latvian Radio choir will perform compositions by active participants, lecturers and music chosen by themselves. Every evening there will be an informal invitation for everyone to enjoy participants' presentations.

PARTICIPATION FEE

For active participants

From Baltic countries – 200Eur
International participants – 300Eur

For observers

From Latvia – 200Eur
Other countries – 400Eur

CONTACTS

More detailed information about the workshop upon request:

dundagaworkshop@gmail.com

ABOUT LECTURERS

Michaël Lévinas



Concert pianist and composer, Michaël Lévinas (1949) occupies an unusual place in today's musical world. This double identity has influenced his performance and writing styles. His principal teachers were Vlado Perlemuter, Yvonne Loriod and Olivier Messiaen. He was in residence at the Villa Médicis, at the time it was directed by the painter Balthus. Often associated with the spectral movement and with the founding of *Ensemble l'itinéraire*, the compositional path of Michaël Lévinas is distinguished by the production of noteworthy works. Among these are *Appels* (1974), *Ouverture pour une fête étrange* (1979), the *Conférence des oiseaux* (1985), *Par delà* (commissioned in 1994 by the Donaueschingen Festival for the Südwestfunk Orchestra, conductor Michaël Gielen) and more recently *Implorations* (Printemps des Arts, 2007) or his opera *Go-gol* (premiered in 1996 by the *Musica* Festival in Strasbourg, IRCAM and the Montpellier Opera with staging by Daniel Mesguich). His opera *Les Nègres*, after the play by Jean Genet, with the composer's own libretto, was commissioned by the Lyon National Opera and Geneva Opera, premiered in 2004 with staging by Stanislas Nordey, followed by a new production in 2006 at the Grand Theatre in Freiburg. The recording, released by Sisyphé in 2008, is a critical and public success. His work on what he calls the "paradoxical polyphonies", based principally on complex tone quality counterpoint and variations of temperament, have produced, among others, *Les Lettres enlacées IV* (2000), *Se briser* for ensemble (2008, commissioned by the *Ars Musica* Festival, Brussels) and *Evanoui* for orchestra and electronics (commissioned by Radio France, premiered in Paris on March 6, 2009, with electronics by IRCAM). A third opera, composed after *La Métamorphose* by Franz Kafka, is currently being composed and

constructed in collaboration with Valère Novarina and Emmanuel Moses. This work, a commission from the Lille Opera, was premiered in Lille, spring 2011. Michaël Lévinas is a professor at the National Paris Conservatory.

Vykintas Baltakas



Vykintas Baltakas (b. 1972) studied at the Lithuanian Music Academy (composition under Vytautas Barkauskas, conducting under Lionginas Abarius) in 1990-93. In this period he established and led the vocal ensemble *Penki vėjai* and chamber choir *Aidija*. In 1993-97 he studied at the Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe under Wolfgang Rihm (composition) and Andreas Weiss (conducting). In 1994-96 he participated in the Darmstadt summer courses (where he received an award for his *Pasaka (Fairy Tale)* for solo piano in 1996), in 1997 attended the composition courses by Emmanuel Nunes at the Paris Conservatoire. In 1994-97 he studied under the composer Peter Eötvös; from 1995 he was Eötvös' assistant at the Karlsruhe Music Academy. In 1999-2000 Vykintas Baltakas worked in *IRCAM* in Paris. He has received composer's grants from the Heinrich Strobel foundation, Herrenhaus Edenkoben and the Nadia and Lili Boulanger foundation.

In 2001, the portrait concert of Vykintas Baltakas' compositions was held at the Gasteig in Munich. In 2002 the Kölner Philharmonie conducted by Sylvain Cambreling premiered Baltakas' work *Poussla* for orchestra. In 2003 Vykintas Baltakas was awarded the Claudio Abbado International Prize for composition; in the same year his works were performed at concerts in London, Berlin (*MaerzMusik*), Strasbourg (*Ars musica*), Paris; the world premiere of his work about to drink dense clouds, commissioned by *Wiener Festwochen* and *Klangforum Wien*, took place in Vienna (conducted by the composer).

Toivo Tulev



Toivo Tulev (b.1958) is inclined to musically conjoin the expressionistic and the religious. His compositions represent a constant existential struggle between tension and equilibrium. Tulev's musical idiom has been influenced by his active participation in several early music vocal ensembles and by deep interest in Gregorian chant. Tulev's compositions – written prevalently for orchestra or for various ensemble line-ups – have been always remarkable for their peculiar, mesmerising atmosphere created by temporal, spatial and sound effects. Into his recent works exotic flavours have been introduced through Eastern timbres and melody-design. On graduating from the Tallinn Conservatoire in composition under Prof. Eino Tamberg in 1990, Toivo Tulev furthered his training with Sven-David Sandström in Stockholm (1991), studied electro-acoustic music at the Cologne Hochschule der Musik (1996) and undertook a post-graduate course at the Estonian Academy of Music (1995–1998). Toivo Tulev has taught music theory, Gregorian chant and composition at the Tallinn Georg Ots Music High School. He worked as a singer of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir (1981–1988) and sung in various vocal ensembles like *Vox Clamantis*, *Choeur Gregorien de Paris* and *Heinavanker*. He is the founder (1995) and artistic director of the liturgical music ensemble *Scandicus*. Toivo Tulev was appointed Composer-in-Residence at the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir for the season 2004/2005 and at the Danish vocal ensemble *Ars Nova* for the season 2007/2008. At the present he is a lecturer of composition (since 2001) and head of the composition department (since 2005) at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Tulev's music has been performed in many Scandinavian and European countries. Two of his works, *Opus 21* for chamber orchestra (1996) and *Concerto for Violin and Orchestra* (2002), were selected among the best ten compositions at the International *Rostrum* of Composers in Paris. *Opus 21* was also performed at the Tokyo new music festival *Composium* 1998 dedicated to Toru Takemitsu. His work *Hommage to the Setting Sun* for chamber ensemble (1993) was written for the Sydney Spring Festival, *Quella Sera* for chamber orchestra (1996) for the London Baltic Arts Festival, *Don't Call Him Too Early* (2002) for the *Gaida* Festival in Vilnius and Dutch *Nieuw*

Ensemble. Be lost in the Call, commissioned by the Berlin *MaerzMusik* Festival, premiered at the Chamber Hall of the Berlin Philharmonic, March 2003. *Swing low*, premiered in Tallinn at the international contemporary music festival *NYVD 2003*, was also performed at the Warsaw Autumn Festival 2004. Tulev's short ballet *Cruz*, inspired by poetry of Spanish mystical philosopher John of the Cross, was staged at the Estonian National Opera in 2002. Estonian Radio has released Toivo Tulev's author CD *Be lost in the call* (2004), his works have been published by *Theatre of Voices Edition*. Twice, for 2001 and 2003, Toivo Tulev has been awarded the Annual Prize of the Endowment for Music of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia. In 2002, he received Cultural Endowment's Live and *Shine* grant and in 2006 was awarded the Annual Music Prize of the Estonian Music Council.

PERFORMERS

LATVIAN RADIO CHOIR



Founded in 1940, is regarded as one of the top professional chamber choirs in Europe. The choir gives at least sixty concerts annually in Latvia and abroad, and regularly appears in theatrical and multimedia events. Every year, the choir commissions about ten new works from Latvian composers. The Latvian Radio Choir could be described as a sound laboratory – the singers explore their skills by turning to the mysteries of traditional singing, as well as to the art of quartertone and overtone singing and other sound production techniques. Therefore composers have the unique opportunity to experiment, and to immediately hear at the choir's rehearsals whether these experiments have worked. One could also say that the Latvian Radio choir is the creator of a new choral paradigm: every singer is a distinct individual with his or her own vocal signature and roles in performances. The Latvian Radio Choir actively popularizes the music of Latvian composers around the world. The choir's recordings of works by Ēriks Ešenvalds, Kristaps Pētersons, and Mārtiņš Viļums have won each of them first prizes at the *UNESCO*

International Rostrum of Composers. The quality of the Latvian Radio Choir is well known to European concert and festival producers. This is proven by regular invitations to perform in prestigious international musical forums (including the *Baltic Sea Festival*, *Klangspuren Festival*, *La Musica*, *Ultima*, *The Venice Biennale*, and *Internationale Koorbiennale Haarlem*) and in renowned concert halls such as the *Concertgebouw* and *Muziekgebouw* in Amsterdam, *Konzerthaus* in Berlin, and *Cité de la Musique* in Paris. The choir has successfully collaborated with many outstanding guest conductors, including Heinz Holliger, Lars Ulrik Mortensen, Stephen Layton, Tõnu Kaljuste, and James Wood, among others. The Latvian Radio Choir records on a regular basis. Every season, three or four new CDs appear in collaboration with such labels as *Hyperion Records*, *BIS*, *GB Records*, *Ondine*, and *Naïve*. The Latvian Radio Choir is one of the four founders of the European professional chamber choirs' association *Tenso*. The choir organized *Tenso Days 2008 in Riga*, and a similar event is planned for 2014, when Riga will be the Cultural Capital of Europe. The choir has been awarded the most esteemed musical prize in Latvia, the Latvian Music Grand Prix, a total of six times (in 1994, 2000, 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2010)

ABOUT TRADITION

2002 – 1st International Workshop for Young Composers. August 22-26, Dundaga

Lecturers: Tõnu Kõrvits, Helena Tulve (Estonia), Imants Mezaraups, Rolands Kronlaks (Latvia), Rytis Mazulis, Sarunas Nakas (Lithuania).

2004 – 2nd International Workshop for Young Composers. 15-23, 2004, Dundaga Theme: *Usage of vocal in contemporary music.*

Lecturers: Tapio Tuomela (Finland), Toivo Tulev (Estonia), Peteris Plakidis (Latvia) and Remigijus Merkelys (Lithuania).

2006 – 3rd International Workshop for Young Composers. 13-21, 2006, Dundaga

Theme: *Between intimate and global. Sound aesthetics of contemporary chamber music.*

Lecturers: Rolf Wallin (Norway), Klas Torstensson (Sweden/The Netherlands), John Woolrich (United Kingdom).

2008 – 4th International Workshop for Young Composers. 10-18, 2008, Mazsalaca

Theme: *Universe and labyrinths of possibilities for wind instruments in contemporary music.*

Lecturers: Yannis Kyriakides (The Netherlands/Cyprus), Johannes Maria Staud (Austria), Alla Zagaykevych (Ukraine).

2010 – 5th International Workshop for Young Composers. 15-23, 2010, Mazsalaca

Theme: *Contemporary chamber music*

Lecturers: David Lang (USA), Pär Lindgren (Sweden), Richard Ayres (The Netherlands)

APPLICATION FORM

FIRST NAME

FAMILY NAME

COUNTRY OF RESIDING

BIRTH DATE

TITLES AND DURATION OF MUSIC APPLICATED

NR.1

NR.2

NR3. (OPTIONAL)

IN CASE IF I AM NOT SELECTED AS ACTIVE PARTICIPANT I AM ALSO INTERESTED TO ATTEND WORKSHOP AS OBSERVER (HAVING EQUAL RULES AS ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS ONLY WITHOUT LIVE PERFORMANCE OF MUSIC)

YES

NO

(PLEASE NOTE ONE OPTION)

UPDATED CV AND PHOTO MUST BE ADDED