

Ester MÄGI

COMPLETE SONGS FOR FEMALE VOICE TWO SONGS TO WORDS BY ERNST ENNO SONGS TO POETRY BY BETTI ALVER THREE SETO FAIRYTALE SONGS SONGS FROM THE FIELDS AND OTHERS

Maarja Purga, mezzo-soprano Sten Lassmann, piano Mari-Liis Vind, flute Kirill Ogorodnikov, guitar Valle-Rasmus Roots, cello

ESTER MÄGI Complete Songs for Female Voice

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Kaks romanssi ('Two Romances') (1964) Anna Haava No. 1 Suur ja vaikne ('Big and Silent') No. 2 Mul on tare taeva all ('I have a Shelter under the Sky')*	2:38 1:23 1:15
■ Kiigele! ('To the Swing!') (1948)* Manivald Kesamaa	1:38
¹ Leidsid sõnad kalli viisi ('Words Found a Lovely Melody') (1955)* Manivald Kesamaa	3:33
Lehed langs'sid ('Leaves were Falling') (1946)* Juhan Liiv	1:34
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Vanatühja petmine ('Cheating Old Nick') (1984)* Estonian folk-poetry	1:32
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2:15

No. 1 Puust palitu ('Wooden Overcoat')
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Set of tolk-poetry ☑ No. 1 Laulev puu ('The Singing Tree') ☑ No. 2 Uinutamislaul ('A Lullaby') ☑ No. 3 Vaeslaps käoks ('The Orphan of a Cuckoo')	3:36 2:51 2:49
Ööhölmad ('Night Shades') (2001) Valli Naelapea	4:43
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Maarjasõnajalg ('The Marian Fern') for soprano, flute and piano (1988) Karl Ristikivi	3:49
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ESTER MÄGI, A WOMAN OF QUIET AUTHORITY by Sten Lassmann

Ester Mägi (1922–2021) was a remarkable presence in Estonian music for well over half a century, her status best summed up by the late Estonian musicologist Urve Lippus who stated in 2007 that she was 'recognised throughout her career as a sovereign, serious and sincere composer'. Though Mägi's compositions reflect the many different styles and trends of the times, and her output embraces every major genre except music for the stage, her work has always been highly regarded for its integrity, where simplicity and sincerity merge with motivic development of (often folklore-inspired) musical material and psychologically laden expression. Her music presents remarkable strength of will and depth of feeling, although Mägi herself was not an assertive character in life – indeed, she was disarmingly modest and tactful – and so her fame as a composer came neither loudly nor suddenly, with her persistence and quiet manner eventually gaining her the status she deserved. For the many decades at the end of her long life – and, remarkably, to an equal measure both in the Soviet Estonia of the 1970s and '80s and in independent Estonia from the early 1990s – she was regarded as the 'First Lady of Estonian music'.

To date there have been a number of albums devoted to Mägi's choral, chamber and orchestral works,² but none tackling her solo songs. The complete songs for female voice presented here range from Mägi's very first composition, *Lehed lang'sid* ('Leaves were Falling') of from 1946, written in a matter of hours for the entry exam of the Tallinn Conservatoire, to one of her last, *Ööhõlmad* ('Night Shades') 22, from 2001.

¹ 'Ester Mägi: Orchestral Music', booklet with the Toccata Classics release TOCC 0054, which was the first-ever anthology of any Mägi orchestral works.

² For example, an album of her *a cappella* choral music, featuring the Estonian National Men's Chorus (RAM) under its then conductor Ants Soots, appeared on the Finnish label Alba in 2005: Ester Mägi, *Laulupuu/Tree of Song* (NCD 25).

Having referred to Mägi's humble nature, I have to admit straight away that the date of her birth played no small role in her fortunes. She came of age at the onset of the Second World War, when the Soviet Union first occupied the three Baltic states in summer 1940, followed by three years of German occupation in 1941-44. Once back in the grip of the Soviets from September 1944, Estonia suffered all the physical repressions and stifling ideological witch-hunts of the late Stalinist years. The stasis lasted up to 1955, after which the Khruschev 'Thaw' took effect and enabled, to a degree, a revivification of culture and society more generally. Mägi had started her musical education rather late, taking up piano lessons at the age of sixteen. Quite soon she entered the Tallinn Conservatoire, but by 1944 she had developed chronic pain in her arms, which effectively ended any ambition of becoming a pianist. In 1946 she was transferred to the composition department and so became a student of Mart Saar (1882-1963), the founding father of the Estonian national choral and solo-song tradition. Saar had based much of his work on Estonian folklore, and he imbued Mägi with a deep sense of mission and reverence towards the older runic tradition.³ From 1951 to 1954 Mägi continued at the postgraduate course in the Moscow Conservatoire with Vissarion Shebalin. After graduation she became lecturer at the music-theory department of the Tallinn Conservatoire, a position she held for thirty years, until her retirement in 1984.

There was an eruption of compositional talent in Estonia at the latter half of the 1950s, with a whole generation of young men born in the early 1930s making stellar entries not only on to the Estonian musical scene but also earning reputations throughout the Soviet block and internationally, starting with Eino Tamberg (1930–2010) and the success of his *Concerto Grosso* in 1957 (hailed as creating the second wave of Estonian modernism); followed by Veljo Tormis (1930–2017), first with his symphonic Overture No. 2 (1959), although he later became known for his choral music; Jaan Rääts (1932–2020) with his immortal *Concerto for Chamber Orchestra*, Op. 16 (1961); and, of course,

³ Runosong – regilaul in Estonian – is an ancient traditional form of singing common to most Finnic peoples, usually structured as call-and-response with a lead singer and group, and used in communal (not least agricultural) tasks and as a repository of oral culture and myth. Many Estonian composers have taken inspiration from this heritage, chief among them Ester Mägi's friend and younger colleague Veljo Tormis.

the globally celebrated Arvo Pärt (b. 1935). This golden generation burst out in style and dominated Estonian music well into this century, whereas Mägi's ascent was rather more measured, her first success being as late as with her only symphony in 1968.⁴ By the 1980s, however, Mägi had become a byword for the highest artistic talent, and her *Bukoolika* ('Bucolica'; 1983) for orchestra⁵ and the piano works *Vana kannel* ('The Ancient Kannel'; 1985) and *Lapimaa joiud* ('Lapland Joiks'; 1987) are some of the most original creations of that decade. Perhaps the most remarkable fact is that Mägi is the only classical composer in Estonia born in the two decades between 1910 and 1929 – male or female – whose works have become a repertoire mainstay for instrumentalists, singers, orchestras and choirs alike.

⁴ The Symphony is one of the works on the Toccata Classics album of her orchestral music, with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Mihkel Kütson.

⁵ Bukoolika is also to be found on the Toccata Classics album, with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra this time conducted by Arvo Volmer.

ESTER MÄGI'S SONGS: FOLKTALES, FERNS AND FALLING IN LOVE

by Maarja Purga

These 27 songs by Ester Mägi span over half a century, from 1946 to 2005. The early songs, recorded here for the first time, exhibit a simple, naive style, and yet they hint at the sophisticated direction her music would later take. Following in the footsteps of her mentor, Mart Saar, Mägi found profound inspiration in Estonian folk-music. The simplicity of original Estonian folksong, characterised by minimalist melodies and repetitive verses, is transformed in Mägi's classical adaptations, requiring precision and intense concentration from their performers, as is evident in song-cycles like *Three Seto Fairytale Songs* (1984) [19–21] and *Songs from the Fields* (1988, rev. 2005) [27–32] [35].

The dark texts of these cycles may raise questions, but here it's important to understand Seto culture (an ethnic and linguistic minority around Lake Peipus in southern Estonia). Seto songs often depict undesirable events to ward off misfortune, transforming foreboding lyrics into protective charms. For instance, 'mother killed me, father ate me' (in 'The Orphan of a Cuckoo' [21]) was not meant literally but symbolically, to prevent such events from occurring. These song-cycles are less morbid when viewed through this cultural lens.

Another folk-inspired piece is *Huiked* ('Herding Calls'; 1995) [26], which captures the essence of traditional communication calls: housewives' calls to shepherds, sounds for calling and driving away animals, shouts between shepherds and berrypickers, hunters' signal calls and so on.¹ Accompanied by these rhythm-coordinating shouts, ships were launched into the water, logs were rafted and heavy objects lifted. Through voice, guitar and flute, Mägi recreates the soundscape of a time when this

¹ There are close equivalents in the herding calls known in Norwegian as 'kulokk' and in Swedish as 'kulning'. Grieg used kulokker in a number of his compositions. Person-to-person calls are known as 'laling', 'lalning' or 'kauking' in Norwegian and 'llalning', 'lalning' or 'kyrlokk' in Swedish.

whooping was a vital part of daily life, her extensive quilt of allusion offering listeners a vivid glimpse into ancient practices.

Among Mägi's most romantic works are the *Five Romances* (1963) 1-5, set to poems by female Estonian poets. These pieces reveal her passionate side. Each romance has a distinct character and storyline. 'How Could I Sleep' 1 bursts with operatic passion and longing, whereas 'A Memory' 2 moves from ecstatic yearning to the poignant memory of past love. 'Beach Swallow' 3 well describes the Estonian spirit: the ability to start all over again, whatever may have happened and however difficult the circumstances may be – the love of homeland always gives Estonians the strength to go on. 'Wind' 4 brings yet another emotional state of mind, conveying a hidden happiness beneath its billowing motif. The cycle concludes with 'The Onset of Happiness' 5 33, one of Mägi's few strophic songs, portraying the ambivalence of embracing new-found joy. Its four verses outline the story of someone on the verge of happiness, and how he/she would like to give in to this magnificent feeling of falling in love but is held back by fear and in the end rejects love because of it.

In the late 1980s and '90s, Mägi adopted a more modern, Expressionist style, as can be heard in her *Two Songs to Words by Ernst Enno*² (1999) [14–15]. Though different from her other works, these songs continue to explore themes of freedom and love for the homeland. This stylistic shift aligns with Estonia's own historical context, reflecting Mägi's choice of poems and their expressive form.

Although most of her songs are for voice and piano, the exceptions include 'Öö' ('Night') [23] and 'Silmil suletuil' ('With Eyes Closed') [24], both from 1998, which add a part for cello. These minimalist, atmospheric pieces blend yearning and tension, with the cello and voice intertwining before parting again. An influence from Mägi's own chamber music is evident in her treatment of the voice as an equal element in the soundscape. Similarly, *Maarjasõnajalg* ('The Marian Fern') [25] [34] for voice, flute, and piano from 1988 features playful interplay, evoking the atmosphere of midsummer night. In Estonia, there is an ancient tradition where, on 'jaaniõhtu' ('St John's Evening', Midsummer Eve,

² Enno (1875–1934) was a newspaper and magazine editor as well as a poet and writer; he also held a number of administrative positions. Among the influences on his poetry are Buddhism, mysticism and symbolism.

23 June) and 'jaanipäev' ('St John's Day, Midsummer Day, 24 June) friends and families meet to sing, dance and light bonfires. As a part of that tradition, young girls pick flowers and place them under their pillows to dream of their future husbands. They also venture out at night in search of the mythical fern blossom, believed to bring good fortune. 'The Marian Fern' references these traditions, intertwining them with the story of the Virgin Mary, who blessed the fern and gave it her name, also bestowing upon Estonia its second name, Maarjamaa - the land of Mary.

Maarja Purga is an esteemed Estonian mezzosoprano known for her warm voice and extensive vocal range, making her a remarkable performer in late-Romantic opera, verismo and bel canto. Her creative vocal techniques and musical interpretation also make her a captivating performer of Lieder and contemporary music. In the Bayreuth Festival side-programme, she has performed various roles in Siegfried Wagner's operas, including Frau Kathrin in Friedensengel, Trude/Wirtin/Märchenfrau in An Allem ist Hütchen schuld, and Eustachia in Sonnenflammen. In 2019, she made her debut as Fricka in Das Rheingold, conducted by Byron Knutson. Her engagements have also taken her to



Cologne, where she sang the alto part in Janáček's The Diary of One Who Disappeared and in Holst's Savitri

Her other operatic roles include Orlovsky in Die Fledermaus at the Festival Classique, Carmen, Marina Tsvetaeva in Vsevolod Pozdejev's Sieben Briefe zur Begegnung (Narva Opera Days, Estonia), Flora in La traviata (Theater Solingen), Un Pâtre in L'Enfant et les sortilèges, Praskowia in Die lustige Witwe (Theater Aachen) and the Third Lady in Krenek's Das geheime Königreich (Cologne).

In addition to opera, her passion for vocal-symphonic music has established her as a respected concert soloist. The works in which she has sung include Bach's St John Passion, Mass in B minor and Christmas Oratorio, the Requiems of Brahms, Duruflé, Mozart and Verdi, Mahler's Das Lied von der Erde, Handel's Dixit Dominus, Messiah and Israel in Egypt, Mendelssohn's Elijah and St Paul and Palmeri's MisaTango. Her repertoire also includes chamber music and Lieder, performing regularly with the Prezioso String Quartet and a number of pianists,

The festivals at which she has appeared include the Festival Classique, Rotterdam Operadagen, Ammerseerenade, Narva Opera Days in Estonia and the Young Composers

Meeting in Apeldoorn.

Maarja Purga holds a Bachelor of Arts from the Royal Conservatoire of The Hague, where she studied with Barbara Pearson, and a Master of Music from the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln, where she studied with Lioba Braun. She has participated in master-classes with Nadine Denize, Caroline Dowdle, Edda Moser, Derek Lee Ragin, Dalia Schächter and Ira Siff. Among the conductors with whom she has sung are David Robert Coleman, Lionel Friend, Risto Joost, Byron Knutson, Peter Kuhn, Michael Luig and Reiner Schuhenn.

In recognition of her artistic achievements, she was awarded a Richard Wagner Scholarship in 2016, granted by the Richard Wagner Association in Ammersee, and won the audience prize at the Vello Jürna Vocal Competition in 2020.

Sten Lassmann has been appearing as a soloist and chamber musician since winning first prize in the Sixth Estonian Piano Competition in 2002. He has performed all over the world, and in some of the most prestigious venues, among them the Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto, Purcell Room in London, the Grand and Small Halls of the Tchaikovsky Conservatoire in Moscow, the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatoire Concert Hall in Milan and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing, He has toured Beethoven's Fifth Piano Concerto and Prokofiev's Second with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra (ENSO), and gave the Estonian premiere of James Macmillan's Second Piano Concerto with the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra. Recent engagements include Mozart's B flat major Concerto, к595, with the Orchestra Helikunst, Khachaturian's Piano Concerto with the ENSO and all Bach's multi-keyboard concertos with the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra.



Photograph: Kaupo Kikka

He began his musical education at the Tallinn Central Music School in 1989 and continued at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre with Ivari Ilja. He later studied also at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris with Brigitte Engerer and at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Ian Fountain. A major musical influence also comes from his father, Peep Lassmann, an esteemed professor of piano at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre and a former student of Emil Gilels at the Moscow Conservatoire. In 2013 Sten Lassmann was awarded a PhD at the Royal Academy of Music in London for his research into the Estonian composer Heino Eller. He has also received the Heino Eller Music Prize (2011), the Estonian Cultural Endowment annual music prize (twice, in 2015 and 2021), and in 2018 was elected Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM). His ninth and final volume of Heino Eller's Complete Piano Works, for Toccata Classics, a series that has now covered all 206 of Eller's piano compositions, was awarded 'Best Classical Album' at the Estonian Music Awards in 2024. He is currently senior lecturer of piano at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Also in 2024 Toccata Next released The Estonian Cello, featuring his recordings, with the cellist Valle-Rasmus Roots, of all eight Eller compositions for cello and piano, along with works by Herman Känd, Eduard Oja, Villem Reimann and Eduard Tubin.

Sten Lassmann is an avid chamber musician and in recent years has given recitals with the violinists Pavel Berman, Anna-Liisa Bezrodny, Natalia Lomeiko, Mikk Murdvee, Katariina Maria Kits, Movses Pogossian, Stanislav Pronin, Robert Traksmann, Triin Ruubel, the soprano Arete Kerge, mezzo-sopranos Maarja Purga and Karis Trass and bass Pavlo Balakin, as well as with Valle-Rasmus Roots.

Kirill Ogorodnikov studied classical guitar at the Ahtme School of Arts in north-eastern Estonia and, with Tiit Peterson, at the Georg Ots Music School in Tallinn. In 2013 he received his Bachelor's degree from the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, in the guitar class of Heiki Mätlik, and in 2015 earned his Master's degree from the prestigious Cologne University of Music under the supervision of Gerhard Reichenbach. He has participated in the master-courses of Sérgio Assadi, Roberto Aussel, Eduardo Fernandez, Martin Fogel, Johan Fostier, Sven Lundestad, Carlo Marchione and Yves Storms.

He has successfully participated in international guitar competitions: in 2014, he was awarded the third prize at the international guitar competition in Gevelsberg, Germany, and in 2010 the second prize and a special prize from the Estonian classical-music radio station Klassikaraadio at the Tallinn International Guitar Competition.

Kirill Ogorodnikov performs both as soloist and chamber musician. He has appeared in several festivals in Estonia and at the SaitenReise Gitarrenfestival in Germany. He has appeared twice as a soloist with the Pärnu City Orchestra, performing the Guitar Concerto by Villa-Lobos and premiering the Guitar Concerto by the Estonian composer Gennadi Taniel.

His wide repertoire includes original works and transcriptions from Baroque to the present day, including new Russian music and contemporary works by Estonian composers (Robert Jürjendal,



Ester Mägi, Tõnu Kõrvits, Peeter Vähi). Additionally, he has given the first performances of solo-guitar works dedicated to him by René Eespere (Twelve in Seven and Inventum) and Lauri Joeleht (Sonata a la Arpa). In 2017 he gave the first performance of his own arrangements of romances by Tchaikovsky with the mezzo-soprano Iris Oja.

With Heli Ernits, Kirill Ogorodnikov has formed the Duo Telluur, founded in 2015 and featuring cor anglais and classical guitar. It has performed in several concert venues in Estonia and toured in Germany and Russia. The Duo Telluur is focusing on commissioning pieces by contemporary composers and arrangements for this unusual combination.

Valle-Rasmus Roots, born in 1994, is an Estonian conductor as well as cellist. He began studying cello in 2001 with Mart Laas at the Tallinn Music High School, graduating in 2013. In 2017, he completed his Bachelor's degree at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, obtaining his Master's degree in cello performance in 2020, studying cello with Henry-David Varema. In 2022, he earned a Master's degree in orchestral conducting under the guidance of Paul Mägi and currently he continues as a PhD junior researcher at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre under the supervision of Arvo Volmer.



He has participated in the 'Erasmus+' student-exchange programme, studying at the Universität der Künste in Berlin with Wolfgang Böttcher, and at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki with Marko Ylönen. He has achieved success in various competitions, winning first prize at the Baltic String Players Competition in December 2018 in Vilnius. He was also the winner of the Yamaha Scholarship Competition in 2016.

He has participated in numerous courses and master-classes with such distinguished cellists as David Geringas and Francis Gouton. Additionally, he has attended conducting courses with Leonid Grin, Kristjan Järvi, Neeme Järvi, Paavo Järvi, Vello Pähn, Jorma Panula and Arvo Volmer. He plays a Celeste Farotti cello owned by Maivi Kaljuvee, which has been provided to him by the Estonian Musical Instrument Foundation.

He is the founder and conductor of the orchestra Helikunst. He has conducted several other orchestras, working with such soloists as Hans Christian Aavik, Tähe-Lee Liiv, Marcel Johannes Kits, Katariina Maria Kits, Sten Lassmann, Elina Netšajeva and Karis Trass. As a cellist, he has performed as soloist with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra, Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Pärnu City Orchestra, Baden-Baden Philharmonic Orchestra and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre Symphony Orchestra, working with conductors who include Jüri Alperten, Risto Joost, Paul Mägi, Kaspar Mänd, Mikk Murdvee and Arvo Volmer. He has premiered works for cello and orchestra by the Estonian composers Märt-Matis Lill and Age Veeroos. Toccata Next recently released his album *The Estonian Cello*, featuring his recordings, with Sten Lassmann, of music for cello and piano by Heino Eller, Eduard Oja, Herman Känd Villem Reimann and Eduard Tubin.

Mari-Liis Vind has been the Associate Principal Flute of the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra since 2008. A distinguished musician, she graduated from Tallinn Music High School in 2000 under the guidance of Raivo Peäske. She furthered her education at the Karlsruhe University of Music, graduating in 2007 after studying with Renate Greiss-Armin and Mathias Allin. During her time in Karlsruhe, she also specialised in Baroque flute with Heike Nikodemus and later briefly studied Historical Interpretation Practice at the Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts under Karl Kaiser.



Early in her career, she was a laureate in several national youth competitions, demonstrating her exceptional talent from a young age. Her professional journey has included collaborations with various ensembles and orchestras, covering a spectrum of music from Baroque to contemporary. Notable collaborations include those with the Estonian Baroque Orchestra, Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Ensemble Floridante and the Ensemble for New Music Tallinn.

In addition to her orchestral work, Mari-Liis Vind is dedicated to teaching and currently instructs flute at the Tallinn College of Music and Ballet. She is also a member of Trio Punctum, contributing to the vibrant chamber-music scene in the city. Her multifaceted career highlights her versatility and commitment to the art of music.

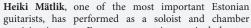
The violinist Kaija Lukas is passionate about chamber music and plays both violin and viola for various professional ensembles throughout Europe, including The English Chamber Orchestra, Amsterdam Sinfonietta, Tallinn Chamber Orchestra, Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orchestre de chamber de Paris; she recently performed as a soloist with the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra. She is also a member of various chamber ensembles, including the newly formed Bridge Ensemble and the Le Jeune String Trio, and has played with the Pavão, Idomeneo and Piatti String Quartets. She is a member of the Jigsaw Chamber Music Series in London.

She began her musical education at the Rapla Music School and Tallinn Music High School and went on to complete her undergraduate and Masters degrees at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, with additional diplomas from Temple University in Philadelphia and at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. She has won several competition prizes, including 'Remember Enescu' in Romania, the Aram Khachaturian competition in Armenia and in national competitions in Estonia.



Digital Bonus Tracks: Arrangements by Heiki Mätlik

The guitarist Heiki Mätlik began working with Ester Mägi in 1982 when she turned 60 and was given a guitar as a present. Thereafter, Heiki Mätlik arranged many of her pieces, among them these three songs for voice, guitar and other instruments. *Maarjasõnajalg* 34 and *Põllul laulmine* 35 and were arranged in collaboration with Ester Mägi specially for the ensemble Camerata Tallinn, in which Heiki Mätlik was an important member almost for 20 years.





musician in many European countries, particularly at such events as the Stockholm Guitar Festival, Iserlohn Guitar Symposium, Gävle Guitar Festival, Tampere Guitar Festival, Espoo Guitar Days, Vilnius Guitar Festival and St Petersburg Virtuosi Guitar. He has also undertaken concert tours of Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, Japan, Russia and the USA. He has collaborated with many Estonian and international soloists as well as conductors.

He has recorded over 50 CDs and DVDs as a chamber musician and soloist, for labels which include Antes, Finlandia, Forte, Harmonia Mundi, one of the most important releases being a double album of Bach's lute works for Alba Records in 1999. With the Estonian VGV Trio, alongside Arvo Leibur, violin, and Terje Terasmaa, vibes, he recorded *Tango King Astor Piazzolla*, which was selected as the best classical album in Estonia in 2000. He has hosted TV and radio series introducing the guitar and its playing (*Guitar Games*, 1981–84, and *Guitar School*, 1990–93). He has received the Estonian National Cultural Award (1991), the title of ER Musician of the Year (1999) and the Order of the White Star medal (2001). Since 1990, he has been a faculty member at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. He has also led master-classes in many Scandinavian and continental European universities, as well as in Argentina, China, Japan and the USA, delivered lectures on the history of guitar-playing and guitar-teaching methodology, and compiled several guitar instruction textbooks, books and DVDs. In 2012 he defended his D.Phil. degree with a dissertation on 'Guitar Arrangements of Johann Sebastian Bach's Lute Works and Their Performance on Classical Guitar'.



Also available from Toccata Classics



TOCC 005

'This is fascinating repertoire, beautifully played and recorded, and well worth seeking out.'

-Nicholas Salwey, International Record Review

'The performances – recorded between 1992 and 2002 by Estonian Radio – are excellent, their remastering splendidly executed by Raphaele Mouterde. An absolute gem of a disc, strongly recommended.'

-Guy Rickards, Gramophone

'this disc is to be welcomed as proof that her voice is a hugely valuable and distinctive one with music that is immediately accessible and richly rewarding. [...] a worthy introduction to a composer who deserves greater recognition outside her country, where she is rightly highly valued.'

-Steve Arloff, MusicWeb International

"The performances are uniformly good, with close attention paid to accenting, firm rhythms, and sectional blending. [...] If this CD is anything to go by, Mägi has far more to offer than the usual East European "picture postcard", and I hope we'll hear more from her."

-Barry Brenesal, Fanfare

Texts and Translations

Viis romanssi

viimaseid.

□ No. 1, Kuis võiksin magada Marie Under

Kuis võiksin magada, kui armastan ma nõnda! Kuu poetand põrandale hõbelehti,

kui pisaraid on puhkend taevas tähti –

kuis võiksin unustada sind ja iseend! Kuis võiksin magada, kui armastan ma nõnda,

et igatsusega võin nüüdseid tunde ehti, öö hallusesse päeva pärleid plehti ja kurbust

kanda nagu õnne mõnda? Sind mõelda, end lasta rõõmu kõrgest lainest kanda – mis sest, kui kuskil põrkad

valuranda. Kuis magada, kuis magada, kui armastan, kui armastan öid-päevi neid kui esimesi või ka

② No. 2, Mälestus
Helvi Jürisson
Süttivad tuled mu südamekambris –
tuhmid, hämarad.
Kusagilt kaugusest tuleb,
silmad mõtlikult maas, üks tuttav, tuttav kuju.

Ja äkki, ja äkki sähvatab põlema pimestav valgus ja valus on silmil, valus on südamel – enam see pole ju algus, vaid lõpustki kaugem, kaugem mälestus, mälestus.

Five Romances

How Could I Sleep

How could I sleep when I love so deeply!
The moon has dropped silver leaves on the floor, as tears have scattered stars across the sky – how could I forget you and myself!
How could I sleep when I love so deeply, that with longing I adorn the present moments, weaving pearls of day into the night's grey and carrying sadness like some fortune?
To think of you, to let myself be carried by joy's high wave – what if somewhere you collide with the shore of pain?

How to sleep, how to sleep, when I love, when I love these nights and days, as if they were the first ones or perhaps the last ones?

A Memory

Lights ignite in the chambers of my heart – dim, obscure.

From somewhere in the distance comes, with eyes thoughtfully lowered, a familiar, familiar figure.

And suddenly, suddenly a blinding light flashes and it hurts the eyes, it hurts the heart – this is no longer the beginning, but a memory, a memory farther even than the end. No. 3, Rannapääsuke Kersti Merilaas Rannapääsuke, sinisuline, tiibu laotas, lendas ülesse, ülalt noolena laskus laintele, valge rnnaga vooge riivates.

Mida tahtis ta mulle ütleda, kurgul kumedal siristas?

Kõrsi kogusin, raage riisusin, sitke saviga seinad silusin, liitsin kõvasti püha põrmuga, kalli kaldaga kokku sidusin. Kõrs kõrrele, raag raole, kalur merele,

kündja vaole, vidiit! Tõuseb tormihoog, pesa pillutab, ilma äärele heidab enese:

rannapääsuke, sirjelinnuke, kuhu lähed siis, mida, mida teed?

Rannapääsuke, sirjelinnuke, kuhu lähed siis, mida teed?

Ikka uuesti, ikka alati, lendan tagasi, otsast alustan sada korda ma, tuhat korda ma: kõrre kõrrele, raole rao.

Siin mu kodupaik, püha sünnimaa, ainus ilma peal, ainus päikse all.

Rand see tuuline, rand see tormide: tormist tugevam on mu armastus.

Beach Swallow

The beach swallow, blue-winged, spread its wings, flew up, from above, descended like an arrow to the waves, touching the currents with its white breast.

What did it want to tell me, chirping in a resonant voice?
I gathered stalks, raked twigs, smoothed the walls with tough clay, joined them firmly with the holy earth, tied them together with the dear shore.
Stalk to stalk, twig to twig, fisherman to the sea, ploughman to the furrow, tweet!

The storm rises, tosses the nest, throws itself to the edge of the world:

beach swallow, Sirje-bird, where are you going, what, what are you doing? Beach swallow, Sirje-bird, where are you going,

what are you doing? Again and always, I fly back, start anew a hundred times, a thousand times:

stalk to stalk, twig to twig.

Here is my home, holy birthplace, the only one in the world, the only one under the sun. This windy shore, this stormy shore: stronger than the storm is my love.

⚠ No. 4, Tuul Marie Under

Lai ja avar akna täis selget kastesinist tuult, kuldseid lõhnu kuslapuult akna-, akna-, uksetäis.

Alles une mustad jõed kohisesid öises loas, nüüd ent hommiktuul mu toas, ja me oleme kui õed.

Akna-, ukse-, majatäis, akna-, ukse-, maj-, majatäis ja õuetäis ja põuetäis.

Lai ja avar aknatäis selget kastesinist tuult, kuldseid lõhnu kuslapuult

akna-, ukse-, majatäis ja õnne põuetäis.

☑ ☑ No. 5, Önne algus

Linda Ruud

Sule, sule silmad, kuula vaikust.

Peida, peida oma pilk, peida, peida.

Muidu kardan, et ma haihtun, muidu kardan, et ma haihtun päikses nagu kastetilk.

Oma kuuma käega, palun, ära puuduta mu kätt,

ära puuduta.

Sinu puudutus on valus, sinu puudutus on valus nagu jumalagajätt.

Wind

Wide and spacious window full of clear dewblue wind,

golden scents from the honeysuckle window-, window-, door-ful.

Only the black rivers of sleep roared in the nightly meadow, but now the morning wind is in my room,

and we are like sisters.

Window-, door-, house-ful, window-, door-, house-, house-ful and yard-ful and bosom-ful.

Wide and spacious window full of clear dewblue wind, golden scents from the honeysuckle window-, door-, house-ful and bosom full of happiness.

The Onset of Happiness

Close, close your eyes, listen to the silence. Hide, hide your gaze, hide, hide. Otherwise I fear I will vanish, otherwise I fear I will vanish in the sun like a dew drop.

With your warm hand, please don't touch my hand, don't touch.

Your touch is painful, your touch is painful like a farewell.

Ära, ära küsi, ära küsi. Ühtki sõna ma ei tea, ma ei tea, ma ei tea. Sõnad kaovad, nad ei püsi, sõnad kaovad, nad ei püsi, sõnast algavad me vead. Ära, ära keela, kui ma lähen – juba rohul kastekirm, kastekirm, kastekirm.

Väike õnn on mulle vähe, väike õnn on mulle vähe, suure ees on aga hirm.

Kaks romanssi

Anna Haava

No. 1, Suur ja vaikne
Suur ja vaikne hiilg ning sära –
mõttest mõtte', hingest hingekahe surelise saatus, teineteise meelespea.

Ei see kadund kaugusega, aegadega ei see haihtund. Kantud üle kauguste! Kandub üle kauguste! Tõuseb üle tõkete! Tõuseb üle tõkete!

Mõttest mõtte', hingest hinge – kahe surelise saatus, teineteise meelespea. Kahe surelise saatus – südamete armastus. Don't, don't ask, don't ask. I don't know a single word, I don't know, I don't know. Words disappear, they don't last, words disappear, they don't last, our mistakes begin with words. Don't, don't forbid, if I leave – already dew is on the grass, dew is on the grass, dew is on the grass, dew is on the grass.

A small happiness is not enough for me, a small happiness is not enough for me, but the great one I fear.

Two Romances

Big and Silent Great and quiet glow and shine – from thought to thought, from soul to soul – the fate of two mortals, reminders of each other.

It has not been lost with distance, not faded with ages. Carried across distances! Carries over distances! Rises above obstacles! Rises above obstacles!

From thought to thought, from soul to soul – the fate of two mortals, reminders of each other. The fate of two mortals – the love of two hearts. No. 2, Mul on tare taeva all Mul on tare taeva all. ümber tare pilvevall, seinte turbeks tuuled suured. varjuks maru mühinad. Siiski seinad toevad maas, nurgakivid sügavas; laotub laeks taevasina. põrandaks maamuld ja paas; vaat 'vad aknasse maailmad. päikse, kuu-ja tähtesilmadd; kohab kambri laululaas. Mul on tare taeva all. ümber tare pilvevall, mul on tare, mul on tare. Nõnda elan, majun mina. Otsid mind kust mujalt sina.

B Kiigele!

Estonian folk-poetry
Teele, teele, ällikene, kiigele, kiigele!
Käi, älli, kõrgele, kiigele, kiigele!
Tulge älmä, äelme, kiigele, kiigele!
Tulge kiikma, kirivä, kiigele, kiigele!
Teele, teele, ällikene, kiigele, kiigele!
Käi älli, kõrgele, kiigele, kiigele!

I have a Shelter under the Skv I have a shelter under the sky, a rampart of clouds around the shelter, strong winds for the protection of the walls, roars of fury for the shade. However, the walls are supported in the ground, the cornerstones in deep; azure spreads to the ceiling, for the floor, earthen ground and limestone; worlds looking in the window, eves of the sun, moon and stars; the singing grove echoing into the chamber. I have a shelter under the sky, a rampart of clouds around the shelter, I have a shelter. I have a shelter. This is how I live, how I reside. Where else are you looking for me?

To the Swing!

to the swing!
Go, little seesaw, high, to the swing, to the swing!
Come along, into the air, to the swing,
to the swing!
Come to swing, colourful one, to the swing,
to the swing!
Off you go, little seesaw, to the swing,
to the swing!
Go, little seesaw, high, to the swing, to the swing!

Off you go, little seesaw, to the swing,

9 Leidsid sõnad kalli viisi

Estonian folksong, text by Manivald Kesamaa Igatsevat, õrna viisi, üle vete kandis tuul. Aga viisil polnud sõnu, polnud sõnu neiu suul.

Miks küll sõnu, armust helli,viis ei kanna, rind ei tea?

Süda, miks su häält ei kuule, sõnadeta laulma pean?

Olid sõnad, polnud viisi, noormees üksi luhal käis.

Öelge, kuhu, kallid sõnad, teie viisi tiivad jäid?

Tiivad, mis mu sõnu kannaks, milles süttiks meel ja rind.

Tule, ööbik, viisi looja, ammu, ammu ootan sind.

Leidsid sõnad kalli viisi, leidsid sõnad kalli viisi, silmad leidsid teineteist.

Neid ja noormees käivad kaldal, neid ja noormees ja õnn loob laule, õnn loob ise laule neist.

Words Found a Lovely Melody

Over the waters the wind carried a gentle, longing tune.

But the tune had no words, no words on the maiden's lips.

Why, indeed, words of tender love, does the tune not carry, the heart not know?

Heart, why can't I hear your voice, why must I sing without words?

There were words, but no tune, the young man walked alone in the meadow.

Tell me, dear words, where did your tune's wings stay?

Wings that would carry my words, that ignite the mind and heart.

Come, nightingale, creator of tunes, I have waited for you so long, so long.

The words found a cherished tune, the words found a cherished tune, eyes they found each other.

The maiden and the lad walk along the shore, the maiden and the lad and happiness create songs, happiness itself creates songs of them. Nüüd on viisid nüüd on sõnad, vaikne õnn käib kahe eel

Ühest armust laule lendab helisedes kaugele. Nüüd on viisid, nüüd on sõnad, vaikne õnn käib kahe eel

Ühest armust laule lendab helisedes kaugele, helisedes kaugele ja helisedes kaugele.

Lehed langs'sid

Juhan Liiv
Tuulehoog lõi vetesse,
lehed lang'sid laintesse:
lained olid tuhakarva,
taevas üle tinakarva,
tuhakarva sügise.
See oli hää mu südamel:
sääl olid tunded tuhakarva,
taevas üle tinakarva, tuhakarva sügise.

□ Lumehelbeke

Juhan Liiv
Lumehelbeke tasa, tasa liugleb aknale,
tasa tasa...
Nagu viibiks ta tasa, tasa, mõtleks tulles ka:
tasa, tasa!
Miks nii tuksud, rind?
Tasa, tasa!
Rahu otsib sind – tasa, tasa...

Now there are tunes, now there are words, quiet happiness goes before the two of them.

Out of one love, songs fly far, ringing loudly.

Now there are tunes, now there are words, quiet happiness goes before them.

Out of one love, songs fly far ringing loudly, fly far ringing loudly and fly far ringing loudly.

Leaves were Falling

A gust of wind struck the waters, leaves fell into the waves: the waves were ash-coloured, the sky above tin-coloured, ash-coloured autumn.

It was good for my heart: there were feelings ash-coloured, the sky above tin-coloured, ash-coloured autumn.

A Snowflake

A snowflake quietly, quietly glides onto the window, quietly, quietly... As if it were staying quietly, quietly, thinking upon arrival: quietly, quietly! Why do you beat so, my heart? Quietly, quietly! Peace seeks you – quietly, quietly...

🛚 Vanatühja petmine

Estonian folk-poetry Mu papal oli rikas põld, ta kinkis mulle obu. Irnu mu obu, irnu mu obu, kiri mu kukeluke. Mu papal oli rikas põld, ta kinkis mulle lehma. Irnu mu obu, möögi mu lehma, irnu mu obu,

möögi mu lehma, kiri mu kukeluke.
Mu papal oli rikas põld, ta kinkis mulle lamba.
Irnu mu obu, möögi mu lehma, määgi mu lammas, irnu mu obu, kiri mu kukeluke.
Mu papal oli rikas põld, ta kinkis mulle peni.
Irnu mu obu, möögi mu lehma, määgi mu lammas, haugu mu peni, kiri mu kukeluke.
Mu papal oli rikas põld, ta kinkis mulle kana.
Irnu mu obu, möögi mu lehma, määgi mu lammas, haugu mu peni, kaagu mu kana, kiri mu kukeluke.

⅓ Valge pall

Kaarel Korsen Kaunid mänguhetked, kaunis suvepäev, jälle kaenlas reket, väljakule läen.

Cheating Old Nick

My dad had a prosperous field, he gave me a horse.

Neigh my horse, neigh my horse, crow my little rooster.

My dad had a prosperous field, he gave me a cow.

Neigh my horse, moo my cow, neigh my horse, moo my cow, crow my little rooster.

My dad had a prosperous field, he gave me a sheep.

Neigh my horse, moo my cow, bleat my sheep, neigh my horse, crow my little rooster.

My dad had a prosperous field, he gave me a dog.

Neigh my horse, moo my cow, bleat my sheep, bark my dog, crow my little rooster.

My dad had a prosperous field, he gave me a hen.

Neigh my horse, moo my cow, bleat my sheep, bark my dog, cluck my chicken, crow my little rooster.

White Ball

Beautiful moments of play, a beautiful summer day,

once again with racquet in hand, I step onto the court.

Kutsub saatma lendu end ka valge pall, keelitab mind mängu, mängu, võlu-, võluvõim on tal.

Valge pall, valge pall, hästi lenda mu löögi all! Kõrge rabak, täpselt taba õiget kohta võrgu taga!

Soe ja särav kõrgus,sinab üleval, teel on üle võrgu katseks löödud pall.

Viib mind uljalt kaasa kasvav mänguhoog. Kuidas see küll haarab, haarab, võidu, võidugi ehk toob.

Valge pall, valge pall, hästi lenda mu löögi all! Kõrge rabak, täpselt taba õiget kohta võrgu taga!

Ümber pargi vaikus, kõrged pärnapuud, hetketi vaid kaigub laulu linnu suust. Saatmas igal sammul meid on päikse helk, mäng mis algas ammu ammu, jätkud, jätkub tuliselt.

Valge pall, valge pall, hästi lenda mu löögi all! Kõrge rabak, täpselt taba õiget kohta võrgu taga! The white ball calls me to send it flying, It persuades me to join the game, enchanting, enchanting power it has.

White ball, white ball, fly well under my strike! High lob, hit precisely in the right spot behind the net!

Warm and radiant height, gleaming blue above, on its way over the net is the try-out ball.

The growing momentum of the game boldly takes me along.

How it grips, grips, victory, perhaps bringing victory too.

White ball, white ball, fly well under my strike! High lob, hit precisely in the right spot behind the net!

Silence surrounds the park, tall lime trees, occasionally only the song of a bird echoes. Accompanying us at every step is the gleam of the sun,

A game that began long, long ago continues fiercely.

White ball, white ball, fly well under my strike! High lob, hit precisely in the right spot behind the net!

Kaks laulu Ernst Enno sõnadele

Ernst Enno

Mo. 1, Sääl kõrgel Sääl kõrgel, sääl kõrgel, kõrgel pilvis kus kuldne koidu käik, kus pilvekeste kodu, kus tähte sära, läik;

sääl imeline tee... Hing otsib ilmas, otsib – ei leia ülesse.

sääl varjul rada vaikne,

Koit kuldne, koit kuldne hilju hüüab: sääl hiilgab iludus... Pilv tasa sosisteleb: siin asub vabadus... Ja ihal, ja ihal tähte, tähte sära käib hinge tasane, kui kutsuks, kutsuks venda kodu, kes eksind võõrsile,

kes eksind võõrsile.

Two Songs to Words by Ernst Enno

Up There
Up high, up high, high in the clouds
where the golden dawn breaks,
where the clouds have their home,
where the stars shimmer and shine;
there lies a hidden, quiet path, there lies
a wondrous road...
The soul searches the world, searches –
but cannot find it.

The golden dawn, the golden dawn softly calls: there glimmers beauty...
The cloud softly whispers: here resides freedom...
And yearning, and yearning for the star, the star's shimmer the soul quietly walks, as if calling, calling a brother home, who has strayed into foreign lands, who has strayed into foreign lands.

☑ No. 2, Köitke kinni!
Köitke kinni,
köitke kinni ta silmad kesk võõrast ilmateed –
köitke kinni,
köitke kinni ta silmad –
ta leiab siiski oma teed.
Keset ilma, kesk laia,
võõrast rada, juhiks armastus;
keset ilma, kesk laia.

võõrast rada teed tunneb kojuigatsus.

Pange raudu, pange raudu ta jalad ja müüri needke keed – pange raudu, pange raudu ta jalad – ta leiab siiski oma teed.
Keset raudu, kesk vangitare müürde ei jahtu armastus, lahti sulatab, lahti müüre, lahti raudu – teed murrab kojuigatsus, teed murrab kojuigatsus, igatsus.

Bind the eyes!
Bind shut,
bind shut his eyes in the midst of a strange
world's path –
bind shut,
bind shut his eyes –
he will still find his way.
In the middle of the world, amid the wide,
unfamiliar path, love being the guide;
in the middle of the world, amid the wide,
unfamiliar path, homesickness will know the

Put on cuffs, put cuffs on his feet and wall in those chains – put on cuffs, put cuffs on his feet – he will still find his way.

Amidst the cuffs, within prison walls love will not cool down, it will melt, open the walls, release the chains – longing for home will break the way, longing for home will break the way, longing.

way.

Laulud Betti Alveri luulega

Betti Alver

16 No. 1, Puust palitu

Päike paistis, kaste hiilgas,

viduts vihma veidike,

pojuke mängis memme põlvel,

seljas titekleidike.

Juba need julged jõngerjalad jooksid joovika rabani.

Tuli rätsep, õmbles riided, nikerdas nööpaugud nabani.

Oli see hunt, kes äkki huikas, tusar tihniku asukas.

Nooruk sõitis laia laande

karuses killakasukas,

karuses killakasukas.

Kihas taplus, loitsid leegid, suitsusid sõja keerised, mehepoeg vaarus, vaarus keset välja vammused veidi verised, vammused veidi verised

Memmele jäid tühjad nurgad, taadile hobuste talitus, pojuke viidi kabelimäele puhkama puust palitus, puhkama puust palitus.

Songs to Poetry by Betti Alver

Wooden Overcoat

The sun shone, the dew sparkled,

a little rain drizzled,

a little boy played on his mother's lap,

wearing a baby dress.

Soon those bold little legs ran to the cranberry bog.

A tailor came, sewed clothes, carved buttonholes down to the navel.

Was it a wolf that suddenly howled, a gloomy inhabitant of the thicket.

A young man rode into the wide wilderness in a rough (military) fur coat,

in a rough (military) fur coat.

A battle raged, flames chanted, the whirlwinds of war smoked, the young man staggered, staggered in the middle of the field, his clothes slightly bloodied, his clothes slightly bloodied.

Empty corners were left for the grandmother, horse chores for the grandfather,

the little boy was taken to the chapel hill

to rest in a wooden coat,

to rest in a wooden coat.

No. 2, Jälle ja jälle Kui kajab muusika ja naeruhääl on hele, näod hõõguma ju löövad rõõmuroast, siis läbi linna lumeväljadele ma tasakesi põikan pidutoast.

Nüüd kustub kaugel kumav aknarida. Täis pilkusid on taevapimedik. Ma seisatan.

Sa tuled jällegi mu kohtunik, ja küsid jälle jälle midagi. Kuid mida, mida sa siis ei tea? Sa näitad minule mu armetust ning jällegi on osatada vaja sul minu eluhoolt, mu elumaja, mu enda hellitust ja edevust.

Su käes on korraga kui kulurohi mu rinnalt kistud hõbelill.

Nii raske, raske tuule rajuvil sa rebid kõik mu hingehilbud maha. Ma oma võimetuses vahel vihkan sind! Kuid sinuta mu süüdistaja, ma siiski siiski elada ei taha, ma elada ei saa.

ma elada ei tohi, tohi!

Again and Again When music echoes and laughter is bright, faces start to glow with joy, then through the city to the snowy fields I quietly slip away from the feast. Now the distant row of glowing windows fades. The night sky is full of glances. I stop. You come again, my judge, and ask once more, once more something. But what, what is it that you do not know? You show me my wretchedness and once again you need to scorn my life's care, my life's home, my own tenderness and vanity. *In your hand, like dry grass, the silver flower* from my chest is torn. So heavy, heavy is the stormy wind you tear away all the shreds of my soul. In my helplessness, sometimes I hate you! But without you, my accuser, I still, still do not want to live,

I cannot live.

☑ No. 3, Linnud naersid Une aknale, une aknale kevad koputas, kevad koputas. Une aknale, une aknale kevad koputas. Tahtsin tumedas majas magada, tahtsin tumedas majas magada, näpus härmalill, rinnas räitsakad.

Aga kevade kürgas valusalt õite õhetust, õite õhetust elu haavale, elu haavale. Kõik mu suletud mõtted veeretas tuhka tuuleke tantsukingaga, tuuleke tantsukingaga, tuuleke tantsukingaga.

Linnud katusel naersid laginal, linnud katusel naersid laginal, linnud katusel naersid laginal, naersid laginal naersid. Kui mind ahastus aknal kägistas, kui mind ahastus aknal kägistas, ahastus kägistas, ahastus kägistas. The Birds were Laughing
At the window of sleep, at the window of sleep,
spring knocked, spring knocked.
At the window of sleep, at the window of sleep,
spring knocked.
Laughted to sleep in the dark house

I wanted to sleep in the dark house,
I wanted to sleep in the dark house,
with a frost flower in hand, snowflakes in my
chest.

But spring urged painfully the blush of blossoms, the blush of blossoms on the wound of life, on the wound of life.

All my closed thoughts were swept away by a breeze with dancing shoes, a breeze with dancing shoes, a breeze with dancing shoes.

Birds on the roof laughed loudly, birds on the roof laughed loudly, birds on the roof laughed loudly, laughed loudly, laughed. As despair strangled me at the window, as despair strangled me at the window, despair strangled, despair strangled.

Kolm setu muinasjutulaulu

Seto folk-poetry

No. 1, Laulev puu

Sõsar minu ärä tappis, velloni, velloni, ärä tappis, maalõmattis, velloni, velloni, mati mähki voihõlõ.

velloni, velloni, maalõ mattis mar'avaka, velloni, velloni, mattis suur tii viirde, velloni, velloni, laia tii lainiille, velloni, velloni. Ärä tapi sõsarõni, ärä mati maa sisse,

mano pani maravaka maalõ matis maravaka. Sõsar minu ärä tappis, ärä tappis, maalõ mattis. Sõar minu ärä tappis, 'ärä tappis, mattis maalõ,

mattis maalõ maravaka, maalõ mattis maravaka, maalõ. Mattis suur tii viirde, laia tii lainiille, laia tii

lainiille, laia tii lainiille, lainiille, suur tii viirde.

Sõitsi müüdä suurõ säksa, kandu müüdä kauba-, kaubamehe. Sõitsi müüdä säält suurõ säksa, kandu müüdä kaubamehe, raie maha tuu kõokõsõ, kaibi kandlõpuukõsõ!

Three Seto Fairytale Songs

The Singing Tree

My sister killed me, my brother, my brother, killed me.

buried me in the ground, my brother, my brother,

wrapped me in a butterleaf, my brother, my brother,

buried me at the great road's edge, my brother, my brother,

in the wide road's line, my brother, my brother.

Do not kill your sister, do not bury her
in the ground,

placed beside the butterleaf, buried with the butterleaf.

My sister killed me, killed me, buried me in the ground.

My sister killed me, killed me, buried me in the ground, buried with the butterleaf, buried with the butterleaf, buried in the ground.

Buried by the great road's edge, in the wide road's line, in the wide road's line, in the wide road's line, in the line, by the great road's edge.

Rode past the great Saxon,

passed by the merchant, the merchant.

Rode past the great Saxon, passed

by the merchant,

cut down that cuckoo, chop down the aspen tree!

☑ No. 2, Uinutamislaul
Uinu uinu üt's silm,
uinu uinu otsani magama.

Uinu uinu üt's silm, uinu uinu kat's silm, Uinu uinu üt's silm, uinu uinu kat's silm, uinu uinu otsani magama.

Uinu uinu üt's silm, uinu uinu kat's silm, uinu uinu kat's silm, uinu uinu kolm silm, uinu uinu otsani magama.
Uinu uinu üt's silm, uinu uinu kat's silm, uinu uinu otsani magama, uinu uinu otsani magama, uinu uinu otsani magama.

回 No. 3, Vaeslaps käoks Kuuku, käokõnõ, ime tapp, ese sei, kuuku käokõnõ, sõsar hellä linnukõnõ kuukuu!

Koras luu räti sisse kuukuu, vei mõtsa kannu otsa kuukuu. Säält kasvi käokõnõ kuukuu, säält kasvi käokõnõ kuu-kuu, Imeks tapi ese seije, vello mino vere jeije. A Lullaby
Sleep, sleep one eye,
sleep, sleep one eye,
sleep, sleep one eye,
sleep, sleep one eye,
sleep, sleep all the way to sleep,

Sleep, sleep one eye, sleep, sleep two eyes, Sleep, sleep one eye, sleep, sleep two eyes, sleep, sleep all the way to sleep.

Sleep, sleep one eye, sleep, sleep two eyes, sleep, sleep two eyes, sleep, sleep three eyes, sleep, sleep all the way to sleep.
Sleep, sleep one eye, sleep, sleep two eyes, sleep, sleep all the way to sleep, sleep all the way to sleep, sleep all the way to sleep.

The Orphan of a Cuckoo Coo-coo, little cuckoo bird, mother killed me, father ate me, coo-coo little cuckoo, gentle sister-bird, coo-coo!

Wrapped the bone in a cloth, coo-coo, carried it to the stump in the forest, coo-coo. From there grew the little cuckoo bird, coo-coo, from there grew the little cuckoo bird, coo-coo, Mother killed me, father ate me, my brother drank my blood.

Sõsar koras sõrmõluu, mähkuks sini siidi sisse, pääle solga räti sisse, säält sai illos, tsirgukõnõ, vahajalga varbolanõ. Ämmäke mä är' tapp, kuu-kuu kuu-kuu, ese sei minu liha, kuu-kuu kuu-kuu, velo jei minu vere, kuu-ku-kuu-kuu, sõsar koras luu kokku kuu-kuu kuu-kuu.

Kiäkäo ärä tappis, kuu-ku kuu-ku ämmäk käo ärä tappis kuu-ku kuu-ku, sõsar korras kokku luu kuu-ku kuu-ku, mähke siniräti sisse kuu-ku kuu-ku, sealt sai sini tsirgukõnõ kuu-ku, sinisiibo linduja kuuku.

Kuuku kuu-ku kuu-ku kuu-ku kuu-ku kuu [etc.]

Ime mu ärä tappi, vello mu vere jeije, ese mu liha seije, sõsar mu hella linnukõnõ, kiä mu luu kokko koras, köüdi ta siniräti sisse, veije ta mõtsa kannu pääle, säält ma sai illos käokõnõ, sini ma süva tsirgokõnõ, kuu-kuu-kuu, kukuu, kukuu, kukuu, kukuu.

Sister collected the finger bone, wrapped it in blue silk, over it a grimy cloth, from there came a beautiful little bird, a sparrow with wax legs.
Stepmother killed me, coo-coo coo-coo, my father ate my flesh, coo-coo coo-coo, my brother drank my blood, coo-coo coo-coo, sister gathered the bones together, coo-coo coo-coo.

Who killed the cuckoo, coo-coo coo-coo, stepmother killed the cuckoo, coo-coo coo-coo, sister gathered the bones together, coo-coo coo-coo,

wrapped them in a blue cloth, coo-coo coo-coo, from there came a blue bird, coo-coo, with blue wings, coo-coo.

Coo-coo coo-coo coo-coo coo [etc.]

Mother did kill me, my brother did drink my blood, my father did eat my flesh, sister my gentle bird, who gathered my bones together, wrapped them in a blue cloth, carried them to the edge of the forest, from there I became a beautiful cuckoo bird, blue and deep little bird, coo-coo-coo, coo-coo, coo.

22 Ööhõlmad

Valli Naelapea Sirutan käed, sirutan käed mõlemad ja vaatan –

valgust pole, valgust pole.

Peopesadel põlevad tuled, põlevad tuled, mida ei ole, ei ole.

Öö kiirgus on veider,

kuumendab kätt:

tulipalavalt, palavalt peidus, tulipalavalt peidus on jumalagajätt

päikest päevadele, päikest päevadele.

Öö hoones unetus poetub,

poetub mu käevahele tumetuikav, tume tunnetus.

Ära mine minust nii kaugele, et ma sinu nuttu ei kuule,

ära keera oma pead teisele poole, kuidas saaksin su pisaraid pühkida? Oma armastuse lasen lahti, lasen lahti, ledu, lasen lendu kui laperdava liblika.

Ära mine tihnikute taha,

et liblikas takerduks teelt,

ära kao nii kaugele, et ma su murekortse ei näe.

Night Shades

I reach out my hands, I reach out both hands and look –

there is no light, there is no light.

On my palms lights are burning, lights are burning that do not exist, do not exist.

The night's radiance is peculiar,

warming my hand:

fiercely hot, hidden warmly, fiercely hidden

is the farewell

of the sun for the days,

of the sun for the days.

Insomnia creeps into the night building, darkly throbbing, dark sensation creeps into my arms.

Don't go so far from me that I can't hear your crying,

don't turn your head away, how could I wipe away your tears?

I release my love, I let go, let it fly,

I let it fly like a fluttering butterfly. Don't go behind the thickets,

so that the butterfly doesn't stumble

from the path,

don't disappear so far that I can't see your worry lines.

Tahan olla, tahan olla, olla nii ligi.
Tahan olla, tahan olla, olla nii ligi.
Tahaksin nutta, nutta sinuga koos,
nutta sinuga koos.
Tsuu, tsuu, tsuuh, tsuu, tsuuh, tsuu, tsuu,
tsuu. tsuu.

Kaks laulu

Viivi Luik
☑ No. 1, Öö
Tule öö, viibiv öö.
Tule öö, viibiv öö,
jahe öö, sügisöö.
Ära ütle, sa ööde lill,
ära ütle, sa ööde lill,
ära ütle, sa tulilil....
Soo taga on kuu,
soo taga käis tuul,
soo taga kuu.
Soode taga eile tuul, eile tuul, tuul, tuul, tuul.

Ära ütle, et nutab lill, ära ütle, et sügistuul, ära ütle, et jahe tuul, ööde lill, suve matuste valge, valge lill!

Tule, öö, viibiv öö. Tule öö, viibiv öö, jahe öö, sügisöö, sügisöö. Tule, öö, viibiv öö, sügis öö, sügis öö.

Two Songs

Night
Come, night, lingering night.
Come, night, lingering night,
cool night, autumn night.
Don't say, you flower of nights,
don't say, you flower of nights,
don't say, you fire lily...
Behind the marsh is the moon,
behind the marsh the wind passed,
behind the marsh, the moon.
Behind the marsh yesterday the wind, yesterday
the wind, wind, wind, wind.

Don't say, the flower cries, don't say, it's the autumn wind, don't say it's the cool wind, flower of nights, white, white flower of summer's burial!

Come, night, lingering night.
Come, night, lingering night,
cool night, autumn night, autumn night.
Come, night, lingering night, autumn night,
autumn night.

24 No. 2, Silmil suletuil

Silmil suletuil paljale taevale sõnu vaikseid, kurb jumal, sõnu vaikseid märkisid lõpmata kordi.

Nõnda palju, nõnda palju kuldseid, nõnda palju kuldseid märkisid kuldsele vaevale.

Sõnu vaikseid kaskede okste peal tuul üle loeb lõpmata kordi, kaskede okste peal sõnu vaikseid loeb lõpmata kordi, lõpmata kordi.

Su ripsmed, kurb jumal, said vetele ja neil roopilli sinine hääl, su ripsmete sinine hääl, su ripsmed, kurb jumal.

25 34 Maarjasõnajalg

Karl Ristikivi

Ainult Maarjamaal, Maarjamaal maarjasõnajalg.

Ainult Maarjamaal, Maarjamaal maarjasõnajalg.

Neitsi jahe lehvik, mille ta jaaniöö kastest rõske surub vastu põske.

Varemeist mööda rinnakust alla, vanade puude all, varemeist mööda rinnakust alla vanade puude all.

Vanade puude, vanade puude all mürgise juurega magusas maas Dryopteris filixmas, Dryopteris filixmas. With Eves Closed

With closed eyes onto the bare sky, silent words, sad god, silent words you marked endlessly. So many, so many golden, so many golden signs you marked onto the golden suffering.

Silent words on the branches of birches, the wind counts endlessly, endlessly counts silent words on the branches of birches, endlessly.

Your eyelashes, sad god, fell onto the waters and their blue voice of a reed pipe, your eyelashes' blue voice, your eyelashes, sad god.

The Marian Fern

Only in Mary's Land, in Mary's Land, the Marian fern. Only in Mary's Land, in Mary's Land, the Marian fern.

The cool fan of the Virgin, which she presses against her cheek damp with the dew of St John's Night.

Passing by ruins down the slope, under the old trees, passing by ruins down the slope under the old trees.

Under the old trees, under the old trees with its poisonous root in the sweet ground, Dryopteris filixmas, Dryopteris filixmas.

Pahklikust tüvest piilub drüaad, ööl on üheksa poega, üheksa lillega padja all näed, et üksi üksi jääd. Maarja millal sa millal sa käisid me maal ja paitasid sõnajalga? Maarja millal sa andsid talle oma nime

millal sa andsid talle oma nime? Maarja!

Lase sündida ime, lase sündida ime! Lase sündida ime, lase sündida ime!

26 Huiked

Uu-uuh, le-lo-lol-loo, la-la-la, alleaa, eo, ekeo, etc.

35 Põllul laulmine

Estonian folk-poetry

I I Moderato

Lõpe, lõpe põllukene, saa otsa saarekene, lõpe põldu leigatessa, saa kokku korjadessa, sind ju ammu akatiie, ammu akki leigatiie!

Kui ei lõpe leigatessa, saa ei kokku korjadessa, küll siis jääned sirgu süia, sirgu süia karja käia. From a gnarled trunk peeks a dryad, the night has nine sons, with nine flowers under the pillow, you'll see that you'll remain alone.

Mary, when did you, when did you visit our land and caress the fern?

Mary, when did you give it your name, when did you give it your name?

Mary!

Let a miracle happen, let a miracle happen! Let a miracle happen, let a miracle happen!

Herding Calls

Songs from the Fields

the haystack has long been cut!

End, end little field, come to an end little island, let the field end through cutting, come together by gathering, you have been started a long time ago,

If you do not end when cut, nor come together when gathered,

then you will remain to be eaten by the fowl, eaten by the fowl, trodden by the cattle.

Ees üle – ees üle- ees ülees.
Ees üle- ees üle – ees üle lõõrile, sõõrile, leerile, veerile!

☐ II Andante tenuto

Küll mina leikan, ei mina jõua,
ei minu esi edene,
ei minu väljuke vähene ei minu põlluke
põgene!

Tühi teaneb mis minula:
kas on jõudu ära võetud,
või on käed kinni pandud, sõrmed selgaje
seotud?

On minu enese siji või on sandi siribi siji?

Sirp on sandi sepa tehtud, raud on raibete tautud.

Mul on üksi ainus venda minu ella vennakene, tee mulle terane sirpi, lase vaskine valada, keera kulda keskeelle, tilguta tina tahaje, et võin minna meeste ulka, naeste naljaje ajada, tulla troppi tüterilla, naeste naljaje ajada, tulla troppi tütterilla aa-aa-aa...

☑ Largo
Kui meil lõpeb leigatava,
saab kokku korjatava,
siis meil lõpeb lõuna leiba,
vahe kannikad vauvad.
Siis tuua kerves tubaje,
panna pakku põrmandale, ootsa lüüa orjalegi,
pähe panna päivilisel.

Forward over – forward over – forward up. Forward over – forward over – forward over to the song, to the yarn, to the finch.

Oh, I will cut, but I can't bear it, the tasks ahead won't prosper, my fields won't diminish, my plots won't escape! I wonder what's troubling me: has my strength been taken away, or are my hands tied, fingers bound behind my back?

Is it my own mistake or the flaw of a faulty sickle?

The sickle crafted by an inept blacksmith, iron shaped by rogues.

I have only one brother, my beloved little brother,

craft for me a keen sickle, cast it in copper, wrap gold around its core, coat tin on its back, so I can join the men, laugh with the women, gather with the girls, laugh with the women, gather with the girls aa-aa-aa...

When we run out of what we can cut, when what we can pick shrinks, then our midday bread will end, the interim loaves will vanish.

Then bring the hatchet to the chamber, put a stump on the floor, hit the slave to his end, send the tasker on his way.

3 IV Allegro

Kui tuli mi' pika põllo mano, leloo, leloleloo siiä lasi mi' laja välä mano, leloo, leoleloo inne panõks mi' ilo ii pääle, leloo, leloleloo laulu panõ mi' laja välä pääle, leloo, leloleloo.

Küll meile siis ilo iih lätte, leloo,leloleloo Küll meileks ta laulu takahlasi, leloo,leoleloo esi keerä mi ilo keskellä, leloo, leloleloo esi laso mi' laulu vaihõllo, leloo, leloleloo. Hüä ommõ küll ilol tüüdä tetä, leloo, leloleloo laulul ommõ küll laapi laka välja, leloo, leloleloo.

31 V Rubato

Lelooo, lelo, lelo! Lõpõ mu kulla põllukõnõ, leloo, leloo, hüü! Kui no lõpõ siiä jätä leloo, leloo, hüü! Leloo, lelo, lelo! Lõpõ mu kulla põllukõnõ, leloo, leloo, hüü! Kui-i no lõpõ siiä jätä

32 VI Allegro giocoso

leloo,leloo, hüü!

Sirise, sirise, sirbikene, sirise sirise sirbikene, kõnele, kõnele, kõverikene, kõnele, kõnele, kõverikene,

räägi, rootsi rauakene, räägi rootsi rauakene.

When we arrived at the long field, leloo, leloleloo,

we came to the wide expanse, leloo, leloleloo. First, we placed joy upon the field, leloo, leloleloo,

And filled the broad land with our songs, leloo...

Then joy will lead the way, leloo, While happiness follows behind, leloo. In the midst of this joy, we turn, letting songs weave between the furrows. It's truly good to work with joy, with singing, we'll gather the wide field, leloo, leloleloo.

Leloo, lelo, lelo!

Finish my dear little field, leloo, leloo, hüü! If you do not finish, I will leave the crop here, leloo, leloo, hüü!

Finish my dear little field, leloo, leloo, hüü! If you do not finish, I will leave the crop here, leloo, leloo, hüü!

Chirp, chirp, little sickle, chirp, chirp, little sickle, Speak, speak, little curve, speak, speak, little curve,

Talk, little Swedish iron, talk, little Swedish iron.

Ke meisti ära suresi sene sirpi maa siseje, ke meisti ära suresi sene sirpi maa siseje.

Ke meisti mehele läheb, sene sirpi kaugeelle, ke meisti mehele läheb, sene sirpi kaugeelle. Ke meisti mehele läheb, sene sirpi kaugeelle, kellel sirp siin ette jõuab, sellel peigmees tulla nõuab.

Lähme lauldes läbi metsa, kelle hääl seal kaugel kostab, sellel peigmees mütsi ostab, sellel peigmees mütsi ostab.

Sirise, sirise, sirbikene, sirise, sirise sirbikene. Ke meisti mehele läheb, ke meisti mehele läheb, sene sirpi kaugeelle, sene sirpi kaugeelle, sene sirpi kaugeelle, sene sirpi kaugeelle. For those who will die, their sickle stays in the ground,

For those who will die, their sickle stays in the ground.

For those who will marry, their sickle goes far away,

for those who will marry, their sickle goes far away.

For those who will marry, their sickle goes far away,

whoever's sickle outpaces the others, their groom will come calling.

Let's go singing through the forest, whoever's voice echoes far, their groom will buy them a hat, their groom will buy them a hat.

Chirp, chirp, little sickle, chirp, chirp, little sickle. For those who will marry, for those who will marry, their sickle goes far away, their sickle goes far away, their sickle goes far away, their sickle goes far away.

—Translations by Maarja Purga



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