

21st century string quartets



TOMMIE HAGLUND

Il regno degli spiriti
(Land of Souls) (2001) 23'

We can listen to sounds never heard before, integrated into the well known, when Tommie Haglund lets chords proceed according to a logic that at first amazes us but afterwards seems quite natural. This is nocturnal music with all that that implies. Commissioned by the Medici Quartet for their 30th anniversary and premiered at the Cambridge Music Festival in 2001.



FREDRIK HÖGBERG

More is More (2006) 10'

An energetic and lively work the title of which is a play on the concept "less is more", but just the opposite. There are a great many tones and a whole lot of energy contained in this quartet. It is also a homage to Maurice (More is) Ravel whose only string quartet has been a major source of inspiration for Högberg throughout the years. Commissioned by the Weber Quartet.



JUHA T. KOSKINEN

String Quartet No. 1 (2005) 15'

A work premiered at the Takefu International Music Festival in Japan in 2005, when Toshio Hosokawa gave Koskinen a chance to write it for the Diotima Quartet. The main rhythmical material comes from a poem by the 13th century Italian poet Iacopone da Todi. There are also two musical flashbacks from Koskinen's opera *Madame de Sade*. The intensity and charge of the quartet are relieved in the *Oceanico Epilogue* built on hypnotic triplets.



KIMMO KUITUNEN

Leino meets StrQ (2000/2008) 12'

This three-movement quartet could be described as vocal music for strings. It is based on Kuitunen's *Erotessa* for choir. The original text by the Finnish poet Eino Leino can be projected onto a screen in the background, as was done at the performance by the Zagros quartet. The work represents homogeneous dodecaphony in the spirit of the second cantata by Anton Webern. It also has lyricism and vigorous rhythmic elements.



PEHR HENRIK NORDGREN

String Quartet No. 11 (2008) 21'

Nordgren's last quartet is introspective and devout in tone. Its distinctive soundscape is the result of the abnormal tuning, which returns to normal in the lively Rondo and is "as if a light were shining from a very confined space". The Lamentoso interlude is an excruciatingly beautiful meditation on a chorale theme, and the short closing *Pietoso* epilogue is like a flash of another reality. Commissioned by the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival and premiered by the Tempera Quartet.



SVEN-DAVID SANDSTRÖM

Seven Pieces for String Quartet
(String Quartet No 4) (2009) 16'

Seven short pieces of varying character where the listener can never feel really sure of what comes next. Sandström is continually full of surprises. Commissioned by the Weber Quartet.



ALBERT SCHNELZER

String Quartet No 2 – Emperor Akbar (2009) 12'

Inspired by a novel by Salman Rushdie in which Emperor Akbar is one of the main characters. He has a very complex personality, and this is also reflected in the music. The string quartet starts out literally with the emperor decapitating a young rebel. After that, rhythmical and violent passages alternate with more contemplative scenes. A commission from the Nordland Music Festival for the Brodsky Quartet.



FREDRIK SIXTEN

Chaconne (2007) 6'

With the first eight bars the basic harmonic structure of the whole work is laid out. There is a kind of pulse, but where the variations fluctuate between the passionate, the melancholy, the sublime and the fervent. The conclusion is surprising but yet so still. Commissioned by the Forza Quartet.



HARRI VUORI

String Quartet No. 2 (2005) 20'

In typical Vuori style, the quartet represents delicate, readily-accessible modernism with microtones, spectral timbres and glittering glissandos that create a dream-like atmosphere. The heart of this three-movement quartet is the middle *Pastorale*; its cantus firmus is a song by Otto Kotilainen. The last movement has a big cello cadenza. Premiered by the Avanti! Quartet in London.



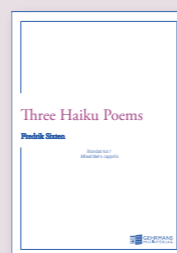
VICTORIA YAGLING

String Quartet No. 2 (2001) 18'

Yagling was herself a cellist, and this work demonstrates her vast knowledge of string instruments' potential. The quartet opens with a melancholy *Adagio* and continues with a vivid and lyrical *Moderato con moto*. The *Scherzo* is a highly efficient virtuoso movement charged with drama and temperament, and in the finale the violin melodies soar in Russian mood, striking straight to the depths of the heart.

CHORAL

FREDRIK SIXTEN
Three Haiku Poems
 for SATB a cappella
 Text: Japanese 18th century: Kanna, Kurako, Kin'ei (Jap), GE 12111



LINDA ALEXANDERSSON
Three Songs from the Dominican Breviary
 Hommage a Arvo Pärt
 for SATB a cappella (Lat), GE 12075

SVEN-DAVID SANDSTRÖM
Långsam musik (Slow Music)
 for six part mixed choir a cappella
 Text: Tomas Tranströmer (Nobel Prize Laureate 2011) (Swe)
 First performed at the Nobel Prize lecture on literature, GE 12066



KARIN REHNQVIST
**Der Herr ist mein Hirte/
 Herren är min herde**
 for female choir SSAA a cappella
 GE 11901 (German version)
 GE 11835 (Swedish version)

PER-HENNING OLSSON
**Marionetterna
 (The Marionetts)**
 for male choir TTBB a cappella
 Text: Bo Bergman (Swe), GE 12037



ROBERT SUND
Juninatt (June Night)
 for male choir TTBB a cappella
 Text: Anders Österling (Swe), GE 12112

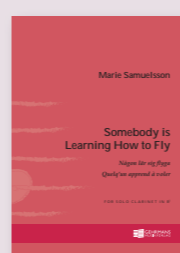
CHAMBER/INSTRUMENTAL

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 for organ
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BO NILSSON
Déjà connu – déjà entendu
 for wind quintet
 NMS 10341 (set of parts)

MARIE SAMUELSSON
Fantasia in a Circle
 for flute violin, cello and piano
 GE 12050 (score and parts)



**Somebody is Learning
 how to Fly**
 for clarinet solo
 GE 12052

FREDRIK SIXTEN
Passacaglia
 for organ
 GE 12115

BENJAMIN STAERN
Five Episodes
 for violin and guitar
 GE 11945



JOHAN ULLÉN
The Deadly Sins
 for piano trio
 GE 12090 (study score)
 GE 11955 (score and parts)

SCORES

JÖRGEN DAFGÅRD
Sinfonia No 1
 GE 11085

FREDRIK HÖGBERG
Hitting the First Base
 Concerto for Double Bass and Strings
 GE 11174



INGVAR LIDHOLM
Poesis
 for orchestra
 GE 12044 (conductor's score)
 GE 12046 (study score)



Mutanza
 for orchestra
 GE 12043 (conductor's score)
 GE 12045 (study score)

GÖSTA NYSTROEM
Sinfonia Espressiva
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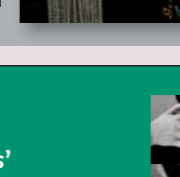
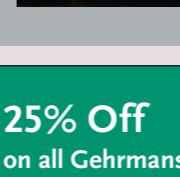
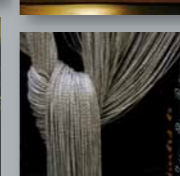
FINNISH TRUMPET SONATAS
 (Harri Wessman, Lasse Eerola, Arttu Sipilä, Tuomas Turriago)
 Jouko Harjanne, trumpet, Tuomas Turriago, piano
 Pilfink Records JJVC-104

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 Royal Stockholm PhO, Gustaf Sjökvist Chamber Choir, cond. Gustaf Sjökvist, sol. Hillevi Martinpelto, soprano, Karl-Magnus Fredriksson, baritone, Björn Granath, narrator
 Swedish Royal Court CD

LARS-ERIK LARSSON, HILDING ROSENBERG
A Winter's Tale, Orpheus in Town
 Norrköping SO, cond. Alexander Hansson
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