



## PRESS RELEASE

18 September 2008,  
Finland

### ONE YEAR TO THE FINALS OF THE UUNO KLAMI COMPOSITION COMPETITION

There is a year to go before the finals of the II International Uuno Klami Composition Competition that has been attracting considerable international attention. The compositions selected for the finals will have their world premiere **in the city of Kouvola, Finland on 18 September 2009** and the competition will culminate **in the city of Kotka on 19 September 2009**. The results and the winners will be announced after the Kotka concert. The orchestra will be the **Kymi Sinfonietta** that has won international acclaim for its vigorous, expert playing, most recently during its tour to China in May 2008.

Composers considering entering the competition should remember that their compositions must reach the **Competition Office** by **1 December** at the latest. The competition has had a favourable reception. The first entries have arrived and the Competition Office has received dozens of inquiries, from about 30 countries.

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 members of the jury are distinguished composers of Nordic contemporary music and a man who has made a considerable international career as a conductor. They are the Finnish composers **Kalevi Aho** and **Magnus Lindberg**, the well-known Swedish composer **Anders Eliasson**, and conductor **Yasuo Shinozaki**, Artistic Director of the Kymi Sinfonietta. Shinozaki will also conduct the finals concerts in September 2009.

The finals of the II International Uuno Klami Composition Competition will afford the audience an insight into new European music. One of the special features of the competition is that the jury will not place the works in order of merit until they have been performed at both the rehearsals and the finals concerts. This means that the jury's decision will be based also on hearing the finals compositions at the rehearsals and concerts. The finals concerts will be broadcast, thus adding excitement to the competition atmosphere. Tickets for the concerts will go on sale in January 2009.

The II International Uuno Klami Composition Competition was announced in the Nordic countries, the EU, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Switzerland and Liechtenstein in January 2008. The eminent jury and the value of the prizes are among the reasons why the competition has aroused so much interest. The following prizes will be awarded: I prize 11,000 euros, II prize 9,000 euros and III prize 7,000 euros.

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