

Photo: Anne Hyskenberg

Nils Landgren & The Swedish Radio Choir

Marvellous and moving

This is about the darker sides of love, but nevertheless Sandström makes it sound bright, as usual. During this 50-minute-long meditation Landgren's red-gleaming trombone often becomes a more sorrowful contemplative prolongation of the words. His singular vocal part, in turn, appears as a touching expression of mankind's voice and failings in relation to the ethereal choral sonorities in Sandström's marvellous and moving work. *Dagens Nyheter* 16.3.

Sven-David Sandström: Sonnets of Darkness and Love ↪

Swedish Radio Choir/Kaspars Putnins, sol. Nils Landgren, voc. and tbn, 15.3.2024 Stockholm, Sweden



Photo: Simon Vilks (The Royal Swedish Opera)

Hanna Husähr as Ava in *The Promise*

Thrilling Turriago concerto

The composer transported the audience on a journey of enchanting Latino rhythms – the soloist shone and conversed with his instrument. Turriago's Trumpet Concerto is a major new orchestral work...The deafening applause was well earned as the concerto in all its richness swept into this world. *Aamulehti* 7.4.

This elegant, taut concerto abounds in beautiful detail, motifs that carry it along in an interesting way and some unexpected moments. The performance by Flores, Vásquez and the Tampere Philharmonic was both airtight and rich, full of energy. *Kulttuuritoimitus.fi* 6.4

Tuomas Turriago: Trumpet Concerto

World premiere: Tampere PO/Christian Vásquez, sol. Pacho Flores, 5.4.2024 Tampere, Finland



Tuomas Turriago

Photo: Nea Ilmavirta

Great beauty in *The Promise*

By depicting moods in a way that is recognizable for everyone, Gothe solves the communication challenge with elegance. This is most obvious in all the beautiful moments of the work, especially in the choral sections... Gothe has a fantastic command of the orchestration. It is deeply fascinating to follow how he sets up nuances of sonorities – to show the orchestra when it is most colourful, but not least to carry the drama... The libretto is poetic and allows scope for the music to come to a stop and be dreamy. And thus Gothe can write something as classical as arias. *Musikmagasinet* 22.3.

Mats Larsson Gothe: Löftet (The Promise) ↪

Royal Swedish Opera Orchestra and Chorus/Tobias Ringborg, sol. Hanna Husähr, Jens Persson Hertzman, Agnes Auer etc, 23.02.2024 Stockholm, Sweden



Rickard Söderberg & Jonas Valfridsson

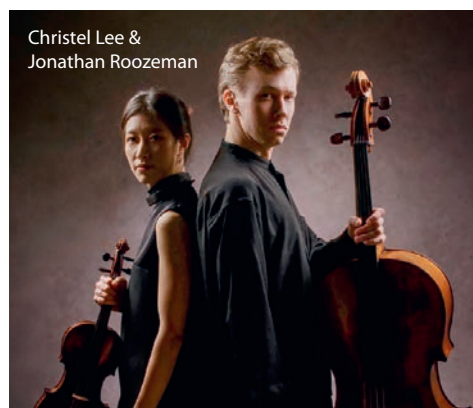
Valfridsson's awesome premiere

Jonas Valfridsson's four movements capture in a very elegant way the mood of each season – a sort of lingering melancholy in the autumn movement, bright, budding hope in the spring movement, etc. It is music that is intricate without being for a moment inaccessible, and it is filled with strong emotions. Rickard Söderberg has the whole gamut of expression in his throat and in his presence on stage. This premiere is awesome. *Jönköpingsposten* 27.5.

Jönköpingsposten 27.5.

Jonas Valfridsson: Ärit

World premiere: Jönköping Sinfonietta/Anna-Maria Helsing, sol. Rickard Söderberg, ten, 26.5.2024 Jönköping, Sweden



Christel Lee & Jonathan Roozeman

Photo: Célimans

Tuomas Ilmavirta

Impressive Aho double concerto

Aho's fantastic command of orchestration and his ability to write clear, beautiful solo material were once again demonstrated. Contrasting with the soloists' delicate touch were the frantic frolics of the brass and a vast battery of percussions. Crowning it all were the ethereal flickers of the flutes and the hushed, tinkling bells. *Kaleva* 26.4.

Kalevi Aho: Concerto for Violin, Cello and Orchestra

World premiere: Oulu SO/Jessica Cottis, sol. Christel Lee, vl, Jonathan Roozeman, vlc, 25.4.2024 Oulu, Finland

Spectacular and utterly original

Whittall has recently succeeded in creating an aesthetic territory all of his own that, in its effortless stylistic synthesis, is utterly original. ...The orchestration, extremely effective and at times spectacular, suggests Ravel meets Richard Strauss, and the result is an extremely refined landscape. The organ part makes exhaustive use of the full potential of the Helsinki Music Centre organ, complete with quarter-tone steps and lighting changes of register. *Hufvudstadsbladet* 23.5.

Matthew Whittall: Joy for organ and orchestra 🎧

World premiere: Finnish RSO/Nicholas Collon, sol. Susanne Kujala, 22.5.2024 Helsinki, Finland



Matthew Whittall



Christian Reif, Tobias Broström & Björn Warwas

Stimulating and intensive Broström

The first movement's shrill trumpet, rapid rhythms and ample figurations make it swing in all colours... The second movement begins with a whirl. A rock pulse drives it on, lifts the trumpet solo and a refreshing dance melody with lovely lines. The last movement shimmers with iridescent, atmospheric sonorities... This was a bewildering, zestful and stimulating experience, full of presence and intensity, and a power of attraction that makes me want to hear it again, right away... Or why not a whole evening devoted to Tobias Broström's music. That would have been a real pleasure. *Gef e Dagblad* 13.4.

Tobias Broström: Garden of Earthly Delights

World premiere: Gävle SO/Christian Reif, 12.4.2024 Gävle, Sweden

Wennäkoski CD warmly recommended

Flounce is short, brilliant and somewhat tongue-in-cheek Scherzo, full of drive and instrumental imagination... a splendid display of catching, and at times subtle, orchestral textures. ...As far as I am concerned, Wennäkoski is brilliantly successful. One can but hope that other harpists will find her Harp Concerto (Sigla) 🎧 well worth the effort. It is a splendid work by any count...Here is a composer with imagination and a strong ability to move, captivate and impress. *MusicWeb International* 22.3.

Lotta Wennäkoski: Flounce, Sigla, Sedecim

CD: Finnish RSO/Nicholas Collon, sol. Sivan Magen, hp (Ondine 1420-2)

In every sense brilliant

The Crash gig opened with the Irish premiere of Antti Auvinen's Boundary Bourrée for ensemble. This was an intense, tense work of sharp, dry textures. It was roughly divided into three, concise attacca movements and was in every sense brilliant. *Journal of Music* 1.5.

Antti Auvinen: Boundary Bourrée

Irish premiere: Crash Ensemble, 27.4.2024 Dublin, Ireland

KALEVI AHO

Guitar Concerto, Bach/Aho: Contrapunctus XIV, Quintet for Horn and String Quartet
Lapland CO/John Storgårds, sol.
Ismo Eskelinen, gtr, Ilkka Puputti, hn
BIS 2666



OLLI KOSKELIN

Chamber and solo works (then when A-go, Animal II, Courbures, Tintinnio II, X'three, 7 Haiku, Exalté)
Otto Tolonen, gtr, Gleb Kanasevich, cl, Tuomas Mäli, pf, Mikael Helasvuo, fl, Timo-Veikko Valve, vlc
Alba-ABCD 476 ('Presentness')



TOMMI KÄRKKÄINEN

Cello Concerto
(& cello works by other composers)
La Tempesta/Jackie Shin, sol. Seeli Toivio
Refrain Records RRC0-006 ('Öinen näky')



MATS LARSSON GOTHE

Submarea
Gothenburg SO/Christian Karlsen
Nilento NILCD 2401 ('Nordic A Fragile Hope')



KIRMO LINTINEN

Cello Concerto
English Chamber Orchestra/Emilia Hoving, sol. Trey Lee
Signum Classics SIGCD791
(‘Seasons interrupted’)



ALLAN PETERSSON

Complete works
Norrköping SO, Nordic CO, Swedish RSO/Christian Lindberg, Leif Segerstam, sol. Jörgen Pettersson, asax, Ulf Wallin, vin, Ellen Nisbeth, vla, Peter Mattei, bar, etc
BIS 9062 ('Complete Edition')



MATTHEW WHITTALL

Solace
(& piano works by other composers)
Risto-Matti Marin
Refrain Records RRC0-005 ('Solace')



Antti Auvinen

Photo: Eija Teno