

Sopran **Andrea Lauren Brown** on lõpetanud West Chesteri ülikooli Pennsylvania *summa cum laude* ning omandanud magistrikraadi vokaalpedagoogikas ja esituspraktikas Princetoni Westminsteri Koorikolledžis New Jerseys. Ta on Salzburgi Mozarteumi rahvusvahelise suveakadeemia preemiavõitja (2002) ja rahvusvahelise Münchenis toimuva ARD-konkursi 2. preemia võitja (2003).

Brown tegi ooperidebüüdi 17-aastaselt ja sellest alates astub ta pidevalt üles nii ooperis kui ka kontserdilavadel ning on esinenud 30 riigis. Solistina on ta teinud koostööd ajastuspetsialistidega, nagu La Chapelle Rhénane, Weser Renaissance Ensemble ja Anima Eterna ning on kutsutud laulma koos Euroopa parimate kammermuusikuga, sealhulgas viiuldajate Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Esther Hoppe, Christoph Poppen, tšellist Thomas Demenga ja pianist Kit Armstrong. Ta teeb koostööd klahvpillimängijate Malcolm Bilsoni, Helmuth Deutsch, Christoph Hammeri, Kay Johannseni, Zvi Menikeri, Norman Shetleri ja Fritz Schwinghammeriga ning on esinenud juhtivate dirigentidega, nagu Hansjörg Albrecht, Ottavio Dantone, Adam Fischer, Thomas Hengelbrock, Christopher Hogjuste, Tõnu Kaljuste, Andreas Reize, John Rutter ja Jos van Immerseel.

Brown on tunnustust kogunud lauljana, kes tunneb ennast kodus väga erinevates stiilides. Teda on BBC Music Magazine muusikaauhindadel ja ajakirjas Musical America iseloomustatud kui „kiirgavat sopranit“. Andread võib kuulda paljudes raadiosalvestustes ja ta on salvestanud üle 50 heliplaadi peamiselt plaadifirmale Naxos. ECMi salvestis Thomas Larcheri teosega „My illness is the medicine I need“ tunnustati Saksa plaadikriitikute auhinnaga ja see kuulus ajakirja Quarterly (4/2006) kriitikute valikusse. Plaadistuste tipphetkede hulka kuuluvad Robert Schumanni „Myrthen“, Simon Mayri ja Donizetti ooperid ning ajalooliste instrumentide ansambli salvestised, millel on heliloojad varasest barokist kuni klassikalise ja romantismiajastuni, Carissimi, Buxtehude, Christoph Graupner, Knecht, Zumstegg, Grétry, Beethoven ja Mendelssohn.

Alates Beethoveni „Missa solemnisest“ laulmisest Viini Musikvereinis arenes seitseteist aastat kestnud koostöö Eesti Filharmoonia Kammerkoori ja Tallinna Kammerorkestri asutaja Tõnu Kaljustega, mille tulemusena laulis Brown Tallinnas Haydni, Rossini ja Viimase aja tähelepanuväärsed teosed, sealhulgas „Miserere“ salvestamine Arvo Pärdi ja Robert Wilsoni etenduse „Aadama passioon“ DVD-le. Hiljuti laulis ta Šoti helilooja Sir James MacMillani kammoerooperis „Clemency“ ja 5. sümfooniast ning Arvo Pärdi teost „Sarah was Ninety Years Old“.

A native of Wilmington, Delaware, **Andrea Lauren Brown** holds a Master of Music degree in Voice Pedagogy and Performance from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, and a Bachelor of Music degree from West Chester University, Pennsylvania, where she graduated *summa cum laude*. Studying under the sponsorship of the Austrian-American Society, she was a prize-winner at the International Summer Academy of the University-Mozarteum in Salzburg in 2002, where she received the academy prize. In 2003 she helped

launch her career when she won second place at the International Competition of the ARD in Munich, Germany.

Ms. Brown has sung in many of Europe's most important theatres and festivals, performing both opera and concert repertoire in thirty countries. As a soloist, she collaborated with period specialists such as La Chapelle Rhénane, Weser Renaissance Ensemble and Anima Eterna, being invited to sing with arguably some of Europe's best chamber music players, including violinists Patricia Kopatschinskaja, Esther Hoppe, Christoph Poppen, cellist Thomas Demenga and pianist Kit Armstrong. Working with Malcolm Bilson, Helmuth Deutsch, Christoph Hammer, Kay Johannsen, Zvi Meniker, Norman Shetler and Fritz Schwinghammer on keyboards while getting to perform with leading conductors such as Hansjörg Albrecht, Ottavio Dantone, Adam Fischer, Thomas Hengelbrock, Christopher Hogwood, Tõnu Kaljuste, Andreas Reize, John Rutter and Jos van Immerseel, Brown was involved in a vast spectrum of sound and became known for an ease and brilliance singing a wide variety of styles.

Ms. Brown can be heard on many radio recordings and has recorded over fifty CDs of song, opera and oratorio for numerous labels, most notably for Naxos. The ECM recording of Thomas Larcher's *My illness is the medicine I need* was awarded the German Record Critics Award and Quarterly Critics' Choice. Musical America described Brown's voice in the leading role at Theater an der Wien as "showing a luscious, radiant soprano" in Bernhard Lang's opera, *I Hate Mozart*, also available on DVD.

CD highlights include *Myrthen*, from Robert Schumann, operas from Simon Mayr and Donizetti as well as recordings with historic instrument ensembles, featuring composers from the early baroque through the classical and romantic era, Carissimi, Buxtehude, Christoph Graupner, Knecht, Zumsteeg, Grétry, Beethoven and Mendelssohn.

Since singing Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* at the Musikverein in Vienna, a seventeen-year-long collaboration developed with the founder of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir and Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Tõnu Kaljuste, resulting in Brown singing in Tallinn music from Haydn, Rossini, and notable works of recent times, including recording *Miserere* for the DVD of Arvo Pärt's *Adam's Passion* and more recently, singing Arvo Pärt's *Sarah was Ninety Years Old*, *Clemency* and the *Fifth Symphony* by Scottish composer Sir James MacMillan.

Metsosopran **Kai Rüütel-Pajula** on pälvinud kriitikute suure tunnustuse esinemistega Londoni Kuningliku Ooperi (Royal Opera House), Hollandi Rahvusoperi, Theater an der Wiener, Madridi ooperi Teatro Real, Belgia Opera Vlaandereni, Barcelona Gran Teatre del Liceu', Šoti Ooperi (Scottish Opera), Prantsusmaal Théâtre du Capitole Toulouse'i ja USAs Dallase Ooperi lavadel. Kogenud laulja ja näitlejana on ta teinud koostööd lavastajatega, nagu Robert Carsen, Laurent Pelly, Keith Warner ja Calixto Beito.

Hooajal 2022/2023 tegi Rüütel-Pajula debüüdi Šveitsis Grand Théâtre de Genève'is Sonetka rollis ooperis „Mtsenski maakonna leedi Macbeth“ ja Lyoni Rahvusoperis Juuditi rollis ooperis „Hertsog Sinihabeme loss“ Andriy Zholdaki uudses lavastuses. Ta naasis Hollandi

Rahvusooperisse, et kehastada Kõrtsmiku tütre rolli ooperis „Kuningalapsed“ Christof Loy lavastuses, mida juhatas Marc Albrecht. Rüütel-Pajula esines ka kontserdilaval koos Trondheimi Sümfooniaorkestriga Han-Na Changi juhatusel, esitades Beethoveni 9. sümfoonia.

Hooajal 2021/2022 tegi Rüütel-Pajula debüüdi Dortmundi teatris Fricka rollis („Valküürid“), osatäitmise Teatro Realis ooperis „Jumalate hukk“ ja Rahvusooperis Estonia Ljubaša rollis ooperis „Tsaari mõrsja“. Samuti esines ta koos Londoni Kuningliku Filharmooniaorkestriga Elgari teose „Gerontiuse unenägu“ esitusel Vassili Petrenko juhatusel.

Viimaste ülesastumiste hulgas kontserdilaval on soolokontserdidebüüt Eestis koos pianist Roger Vignolesiga, USA debüüt St Louisi Sümfooniaorkestriga Mozarti reekviemis, Gloucesteri katedraalis Elgari „Gerontiuse unenäos“ ja koos Roger Vignolesiga festivalil „Oxford Lieder“, ooperigalal koos Simon O’Neilliga Mumbai Rahvuslikus Esituskunstide Keskuses, Mahleri teoses „Laul maast“ Tallinna Kammerorkestriga, Elgari „Gerontiuse unenäos“ „Kolme koori festivalil“, Beethoveni 9. sümfoonia Madalmaade Residentie-orkestriga, Mahleri „Rückerti lauludes“ Cadogan Hallis, Beethoveni missas C-duur Birminghami Sümfooniaorkestri ja Philharmonia-orkestriga, Zemlinsky tsükli „Kuus laulu“ Berliini Filharmoonias ning galakontsert Lätis, Tšehhis ja RTE orkestriga John Wilsoni juhatusel.

Kai Rüütel-Pajula õppis Georg Otsa nimelises Tallinna Muusikakoolis, Haagi Kuninglikus Konservatooriumis ja Hollandi Rahvuslikus Ooperiakadeemias. 2009. aastal sai temast Londoni Kuningliku Ooperi – Covent Gardeni – juures tegutseva prestiižse Jette Parkeri noorte artistide programmi liige, kus tegi debüüdi ooperis „Mängur“. Tema rollide hulka kuulusid seal veel Hänsel („Hansuke ja Greteke“), Rosette („Manon“) ja Flora („La traviata“, millega käidi ka ringreisil Jaapanis), Teine Daam („Võluflööt“) Sir Colin Davise juhatusel ja Dorothee („Tuhkatriinu“), samuti Madame Dangeville („Adriana Lecouvreur“), Charlotte („Werther“) ja Dunjaša („Tsaarimõrsja“).

Mezzo-soprano **Kai Rüütel-Pajula** has appeared to great critical acclaim on the stages of the Royal Opera House, Dutch National Opera, Theater an der Wien, Teatro Real, Opera Vlaanderen, Gran Teatre del Liceu, Scottish Opera, Théâtre du Capitole Toulouse, and Dallas Opera. A consummate singer and actress, she has collaborated with directors such as Robert Carsen, Laurent Pelly, Keith Warner and Calixto Beito.

The 2022/23 season sees Rüütel-Pajula make her debut at the Grand Théâtre de Genève as Sonyetka *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* and at the Opéra National de Lyon as Judith in Andriy Zholdak’s innovative new interpretation of *Bluebeard’s Castle*. She also returns to the Dutch National Opera as Die Wirtstochter in Christof Loy’s new production of *Königskinder* conducted by Marc Albrecht. On the concert platform, Rüütel joins Trondheim Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Han-Na Chang for Beethoven Symphony No. 9.

In the 2021/22 season, Rüütel-Pajula made her debut at Theater Dortmund as Fricka *Die Walküre* and returned to the Teatro Real as Second Norn *Götterdämmerung* and to the Estonian

National Opera as Lyubasha *The Tsar's Bride*. She also joined the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for Elgar *Dream of Gerontius* conducted by Vasily Petrenko.

Recent concert and recital performances include her Estonian recital debut, accompanied by Roger Vignoles; her US debut with the St Louis Symphony Orchestra singing Mozart's Requiem; at Gloucester Cathedral performing Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* and in recital with Roger Vignoles at Oxford Lieder; 'Stars of Operalia' gala at the Birgitta Festival; an opera gala concert with Simon O'Neill at the Mumbai National Center of Performing Arts; *Das Lied von der Erde* with the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra; a hugely acclaimed debut performance of Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* for The Three Choirs Festival; Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Residentie Orchestra of the Netherlands; Mahler *Rückert Lieder* at the Cadogan Hall; Beethoven Mass in C with City of Birmingham Symphony and Philharmonia orchestras; Zemlinsky's *Sechs Gesänge* at Philharmonie Berlin; and gala concerts in Latvia, the Czech Republic and with the RTE Orchestra and John Wilson.

Rüütel-Pajula studied at the Georg Ots Music School in Tallinn, the Koninklijk Conservatorium in The Hague and the Dutch National Opera Academy. In 2009 Rüütel became a member of the prestigious Jette Parker Young Artists Programme at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, making her debut as Venerable Lady in *The Gambler* and covering the role of Blanche. Her roles for the company included Hänsel *Hänsel und Gretel*, Rosette *Manon* and Flora *La traviata* (also performed on tour in Japan), Second Lady *Die Zauberflöte* conducted by Sir Colin Davis, and Dorothee *Cendrillon*. She covered Madame Dangeville *Adriana Lecouvreur*, Charlotte *Werther* and Dunyasha *The Tsar's Bride*.

Bariton **Alvar Tiisler** on solistina esinenud orkestritega, nagu Eesti Riiklik Sümfooniaorkester, Venemaa Riiklik Kammerorkester, Iisraeli Kammerorkester, Israel Camerata, Sinfonietta Rīga, Klaipeda Kammerorkester, Barrocade Ensemble, Tallinna Kammerorkester ja Eesti Sinfonietta. Tema solistina esitatud repertuaari kuuluvad J. S. Bachi „Johannese Passioon“, „Matteuse Passioon“, „Jõuluoratorium“, „Missa h-moll“, „Magnificat“ ja mitmed kantaadid. Samuti Händeli „Messias“, „Jefta“, „Theodora“, „Juudas Makabeus“, „Esther“, „Resurrezione“, „Iisrael Egiptusest“, „Dixit Dominus“, Mozarti „Reekviem“, Haydni „Loomine“, Beethoveni 9. sümfoonia, Mendelssohni „Elias“, Charpentier' „Te Deum“, Purcelli „Hail! Bright Cecilia“ ja MacMillani 5. sümfoonia. Peale soololaulmiste teeb ta tihedat koostööd Euroopa juhtivate vokaalkollektiividega, nagu Collegium Vocale Gent, RIAS Kammerchor Berlin ja MusicAeterna ning on osalenud ka telekanalite Mezzo ja ARTE otseülekannete salvestuses. Nii solistina kui erinevates koosseisudes on Alvar Tiisler laulnud USA-s, Kanadas, Jaapanis, Lõuna-Koreas, Iisraelis, Venemaal ja rohkelt Euroopas. Sel suvel salvestab ta koos briti tenori Guy Cuttinguga esimest plaati firmale Brilliant Classics, millel kõlab Händeli ja Bachi looming.

Baritone **Alvar Tiisler** has performed with orchestras like Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, Russian National Chamber Orchestra in Moscow's Tchaikovsky Concert Hall, Israel

Chamber Orchestra, Israel Camerata, Sinfonietta Riga, Klaipeda Chamber Orchestra, Barrocade Ensemble, Tallinn Chamber Orchestra and Estonian Sinfonietta. As a soloist, his performed repertoire includes J. S. Bach's *St John Passion*, *St Matthew Passion*, *Christmas Oratorio*, Mass in B minor, *Magnificat* and many cantatas, also Händel's *Messiah*, *Jephtha*, *Theodora*, *Judas Maccabeus*, *Esther*, *Resurrezione*, *Israel in Egypt*, *Dixit Dominus*, Mozart's Requiem and C Minor Mass, Haydn's *Creation*, Beethoven's 9th Symphony, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Charpentier's *Te Deum*, Purcell's *Hail! Bright Cecilia* and MacMillan's 5th Symphony. He has also collaborated with MusicAeterna and Teodor Currentzis which included live concert in Sainte-Chapelle for Mezzo and ARTE TV. He has performed as a soloist and with various ensembles in United States, Canada, Japan, South Korea, Israel, Russia and almost everywhere in Europe. This summer, he will record his first album with British tenor Guy Cutting for Brilliant Classics label which includes music of Händel and Bach.

Lembit Peterson on auhinnatud eesti näitleja, lavastaja ja teatripedagoog. Ta on lõpetanud Tallinna Riikliku Konservatooriumi lavakunstkateedri näitleja ja lavastajana 1976. aastal (7. lend). Peterson on töötanud lavastajana Noorsooteatris (1976–79 ja 1985–88), Ugalas (1979–82) ning Eesti Draamateatris (1988–90), Noorsooteatris (1976–79) ka näitlejana. Ta on lavastanud veel Hispaanias (Valladolidi Teatro Cervantes) ja Poolas (Varssavi Teatr Polski). Lembit Peterson on tuntud ka filminäitlejana ning mänginud Tallinnfilmi filmides, nagu „Hukkunud Alpinisti hotell” (1979), „Kõrboja peremees” (1980), „Arabella, mereröövli tütar” (1982), „Varastatud kohtumine” (1989).

Lembit Peterson on olnud aastate 1978–86 (vaheaegadega) lavakunstkateedri (1982–86 kursuse juhendaja koos Aarne Ükskülega), 1989–93 Viljandi Kultuurikolledži näitejuhtimise õppejõud (1991–93 teatrikateedri juhataja), 1992–2003 Eesti Humanitaarinstituudi teatriõppetooli juhataja (professor) ning aastast 1997 Vanalinna Hariduskollegiumi Teatrikooli ja teatriprogrammi juht. Aastatel 2018–2022 oli ta ka EMTA professor, tema juhendada oli lavakooli XXX lend.

Peterson asutas 1986–87 Tallinna Puhkeparkide Direktsiooni juures tegutsenud rändnäitetrupi ja 1994 koos Juhan Viidingu, Mart Johansoniga ja Humanitaarinstituudi teatriõppetooli üliõpilastega stuudioteatrit Theatrum (algul Humanitaarinstituudi teaterkool) ning on Theatrumi kunstiline juht ja lavastaja.

Lembit Peterson is an award-winning Estonian actor, director, and theatre educator. He graduated from the Acting and Directing Department of the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in 1976 (7th class). Peterson has worked as a director at the Youth Theatre (1976–79 and 1985–88), the Ugala Theatre (1979–82), and the Estonian Drama Theatre (1988–90). He has also acted at the Youth Theatre (1976–79). He has directed productions in Spain (Teatro Cervantes in Valladolid) and Poland (Teatr Polski in Warsaw). Lembit Peterson is also known for

his film acting and has appeared in films by Tallinnfilm, such as "Dead Mountaineer's Hotel" (1979), "The Master of Taiga" (1980), "Arabella, the Pirate's Daughter" (1982), and "Stolen Encounter" (1989).

From 1978 to 1986 (with breaks), Peterson was a tutor at the Acting and Directing Department (alongside Aarne Üskküla from 1982 to 1986). From 1989 to 1993, he was a lecturer in directing at the Viljandi Culture Academy (director of the Theatre Department from 1991 to 1993). From 1992 to 2003, he was the head of the Theatre Studies Chair at the Estonian Institute of Humanities (professor). Since 1997, he has been the director of the Theatre School and Theatre Program at the Vanalinna Educational College. From 2018 to 2022, he was also a professor at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, overseeing the XXX class of the Drama School.

Peterson co-founded the itinerant theatre group at the Tallinn Parks Directorate in 1986–87 and, in 1994, together with Juhan Viiding, Mart Johanson, and students from the Theatre Studies Chair, the studio theatre Theatrum (initially known as the Humanitarian Institute Theatre Studio). Theatrum is known for its experimental and interdisciplinary approach and has staged several significant productions in Estonian theatre culture.

Lembit Peterson has received numerous awards for his contribution to Estonian theatre. He has been awarded the Estonian Theatre Union's annual prize in the Best Director category and has also been recognized with the annual prize from the Estonian Cultural Endowment. In addition, he has received several acting awards for his roles in both theatre and film.

Lembit Peterson is an important figure in the field of Estonian theatre and theatre education. Under his guidance, many well-known actors and directors have emerged, and his contribution to the development of theatre curricula has been significant. He has served as the head and lecturer of several theatre schools, and his pedagogical work has been a crucial part of the development of Estonian theatre culture.

Eesti Filharmoonia Kammerkoor (EFK) on kujunenud üheks tuntumaks Eesti muusika kollektiiviks maailmas. 1981. aastal Tõnu Kaljuste loodud koori ees on peadirigentidena seisnud veel briti dirigent Paul Hillier (2001–2007), hollandlane Daniel Reuss (2008–2013) ja lätlane Kaspars Putniņš (2014–2021). Alates 2021. aasta augustist on koori kunstiline juht taas Tõnu Kaljuste.

Koori repertuaar ulatub barokkmuusikast kuni 21. sajandi teosteni, kus eriline koht on Eesti heliloojate loomingul.

Rahvusvahelises muusikaelus on tegutsetud koos mainekate dirigentide ja orkestritega, esinemispaikadeks Viini Kontserdimaja, Sydney Ooperimaja, Londoni Royal Albert Hall, New Yorgi Carnegie Hall, Los Angelese Walt Disney kontserdimaja, Zürichi Tonhalle jpt.

Koor on välja andud ligi 80 salvestist koostöös mainekate plaadifirmadega, mis on võitnud eri auhindu, sh kaks Grammyt: dirigent Paul Hillieriga „Arvo Pärt. Da Pacem“ (Harmonia Mundi, 2007) ja dirigent Tõnu Kaljustega „Arvo Pärt. Adam’s Lament“ (ECM, 2014). Kokku on EFK

salvestisi esitatud Grammys 16 korral. Uusimad plaadid on Veljo Tormise loominguga „Reminiscentiae“ (ECM, 2023) ja Arvo Pärdi „Tractus“ (ECM, 2023). 2020. aastal valis BBC muusikaajakiri Classical Music Eesti Filharmoonia Kammerkoori kümne parima koori hulka maailmas.

Selle aasta alguses oli kooril tihe välisreisi periood, mil veebruari ja märtsi jooksul anti 19 kontserti kuues riigis: USAs, Kanadas, Saksamaal, Belgias, Prantsusmaal ja Hollandis. Maikuus esineti Soomes koos Tapiola Sinfonietta ja Kesk-Põhjamaa Kammerorkestriga Dima Slobodeniouki juhatusel ning juuni alguses Türgis ja Iirimaa.

The Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir (EPCC) is one of the best-known Estonian music ensembles in the world. The choir was founded in 1981 by Tõnu Kaljuste, who was its artistic director and chief conductor for twenty years. In the years 2001–2007, the English musician Paul Hillier took over. Daniel Reuss collaborated with the choir as its chief conductor in 2008–2013 and Kaspars Putniņš in 2014–2021. Since the season 2021/2022 the artistic director and chief conductor is Tõnu Kaljuste.

The repertoire of the choir extends from Gregorian chant and baroque to the music of the 21st century, with a special focus on the work of Estonian composers, such as Arvo Pärt, Veljo Tormis, Erkki-Sven Tüür, Galina Grigorjeva, Tõnu Kõrvits and introducing their output to the world. Each season the choir gives about 60–70 concerts both in Estonia and abroad.

The EPCC has cooperated with a number of outstanding conductors and orchestras including Claudio Abbado, Helmuth Rilling, Eric Ericson, Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Roland Böer, Frieder Bernius, Stephen Layton, Peter Phillips, Marc Minkowski, Sir Colin Davis, Louis Langree, Paul McCreech, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Gustavo Dudamel, Richard Tognetti, Kristiina Poska etc.

The EPCC has also worked with the following world-class orchestras such as the Norwegian, Australian, Prague and Stuttgart Chamber Orchestras, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, the Berlin Rundfunk Orchestra, Concerto Copenhagen, the Salzburg Camerata, Les Musiciens du Louvre, the Philip Glass Ensemble, the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Basel Chamber Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, the Flanders Symphony Orchestra, the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra.

The EPCC has been a welcome guest at numerous music festivals and outstanding venues all over the world, for instance at the BBC Proms, the Mozartwoche, the Abu Gosh Music Festival, the Hong Kong Arts Festival, the Salzburg Festspiele, the Festival Aix-en-Provence, the International Cervantino Festival, the Vale of Glamorgan Festival, the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, the Sydney Opera House, Wiener Konzerthaus, the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, the Barbican Centre in London, the Flagey Concert Hall in Brussels, the Esplanade Concert Hall in Singapore, the Soul Arts Center, the Hong Kong City Hall, Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, Philharmonie de Paris, the Kennedy Center in Washington, Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum and the Lincoln Center in New York, the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles etc.

Another important aspect in the choir's life is recording music for ECM, Virgin Classics, Carus, Harmonia Mundi, Ondine, BIS resulting in award-winning CDs. The EPCC recordings have won twice GRAMMY-Award for Best Choral Performance: for the album *Arvo Pärt. Da Pacem* with conductor Paul Hillier (Harmonia Mundi, 2007) and *Arvo Pärt. Adam's Lament* with conductor Tõnu Kaljuste (ECM, 2014). All in all, the choir has 16 Grammy nominations with the works by Arvo Pärt, Erkki-Sven Tüür and the music of Nordic countries. The EPCC recordings have won also Gramophone Award, Diapason d'Or, Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik, Prix Caecilia etc.

In 2020 BBC Music Magazine has named the EPCC as one of the 10 best choirs in the world. At the beginning of this year, the choir had a busy period of international tours, performing 19 concerts in six countries during February and March: the USA, Canada, Germany, Belgium, France, and the Netherlands. In May, they performed in Finland with the Tapiola Sinfonietta and the Ostrobothnian Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Dima Slobodeniouk, and at the beginning of June, they performed in Turkey and Ireland.

Eesti Rahvusmeeskoor on üks tuntumaid ja mainekamaid meeskoore maailmas.

Rahvusmeeskoori repertuaar ulatub gregoriaani laulust 21. sajandi muusikani. Eesti heliloojate kõrval on koorile muusikat loonud sellised maailmanimed nagu Dmitri Šostakovič, Otar Taktakišvili, Gavin Bryars, Giovanni Bonato, Justė Janulytė jt.

Koori asutas 1944. aastal eesti koorimuusika suurkuju Gustav Ernesaks. Järgnevatel aastakümnetel on koori juhitanud Harald Uibo, Uno Järvela, Olev Oja, Kuno Areng, Ants Üleoja, Ants Soots, Kaspars Putniņš jt. Alates hooajast 2011/2012 on koori kunstiline juht ja peadirigent **Mikk Üleoja**.

Pidevalt Eesti Rahvusringhäälingule salvestav koor on teinud koostööd ka firmadega Deutsche Grammophon, Sony, Finlandia, Alba Records, GB Records, Virgin Classics, Aurora Ondine, Toccata Classics, SOOND ja Chandos Records.

2004. aastal võideti koorimuusika kategoorias Eesti esimese Grammy Sibeliuse kantaatide salvestise eest firmale Virgin Classics, kaastegevad tütarlastekoor Ellerhein, ERSO ja dirigent Paavo Järvi.

Viimasel kümnendil on kooril valminud kaheksa CD-plaati, millest esimene Galina Grigorjeva autoriplaat „In paradisum“ pälvis 2015. aastal Eesti muusikaauhindade galal parima klassikaalbumi tiitli. 2016. aastal ilmus Aurora kaubamärgiga plaat „Te lucis ante terminum“ norra helilooja Henrik Ødegaardi loominguga. Sony märgiga on 2018. aasta album Šostakoviči 13. sümfooniaga, kaastegevad Dresdeni Filharmonoonikud ja dirigent Michael Sanderling. Ondine välja antud albumil kõlab Sibeliuse „Kullervo“, kaastegev Soome Raadio sümfooniaorkester ja dirigent Hannu Lintu.

2023. aastal kevadel ilmus meeskooril kaks albumit: „Galina Grigorjeva muusikat meeskoorile“ (plaadifirma Toccata Classics) ja „Baltic Contrasts“ (SOOND). Viimasel kõlab Baltimaade heliloojate Pēteris Vasksi, Justė Janulytė ja Erkki-Sven Tüüri looming.

2024. aasta mais üllitas plaadifirma Chandos Records helikandja, kus Arvo Pärdi teost „De profundis“ ja Šostakovitši 13. sümfooniat esitavad Rahvusmeeskoor ja BBC Filharmoonikud, dirigent John Storgårds.

Eesti Rahvusmeeskoor on oma pika ajaloo jooksul andnud üle 7000 kontserdi alates Eestist kuni Põhja-Ameerika ja Aasiani. Viimased kontserdireisid on toimunud Saksamaale, kus 2023. aasta septembris osaleti Šostakovitši 13. sümfoonia ettekannetel Stuttgardi Liederhalle Beethovenisaalis, Freiburgi kontserdimajas, Mannheimi Rosengartenis ja Hamburgi Elbphilharmonie suures saalis, dirigent Teodor Currentzis. 2024. aasta veebruaris laulis koor taas Elbphilharmonie suures saalis, kus kanti ette Šostakovitši 13. sümfoonia ja Beethoveni fantaasia klaverile, koorile ja orkestrile, dirigent on Kent Nagano.

2015. aastal omistati Eesti Rahvusmeeskoorile ja Mikk Üleojale riigi kultuuripreemia avalikkuse ette jõudnud väljapaistvate tööde eest.

The Estonian National Male Choir is one of the best-known Estonian music ensembles in the world. The choir's repertoire spans from renaissance to contemporary. Besides many Estonian composers, Estonian National Male Choir has premiered compositions by such luminaries as Gavin Bryars, Giovanni Bonato, Henrik Ødegaard, Justè Janulytè, Dmitri Shostakovich, etc.

The Estonian National Male Choir was founded in 1944 by Estonian choral conductor and composer Gustav Ernesaks. Starting from the 2011/2012 season Estonian National Male Choir is led by chief conductor and artistic director **Mikk Üleoja**. Each season the choir gives about 50-60 concerts both in Estonia and abroad.

Estonian National Male Choir frequently records for Estonian National Broadcasting and has collaborated with such labels as Deutsche Grammophon, Sony, Finlandia, Alba Records, GB Records, Virgin Classics, Aurora, Ondine, Toccata Classics and SOOND. In 2004 choir was awarded the **Grammy** award for the best choral performance, first for Estonia (Sibelius' cantatas, in collaboration with Ellerhein choir, Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and conductor Paavo Järvi).

Over the past ten years the Estonian National Male Choir has recorded no less than eight CDs. The first of them, *In Paradisum* which features the works of Galina Grigorjeva, was awarded the title of best classical music album at the Estonian Music Awards gala in 2015.

In 2016, *Te lucis ante terminum*, which consisted of the works of the Norwegian composer, Henrik Ødegaard, was released under the Aurora label. In 2018, an album which contained Symphony No. 13 by Shostakovich was released under the Sony label in collaboration with the Dresden Philharmonic and the conductor Michael Sanderling. The album which was released by Ondine features *Kullervo* by Sibelius, with the music being recorded in collaboration with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and the conductor, Hannu Lintu. The *Galina Grigorjeva music for male choir* recording, was released by Toccata Classics in spring 2023 and *Baltic Contrasts*, is available from May 2023. This include the works of the Baltic composers, Erkki-Sven Tüür, Pēteris Vasks, and Justè Janulytè, (released by SOOND).

The most recent album released in May 2024, an album which contained Symphony No. 13 by Shostakovich and Arvo Pärt *De profundis* was released by Chandos Records in collaboration with the BBC Philharmonic and the conductor John Storgårds.

Over its long history, the Estonian National Male Choir has given more than seven thousand concerts, in Estonia but also locations as far afield as Northern America and Asia. After a brief break in performing abroad over the past few years, the National Male Choir gave concerts in Tampere in Finland in April 2023 and in Manchester in England in May, performing Symphony No. 13 by Shostakovich with the conductor, John Storgårds. In the middle of May, the National Male Choir will be performing an *a cappella* programme at Kings Place in London. Pieces to be sung at this prestigious venue include the works of Veljo Tormis, Giovanni Bonato, Gavin Bryars, Justè Janulytè, and Santa Ratniece, and the choir will be conducted by head conductor, Mikk Üleoja. During the second half of September, the choir attended a concert tour in Germany, where Symphony No. 13 by Shostakovich was performed. The choir partnered with bass Alexander Vinogradov, SWR Symphony Orchestra and conductor Teodor Currentzis. The concerts took place in Beethoven Hall in Liederhalle Concert Hall in Stuttgart, Freiburg Concert Hall, Mannheimer Rosengarten and the Grand Hall of Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg. In February 2024, the choir returned to Hamburg to perform Shostakovich's 13th Symphony and Beethoven's Fantasy for piano, chorus and orchestra at the Elbphilharmonie under conductor Kent Nagano.

In 2015 Estonian National Male Choir and Mikk Üleoja were awarded the State Cultural Award, marking the choir's remarkable performances.

Tallinna Kammerkoor kogunes helilooja Uno Naissoo algatusel eksperimentaalkoorina Eesti Heliloojate Liidu juures 1962. aastal. Tegu oli esimese kammerkooriga Eestis ja terves toonases Nõukogude Liidus. Algaastatel oli kokku kutsutud elukutselistest muusikutest koosneva koori ülesanne tutvustada Eesti heliloojate põnevat uudisloomingut ning täiendada Eesti Raadio fonoteeki. Tänapäeval koosneb koor harrastuslauljatest, kelle seas leiab väga erinevate valdkondade ja elualade esindajaid ning keda ühendab armastus kõrgetasemelise koorimuusika vastu. Koor on võitnud mitmeid auhindu kodumaistel ja rahvusvahelistel koorikonkurssidel. Värskeimad neist on 2019. aastal A-kategooria I koht „Tuljaku“ võistulaulmisel, 2020. aastal XV Eesti Kammerkooride Festivali *grand prix* ja 2024. aastal A-kategooria I koht Eesti Kammerkooride Festivalil.

Tallinn Chamber Choir came together at the initiative of Uno Naissoo as an experimental choir at the Estonian Composers Union in 1962. It was the first chamber choir in Estonia and in all the former Soviet Union. In the first years, the task of the choir was to introduce the fascinating new music by Estonian composers and to record music for the Estonian Radio music library. Today, the choir unites amateur singers from very different fields of activity with shared love for high-level choir music. The choir has won several awards in national and international choir competitions. The most recent ones are 1st prize in A-category of choir competition *Tuljak* in

2019, Grand Prix at the Estonian Chamber Choir Festival in 2020, and 1st prize in A-category at the Estonian Chamber Choir Festival in 2024.

Segakoor **HUIK!** koondab ligi 40 lauluhuvilist eri elualadelt. Koori juured on Tallinna Vanalinna Hariduskolleegiumis, mille vilistlased soovisid jätkata koos musitseerimist. HUIK!-i lõi 2009. aastal noor ambitsioonikas dirigent Kaspar Mänd, kelle käe all tegutseti üheksa hooaega.

Koori lauljad jagavad huvi eri ajastute muusika vastu. HUIK! on aastate jooksul esitanud nii kodumaist kui ka maailmamuusikat, nii uudisteoseid kui ka suurvorme. Nii on koos Uue Tänav Orkestriga ette kantud Mendelssohni „Ülistuslaul“ ja Beethoveni 9. sümfooniat (dir Kaspar Mänd) ning uuemast muusikast Einojuhani Rautavaara *a cappella* koguõine jumalateenistus „Vigilia“ (dir Ingrid Mänd) ja Frank Martini missa kahele koorile *a cappella*.

HUIK! on teinud koostööd Eesti noorte heliloojatega, nagu Evelin Seppar, Pärt Uusberg, Ivo Lille jpt. Läbi hooaegade on lauljatele olnud südamelähedane ka Eesti koorimuusika klassika, eelkõige Mart Saare, Veljo Tormise, Eduard Tubina ja Cyrillus Kreegi teosed.

Koor on osalenud edukalt mitmel rahvusvahelisel konkursil. Viimased olulisemad saavutused on 1. koht lirimaal Corkis (Fleischmann International Trophy Competition 2023), „Tallinn 2023“ 2. koht segakooride ja rahvamuusika kategoorias ning 2. koht Austrias konkursil „Ave Verum“ (2022).

Viimaste aastate meeldejäävamad etteasted on olnud EV105 kontsertetendus Rahvusooperis Estonia, Robert Jürjendali uudisteose „Räägi tasa minuga“ ettekanded koos Eesti Löökpillikvartetiga, kontserdid koori vilistlaste ja vilistlasdirigentidega, Teliale valminud lavastus koostöös Veiko Tubina ja NOËP-iga ning traditsioonilised HUIK!-i ansamblite jõulukontserdid.

Koori debüütalbum „Lembit Veevo“ ilmus dirigent Ingrid Männi eestvedamisel 2022. aasta suvel. Eesti Kooriühing nimetas selle aasta kooriplaadiks.

HUIK! on akronüüm sõnadest hääled ulatuvad inimeste kõrvu!, kuid tervitame ka seoseid huigete ja huikamisega.

Segakoori HUIK! peadirigent on Ode Pürg, abidirigent Mari Roos ja hääleseadja Egle Veltmann.

Mixed Choir **HUIK!** was formed by the students of Old Town Educational College in the capital city of Estonia, Tallinn. With the lead of a young conductor Kaspar Mänd from the same school, the choir's first official rehearsal was held in September 2009. By now, the choir has almost 40 singers of different professions.

The singers of HUIK! share a common interest in music from different eras. The choir has collaborated closely with young Estonian composers such as Evelin Seppar, Pärt Uusberg, and Maria Kõrvits. In addition to contemporary music, the choir's repertoire also includes heartwarming and powerful Estonian choral music classics, such as works by Mart Saar, Veljo Tormis, and Cyrillus Kreek, and of course some masterpieces of well known composers all over the world like Frank Martin, Francis Poulenc and Einojuhani Rautavaara.

Over the years, HUIK! has been successful in numerous choir competitions in both national and international competition arena. More recent achievements include the first prize at the Cork International Choral Festival in Ireland (2023) and second prize at the international choir competition "Ave Verum" in Austria (2022).

Mixed Choir HUIK! has also collaborated with many nationally well known Estonian orchestras, and brought to the stage major works by composers such as Eino Tamberg, Ludwig van Beethoven, Felix Mendelssohn. In autumn 2022, the choir performed with the Estonian Percussion Quartet, singing a new composition by Robert Jürjendal titled *Räägi tasa minuga* (*Speak To Me Softly*) and other contemporary pieces.

The choir released their debut album *Lembit Veevo* in the summer of 2022, which was recognized as the Choral Album of the Year 2022 by the Estonian Choral Association.

The conductor of HUIK! is Ode Pürg, the choirmaster is Mari Roos and the vocal coach Egle Veltmann.

Kammerkoori **Encore** kutsus kokku dirigent Karin Tuul 2016. aasta oktoobris. Koori tegevuse hulka jääb mitmeid meeldejäädavaid kontserte, millest viimaste aastate olulisemad ülesastumised on olnud järgmised: 2024. aasta aprillis osaleti koori dirigendi autorikontserdil „Vaata ja sa näed“, 2023. aasta detsembris toimus ühtekuuluvuskontsert „Mina olen olemas“, kus juhiti tähelepanu ligipääsetavuse teemale; sama aasta oktoobris osaleti Jurmalas rahvusvahelisel Läänemere koorikonkursil, kus saavutati IV koht; 2022. aasta oktoobris toimus Vaba Laval kontsert-lavastus „Ühe pere lugu – vaikne, kena kohakene“ koos tantsuansambliga Kuljus; sama aasta kevadel andis koor välja debüütplaadi „Eesti tunne“; 2021. aasta sügisel esineti Tallinn Music Weekil koos ansambliga Duo Telluur. Koori hääleseadja on alates 2019. aastast Karin Salumäe.

Chamber Choir **Encore**, together since 2016, is a choir led by Karin Tuul in Tallinn, Estonia. Over the years, the choir has received numerous awards at different competitions and released its debut album *Eesti tunne*. The choir's repertoire focuses on Estonian music, but also includes many composers from around the world and different styles. The joyful atmosphere and the dedication of Encore's singers and conductor allow for beautiful musical moments and fun memories to be made. Vocal coach of Chamber Choir Encore is Karin Salumäe.

Segakoor **Vox Populi** on loodud 2006. aastal ning koosneb keskmiselt 40 lauljast, kelle hulgas on nii õpilasi, üliõpilasi kui ka väga erinevate elualade esindajaid. Koorilaul on lauljatele hobi ja kirg, mis on viinud kõrgetasemelise kontserttegevuseni. Segakoor Vox Populi on nii rahvusvahelistel kui kodustel konkurssidel saavutanud mitmeid kuldmedaleid ja -diplomeid. 2022. aastal pälvis Vox Populi I koha Eesti Kammerkooride Liidu festivalil.

Eesti koorimaastikul on kõige enam tuntuks kogutud koorilavastuste esitamisega, millega on elus hoitud eesti folklooril baseeruvat koorimuusikat, eelkõige helilooja Veljo Tormise loomingut. 2023. aasta oktoobris toimus koori kontsertreis Jaapanisse, kus esitati koostöös Anne Törnpu ja Eva Kolditsaga sündinud kontsertlavastust „Lindude äratamine“.

Koor on välja andnud kolm albumit: „Esimene maasikas“ (2013), „Ajasillal“ (2019) ja „Lindude äratamine“ (2023).

Vox Populi dirigent, kunstiline juht ja looja on **Janne Fridolin**, koormeister **Riivo Kallasmaa** ja hääleseadja bass-bariton **Andreas Väljamäe**.

Passion for music and singing is what unites the spirited young people of the Mixed Choir Vox Populi. The main aim of Vox Populi is to offer memorable moments to the singers and the audience, the opportunity to develop one's talent for music and to bring people together as friends. Vox Populi was founded in 2006 and currently holds 40 active members. The repertoire varies from folklore and sacral to pop and jazz music.

Since its founding Vox Populi has had several notable moments competing in different choral competitions in Estonia and abroad. In 2012, the choir won two honorable awards – first prize “Simply the best” in Viimsi JazzPopFest (Estonia) and first prize and golden diploma in Freamunde International Choir Competition (Portugal). In 2013, Vox Populi won two gold medals (Mundi Cantat: folklore and mixed choir categories) in Olomouc International Choir Competition (Czech Republic) and achieved third place in the Absolute Festival Winner competition. In 2014, Vox Populi won the silver medal in World Choir Games 2014 in Riga. In 2017, the choir won a gold diploma and two special prizes in InCanto Mediterrane Competition (Italy) for best performance of a piece by a Sicilian composer and best choreography. In 2022, the choir won 1st prize at the XVI Estonian Chamber Choir Festival A-category competition.

In Estonia, Vox Populi is best known for the theatrical concert-plays inspired by Estonian and Finno-Ugric folklore and the creations of Veljo Tormis. In 2015, Vox Populi had a tour in the USA performing „Meditations with Tormis“ directed by Anne Törnpu and Eva Koldits in New York, Maryland, Seattle and San Francisco. In 2023, the choir toured in Japan with it's “Waking the Birds” performances.

Ingrid Mänd on lõpetanud Tallinna Muusikakeskkooli kooridirigeerimise erialal õpetaja Ingrid Kõrvitsa klassis ning omandanud samal erialal bakalaureusekraadi Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemias Hirvo Surva käe all. 2016. aastal täiendas ta ennast Stockholmi Kuninglikus

Muusikakõrgkoolis ning 2017. aastal omandas magistrikraadi orkestridirigeerimises Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemias prof Jüri Alperteni klassis.

2013. aasta kevadel asutas ta neidudekooori Kammerhääled, aastatel 2019–2022 oli Mänd segakooori HUIK! peadirigent ning aastatel 2017–2020 Georg Otsa nim Tallinna Muusikakooli sümfooniaorkestri dirigent. Ingrid Mänd on erinevate kollektiividega salvestanud Pärt Uusbergi naiskoorimuusika autoriplaadi „Luiged läevad”, Rasmus Puuri muusikaga loodud plaadi „Noore naise mõtted“ ning 2022. aastal aasta plaadi auhinna pälvinud autoriplaadi Lembit Veevo muusikast.

Mänd on juhatanud Eesti Riiklikku Sümfooniaorkestrit, Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemia sümfooniaorkestrit, Stockholmi Kuningliku Muusikakõrgkooli sümfooniaorkestrit, Uppsala Kammerorkestrit (Nya Kammarorkestern i Uppsala), Tallinna Kammerorkestrit, Järvi Akadeemia sümfooniaorkestrit, Pariisi Orkestrit ja Eesti Rahvusmeeskooori.

2019. aasta oktoobris oli Mänd eesti ooperile pühendatud kontserdi „Vikerlastest sündinud ooper“ kunstiline juht ja dirigent, laval Segakoor HUIK!, Estonia Seltsi segakoor, Rahvusoooperi Estonia noormeestekoor ja Eesti Riiklik Sümfooniaorkester.

Ingrid Mänd pälvis 2019. aasta oktoobris Euroopa Kooriühingu korraldatud 9. rahvusvahelisel noorte dirigentide konkursil I koha ja Choeur de l'orchestre de Paris' eripreemia.

Mänd on juhatanud 2017., 2019. ning 2023. aasta laulupidudel ja juhatab 2025. aasta laulupeol valiksegakoore. 2022. aasta jaanuarist kuni 2023. aasta juunini töötas Ingrid Mänd Pariisi Filharmoonia Orchestre de Paris' koori koormeistrina.

Mänd on alates juunist 2023 Eesti Koorijuhtide Liidu juhatuse esimees.

Ingrid Mänd has graduated from Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre where she studied choral conducting (prof. Hirvo Surva) and orchestral conducting (prof. Jüri Alperthen), she also received further training at the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm.

Ingrid Mänd is active both as a choral and orchestral conductor: she has led the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra in a gala program of Estonian operatic music, conducted the performances of Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of the Screw*. Mänd has conducted several times at the Estonian Song and Dance Celebration.

In October 2019 she won the 1st prize at the 9th International Competition for Young Conductors in Paris, organized by European Choral Association and received special prize from Choeur d'Orchestre de Paris. She was named Young Conductor of the Year by Estonian Choral Association in 2019.

She has collaborated with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Estonian National Male Choir, symphony orchestra of the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, Nya Orkestern Uppsala, Versailles Baroque Centre mixed choir and Choeur d'Orchestre de Paris.

In 2014 Ingrid Mänd founded a female choir Kammerhääled, with whom they have recorded two CD-s *Luiged läevad* (*Swans go*, composer Pärt Uusberg) and *Noore naise mõtted* (*Thoughts*

of a young woman, composer Rasmus Puur). In 2019–2022 Mänd was the chief conductor of mixed choir HUIK! and from 2017–2022 the chief conductor of Tallinn Music School Symphony Orchestra.

From January 2022 to May 2023, Mänd was the choirmaster of Choeur de l'Orchestre de Paris.

Ingrid Mänd is the head of Estonian Choral Conductors Association.

EESTI RIIKLIK SÜMFOONIAORKESTER (ERSO) on elav ja mitmekülgne orkester, kes püüdleb alati tipptaseme poole. Eesti vanimal ja mainekaimal regulaarselt tegutseval sümfooniaorkestril täitub sel hooajal 98. tegevusaasta. ERSO ajalugu ulatub aastasse 1926 ning sarnaselt paljude omataolistega maailmas on see seotud rahvusliku ringhäälingu sünni ja arenguga. Alates hooajast 2020/2021 on enam kui 100-liikmelise orkestri peadirigent ja kunstiline juht Olari Elts. Neeme Järvi jätkab koostööd ERSOga eluaegse aupeadirigendina, orkestri kunstiline nõustaja on Paavo Järvi, varasemad peadirigendid on olnud Olav Roots, Paul Karp, Roman Matsov, Neeme Järvi, Peeter Lilje, Leo Krämer, Arvo Volmer, Nikolai Aleksejev ja taas Neeme Järvi.

ERSO on käinud arvukatel turneedel ning osalenud mainekatel rahvusvahelistel muusikafestivalidel. 2023. aasta mais toimus orkestri esimene kontserdireis Suurbritanniasse, kus kahe nädala jooksul anti 11 kontserti. 2022. aastal esineti Olari Eltsi juhatusel Nürnbergis, Münchenis ja Pariisis. 2021. aasta novembri lõpus osalesid ERSO ja Elts Poolas rahvusvahelisel Kesk- ja Ida-Euroopa muusikafestivalil „Eufonie“. 2019. aastal avasid ERSO ja Neeme Järvi Prantsuse Raadio maineka Montpellier' muusikafestivali ning orkester käis Kesk-Euroopa turneel, kus Neeme Järvi juhatusel esineti Viini Musikvereini kuldses saalis, Linzi Brucknerhausi suures saalis, Praha Rudolfinumi Dvořáki saalis ja Bregenzi Bodensee saalis ning Mihhail Gerts'i juhatusel Saksamaal Erlangenis ja Viersenis. Veel on esinetud sellistel maailmalavadel nagu Berliini Konzerthaus, New Yorgi Avery Fisher Hall (praeguse nimetusega David Geffen Hall), Peterburi filharmoonia suur saal ja Maria Teatri kontserdisaal, Kölni filharmoonia, Helsingi Musiikkitalo, Stockholmi Berwaldhallen jt.

ERSO plaadistuste kõrget kvaliteeti on esile tõstetud mainekates klassikalise muusika ajakirjades ning sellega on kaasnenud mitmed tunnustused, millest olulisim on Eesti esimene Grammy (2004, dirigent Paavo Järvi), värskemad aga aasta klassikaalbumi tiitel 2020. aastal Eesti muusikaauhindade jagamisel Elleri sümfooniliste poemide teise plaadi eest (dirigent Olari Elts) ning kultuurkapitali helikunsti sihtkapitali aastapreemia ERSO-le ja Olari Eltsile seniste Elleri muusika salvestiste eest. Suurepärase koostöö on ERSO-l selliste mainekate plaadifirmadega nagu Chandos, BIS, Onyx, samuti Ondine, ERP jt.

Lisaks kohalikele raadio- ja telekanalitele on ERSO kontserte üle kandnud Mezzo ja medici.tv ning EBU vahendusel on need jõudnud paljudesse Euroopa raadiojaamadesse. 2020. aastal alustas tegevust ERSO TV (erso.tv), kus saab vaadata kõiki orkestri *live*-kontserte ning juba toimunud esinemisi.

The Estonian National Symphony Orchestra (Eesti Riiklik Sümfooniaorkester, ERSO) – a vivid and versatile orchestra who’s always striving towards excellence. The unique position in the intersection of cultures brings together Nordic, Western and Russian musical traditions. Celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2026, ERSO has become the most prominent orchestral ambassador of Estonia abroad, powerfully increasing its international scope particularly in recent decades. Since the 2020/21 season, its Chief Conductor and Artistic Director is Olari Elts. Neeme Järvi, the longest-serving chief conductor of the ERSO, continues to cooperate with the orchestra as an Honorary Artistic Director for Life and the Artistic Adviser of the orchestra is Paavo Järvi.

The orchestra performs with renowned conductors and soloists from around the world, including, of course, most prominent Estonian musicians. ERSO’s CDs demonstrate a quality that has been recognised by several renowned music magazines and the orchestra has won several prizes, including a Grammy Award for the recording of cantatas by Sibelius. Its home venue is the Estonia Concert Hall in Tallinn and it has dazzled the world with numerous tours and participated in reputable international music festivals. They have played in prestigious venues such as the Konzerthaus Berlin, Musikverein in Vienna, Rudolfinum in Prague, Brucknerhaus in Linz, the Avery Fisher Hall (current David Geffen Hall) in New York, the Grand Hall of Saint Petersburg Philharmonia and the Concert Hall of the Mariinsky Theatre, the Kölner Philharmonie, the Helsinki Music Centre, Berwaldhallen in Stockholm, and many more. Some of the festivals ERSO has attended include the Festival Radio France Occitanie Montpellier with Neeme Järvi and the Eufonie International Festival of Central and Eastern Europe in Warsaw under the baton of Olari Elts. Some of the highlights of the previous seasons include a concert tour with Olari Elts and violinist Daniel Lozakovich, which took the orchestra to Isarphilharmonie in Munich, La Seine Musicale in Paris and Meistersingerhalle in Nuremberg. In May 2023, another successful concert tour took the orchestra to Great Britain, where 11 concerts were given with pianist Barry Douglas under the baton of Olari Elts.

The orchestra has enjoyed fruitful cooperation with highly acclaimed record companies such as Chandos, BIS, and Onyx, and in the past also with Alba Records, Harmonia Mundi, and Melodiya. In addition to local radio and television channels, ERSO’s concerts have been broadcasted by Mezzo, medici.tv and they have also reached many radio listeners via the EBU. In 2020, the orchestra launched its own channel – erso.tv.

As for conductors and soloists, ERSO is fortunate to perform with the very best from all around the world, including front-rank Estonian musicians. Commanding a repertoire that ranges from the Baroque period to the present time, the ERSO has had the honour to premiere symphonic pieces by almost every Estonian composer, including Arvo Pärt, Erkki-Sven Tüür, Jüri Reinvere, and Eduard Tubin.

Tõnu Kaljuste on rahvusvaheliselt hinnatud nii koori- kui ka orkestridirigendina. Ajalukku minev saavutus on 2014 Grammy võit parima kooriesituse kategoorias Arvo Pärdi teose „Aadama itk“

eest. Tema salvestisi on korduvalt esitatud Grammy plaadiauhindade nominendiks. Kaljuste albumeid on esile toodud erinevates kategooriates. Grammy nominatsiooni on saanud nii Norra helilooja Ståle Kleibergi ooper „David and Bathsheba“ kui ka sümfooniline muusika. 2019. aastal võitis ta rahvusvahelise klassikalise muusika auhinna (International Classical Music Award) koos Wrocław'i NFMi filharmooniaorkestriga Arvo Pärti sümfooniade salvestuse eest. Kaljuste plaadid on võitnud ka mitmeid teisi auhindu: Cannes Classical Award (1999), Diapason d'Or (2000), Edison Musical Award (2000), Classic BRIT Award (2003). Ta on teinud koostööd plaadistusstudiotega ECM Records, Virgin Classics, BIS ja Caprice Records. Viimastest plaadistustest ECMiga on 2023. aastal ilmunud lausa kaks albumit: Veljo Tormise muusikaga „Reminiscentiae“ ja Pärti autoriplaat „Tractus“.

Rahvusvahelist menu on toetanud Kaljuste koostöö mitmete tuntud orkestrite ja kooridega Euroopas, Austraalias, Kanadas ja Ameerika Ühendriikides. Kaljuste on olnud Rootsi Raadio koori ja Madalmaade kammerkoori peadirigent. 2019. aastal nimetati ta Rootsi Raadio koori dirigendiks. Aastatel 2010–2020 oli Tõnu Kaljuste Eesti Muusika- ja Teatriakadeemia professor ja dirigeerimisosakonna juhataja. Ta on Tallinna Kammerorkestri asutaja (1993) ning alates 2019. aasta sügisest taas Tallinna Kammerorkestri peadirigent ja kunstiline juht. Kaljuste on Eesti Filharmoonia Kammerkoori asutaja (1981) ning alates 2021. aasta augustist, pärast 20-aastast vahet, taas Eesti Filharmoonia Kammerkoori peadirigent ja kunstiline juht. Alates 2004. aastast on Kaljuste tema enda asutatud projektiteatri Nargen Opera kunstiline juht. Tema eestvedamisel on 2006. aastast toimunud Nargenfestival. 2022. aastast on Kaljuste ka Tallinna Filharmoonia korraldatud Birgitta festivali kunstiline juht.

Tõnu Kaljuste is a world-renowned choir and orchestra conductor. His most historic achievement to date is the Grammy for Best Choral Performance for the Arvo Pärt album *Adam's Lament* in 2014. His recordings have had a number of Grammy nominations in various categories from opera (*David and Bathsheba* of the Norwegian composer Ståle Kleiberg) to symphonic music. In 2019 he won the International Classical Music Award for the recording of Arvo Pärt's symphonies with the NFM Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra. Kaljuste's recordings have won several other prestigious prizes such as the Cannes Classical Award (1999), Diapason d'Or (2000), Edison Musical Award (2000) and Classic BRIT Award (2003). He has recorded for the ECM Records, Virgin Classic, BIS and Caprice Records labels.

Collaboration with leading orchestras and choirs in Europe, Australia, Canada and the USA has added an extra dimension to Kaljuste's international renown. Kaljuste has been the Principal Conductor of the Netherlands Chamber Choir and the Swedish Radio Choir and was named Conductor Laureate of the latter in 2019. Tõnu Kaljuste served as Professor and Chair of the Conducting Faculty of the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre from 2010 to 2020. He is the founder of the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra (1993) and since the 2019/20 season once again its Principal Conductor and Artistic Director. Kaljuste founded the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir in 1981 and is back after 20 years, from August 2021 as its Principal Conductor and Artistic Director. Kaljuste has served as Artistic Director of Nargen Opera, the project theatre that he launched, since 2004 and led Nargenfestival, a notable event in Estonia's music calendar, since

2006. From 2022, Kaljuste is also the artistic director of the Birgitta Festival, organized by the Tallinn Philharmonic Society.