



## PRESS RELEASE

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### UUNO KLAMI COMPOSITION COMPETITION AROUSES INTERNATIONAL INTEREST

The II International Uuno Klami Composition Competition carries the name of one of the most popular Finnish composers, Uuno Klami. The aim of the competition is to produce good new repertoire for a small orchestra of sinfonietta type. The announcement of the competition took place in January 2008 and the competition has aroused international interest among composers. The Competition Office has received several inquiries from composers around Europe and the first entry arrived in May. The distinguished jury and the value of the prizes are among the reasons why the competition has aroused so much interest.

Entries must reach the Competition Office by **1 December 2008** at the latest. At the first assessment stage at the beginning of 2009 the jury will choose from three to five compositions for performance in the finals. The competition jury consists of four distinguished members of the international classical music community: composer **Kalevi Aho** (Chairman, Finland), composer **Magnus Lindberg** (Finland), composer **Anders Eliasson** (Sweden) and conductor **Yasuo Shinozaki** (Japan/UK).

The II International Uuno Klami Composition Competition is a unique showcase for new European music. It will culminate in finals concerts to be held in Kymenlaakso, the region of South-east Finland where Uuno Klami was born, performed by the **Kymi Sinfonietta** in September 2009. The compositions will be premiered in the **city of Kouvola on Friday 18 September 2009** and in the city of **Kotka on Saturday 19 September 2009**. The jury will not place the works in any order of merit until they have been performed at both the rehearsals and the finals concerts. The results and the winners will be announced after the Kotka finals concert **on 19 September 2009**. Tickets for the finals concerts will go on sale in January 2009.

This professional composition competition of international standard has received positive attention among international companies operating in the Kymenlaakso region of Southeast Finland and from Finnish organisations sponsoring culture. Significant support has been provided by the logistics companies Port of Kotka and InnoRail Kouvola. The other main sponsors are the cities of Kotka and Kouvola, the Regional Council of Kymenlaakso and the Finnish Cultural Foundation.

Contestants in the II International Uuno Klami Composition Competition must be citizens of a Nordic country, of an EU Member State or of Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Switzerland or Liechtenstein. There is no age limit. Works entered for the competition must not have been previously published or performed. They must be 15-30 minutes long. The following prizes will be awarded: I prize 11,000 euros, II prize 9,000 euros and III prize 7,000 euros. The jury will have the right to divide the prizes in some other way. The organiser of the II International Uuno Klami Composition Competition is the International Uuno Klami Composition Competition Patrons' Association, the members of which include the cities of Kotka and Kouvola and the Kymi Sinfonietta.

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