

TEMPPELIAUKION KIRKKO

23.08.2026 | 19:00

DURATION: 1.5 HOURS

CHARITY CONCERT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE DAY OF UKRAINE

IN SUPPORT OF MUSIC SCHOOLS IN UKRAINE



Host of the evening: Nadiia Fedorova

Greetings from the Embassy of Ukraine in Finland by

Counsellor Mr Vitalii Martyniuk

Concert Program

Trad. “Chornii Brovy, Karii Ochi”

Anastasiia Snietko, voice

Anhelina Kulichkova, piano

Levko Revutsky (1889–1977), Three Preludes for piano, Op. 4

Anhelina Kulichkova, piano

Eugène Ysaÿe (1858–1931), Sonata for Solo Cello

Augustas Gocentas, cello

Lasse Mårtenson (1934–2016):

Morgondimma

Prästkragen (*text: Benedict Zilliacus*)

Stormskärs-Maja

Johanna Almark, voice

Henrik Wikström, piano

Johanna Almark, Song in times of darkness

Two children’s songs (*arr. J. Almark*)

Caminante, no hay camino (*text: Antonio Machado, music J. Almark*)

Jammarkören, Johanna Almark, conductor

Borys Lyatoshynsky (1895–1968), Songs for Voice and Piano:
The Cursed Place, Op. 6, No. 1
The Highest Happiness, Op. 37, No. 2

Volodymyr Andrushchak, baritone
Kirill Kozlovski, piano

Yevhen Stankovych (b. 1942), Dance on Flowers for Flute and Piano

Scene “Letter from Viktoriya”

Iryna Gorkun-Silén, flute
Kirill Kozlovski, piano
Nina Bulgakova, dancer, choreographer
Anu Almagro, dramaturg and director

Mykola Kolessa (1903–2006), “Oi Zatsvitut Fiialochky”

Tomas Takolander, “Rannalla”

Mykola Lysenko (1842–1912), “Prayer for Ukraine”

Perespiv Choir
Volodymyr Andrushchak, conductor

Fedir Yakymenko (1876–1945), Nocturne for Strings

Dalia Stasevska, conductor
Orest Smovzh, violin
Sebastian Silén, violin
Laura Vilagi, viola
Augustas Gocentas, cello
Teemu Kauppinen, double bass

“Letter from Viktoriya” is based on *Letters of love and war* written by Ukrainian couple Viktoriya and Pavlo Matyusha. They were separated after the full-scale invasion. Pavlo went to war and Viktoriya, together with their children, left for France. During that time, they exchanged letters. This performance is based on the following letter:

You know how much I love music.

I'm sure you remember the joyful days before the invasion. Every morning, I'd switch on our little speaker and play some music. I'd dance while preparing breakfast for the family

When we fled Kyiv and took refuge in the Carpathians, I have no memory of sounds. I think we stopped listening to music then. It was just before you joined the army and I decided to go to France for the children. I took charge of the present, our family.

Once we'd found an apartment in Paris and settled in, I remember placing the little speaker in our new kitchen. Every morning, I cleaned the speaker. But I couldn't turn it on. It remained stubbornly silent.

After the invasion, many people explained that they felt as if their bodies had frozen.

That they had suddenly become very old. As for me, I feel that it's my mind, or rather my soul, that has frozen. I became almost indifferent to the music I loved so much. I couldn't listen to music anymore.

I was overwhelmed by all the administrative tasks I had to carry out. After putting the children to bed, I would lie on my bed and cry, non-stop. I'm lucky, I'm able to cry: many people lost this ability during the war.

One weekend, the girls asked me: "Mom, why don't you ever listen to music anymore, like you used to in Ukraine?" I realized that they missed our little morning routine. I answered awkwardly. Like, I didn't have the time.

But I made an effort. I turned the speaker back on. I couldn't put on my favorite songs, ones that used to make me dance in the morning. Instead, I created a playlist of Ukrainian songs that seemed to match my current state of mind. I listen to them over and over. And I'm relieved, finally, to be able to listen to music again.

About the Performers

Dalia Stasevska, conductor

Dalia Stasevska is one of the most in demand classical conductors today. A commanding musical voice, boundary-pushing innovator, and fearless advocate for change, she is the Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Stasevska regularly conducts many of the world's leading orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, Munich Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre de Paris, and Helsinki Philharmonic. She is also a passionate opera conductor, with recent and upcoming appearances at Glyndebourne, Los Angeles Opera, and Deutsche Oper Berlin.

Together with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Stasevska has recently recorded the album **Ukrainian Mixtape**, showcasing some of the most prominent works of Ukrainian orchestral music. Her acclaimed discography also includes *Dalia's Mixtape*, which was nominated for a Gramophone Award, and recordings devoted to composers including Thomas de Hartmann, Rautavaara, Martinů, and Helvi Leiviskä.

Since February 2022, Stasevska has been a prominent international advocate for Ukraine, combining her artistic work with humanitarian support and performances in Ukraine. In recognition of her contribution to Ukrainian culture and its international visibility, she was awarded the **Order of Princess Olga, III degree**, by President Volodymyr Zelensky.

Anhelina Kulichkova, piano

From 2015 to 2019, Anhelina studied at the Sievierodonetsk Music College. She later continued her education at the Kharkiv I. P. Kotlyarevsky National University of Arts, where she earned both bachelor's and master's degrees.

During her studies in Ukraine, she participated in numerous national and international competitions. Her distinctions include First Prize at the *Gifted Youth* All-Ukrainian Festival-Competition (Poltava, 2017); Second Prizes at the Yevhen Stankovych Competition (Kyiv, 2018) and the *MuzArt-Kraina* Festival-Competition (2017); and Third Prizes at the Ivan Karabyts Open Ukrainian Competition of Piano and Vocal Music (Bakhmut, 2018) and the *Art of the 21st Century* International Festival-Competition (Kyiv, 2019).

In 2022–2023, she studied through the Erasmus programme at Savonia University of Applied Sciences in Kuopio and at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. Since 2025, she has continued her Master's studies at the Sibelius Academy in the class of Professor Hamsa Juris.

Anu Almagro, dramaturg and director

Anu Almagro is a Finnish actress, director, and acting teacher working internationally across theatre, music, and interdisciplinary performance. She was a long-time member of the internationally acclaimed Song of the Goat Theatre in Wrocław, Poland, performing worldwide in productions including *Anty-Gone Triptych*, *Hamlet – A Commentary*, and *Songs of Lear*.

Her artistic work brings together theatre, music, movement, and cultural traditions. Since 2021, she has collaborated closely with Ukrainian musicians and artists, creating performances inspired by the life and poetry of Ukrainian philosopher Hryhorii Skovoroda.

Almagro works as a director and performer on numerous international and interdisciplinary projects. Since 2024, she has been a lecturer in Acting at the Theatre Academy of Uniarts Helsinki and is also a visiting lecturer at the Zurich University of the Arts.

Nina Bulgakova, dancer, choreographer

Nina Bulgakova is a Ukrainian choreographer and dancer based in Finland. She holds a Master's in Contemporary Dance and Choreography from Kharkiv State Academy of Culture (2008) and co-founded the Ethno Contemporary Ballet. She has choreographed and performed works including 4308-Music and dance performance dedicated to the AZOV battalion (2023), Fertility (2022), ORGANization (2020), and Say it quieter if you can (2018).

In Finland, Nina Bulgakova collaborates with companies such as Hanna Brotherus, Taika Box, Raekallio Corp., Alpo Aaltokoski Company, Flow Productions, JoJo – Oulu Dance Centre, Aurinkobaletti, KO-KOO-MO and Duo Rhosia.

Volodymyr Andrushchak, baritone, choir conductor

Volodymyr Andrushchak is a Ukrainian baritone and conductor of the Perespiv Choir. He studied in Lviv, Wrocław, and Munich and has sung with ensembles including a cappella Leopolis, Camerata Silesia, and Cantores Minores Wratyslavienses. He has collaborated with the Song of the Goat Theatre and is actively involved in historically informed performance.

Volodymyr collaborates with the Wrocław Baroque Ensemble and regularly performs throughout Europe with leading orchestras and conductors. In 2025, he was a finalist and recipient of the Special Jury Prize at the Toivo Kuula Singing Competition in Finland. Most recently, he appeared as a soloist in a series of concerts with Il Giardino Armonico under Giovanni Antonini.

Anastasiia Snietko, voice

Anastasiia Snietko is a Ukrainian vocalist, musician, and member of Plast – National Scout Organization of Ukraine. A participant in *The Voice of Finland* and a prizewinner of Ukrainian and international vocal competitions, she combines contemporary expression with Ukrainian musical traditions, with a particular focus on bringing Ukrainian song to international audiences. Based in Finland, Anastasiia actively participates in cultural and musical projects, concerts, and events within the Ukrainian community. Through her performances, she promotes Ukrainian music and culture in Finland, introducing audiences to the richness and diversity of Ukraine's musical heritage.

Augustas Gocentas, cello

Augustas Gocentas is a Lithuanian cellist based in Finland. He completed his bachelor's and master's degrees at the Sibelius Academy in 2024, studying with Prof. Martti Rousi, and studied with Prof. Reinhard Latzko at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna.

A member of the European Union Youth Orchestra, Augustas has performed with ensembles including Kremerata Baltica, the Baltic Sea Philharmonic, and the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra. As a soloist, he has appeared with the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra, Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra, Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, and EUYO.

In 2024, Augustas joined the **Turku Philharmonic Orchestra** as a tutti cellist. He is also an active chamber musician and has performed at numerous international festivals across Europe and Asia.

Kirill Kozlovski, piano

Kirill Kozlovski is an established pianist, harpsichordist and researcher based in Helsinki. As a performing artist he aims at versatility and careful balance between different styles and epochs. His repertoire encompasses music from the late Renaissance to contemporary composers.

A laureate of both national and international piano competitions, Kirill Kozlovski has given solo recitals and been a member of chamber ensembles at international festivals in France, Germany, Switzerland, Russia, Estonia, Spain, Finland and Belarus. He has appeared as a soloist with orchestras in Finland and abroad, collaborating with conductors such as Andris Nelsons, Janos Fürst, Dima Slobodeniouk, John Storgårds and Klaus Mäkelä to name but a few.

His recordings include songs by Richard Wagner with the soprano Jenni Lähtilä and the baritone Tommi Hakala (Siba Records), and a solo-piano album, Shostakovich in Context, combining preludes and fugues by Dmitri Shostakovich with Finnish contemporary music (Pilfink Records).

Johanna Almark, voice, choir conductor

Johanna Almark is one of Finland's most versatile artists: a composer, conductor, choir director, singer, and violinist. Inspired by the Baroque ideal of the "complete musician," she moves freely between Baroque music, jazz, and contemporary classical repertoire.

Following the Climate Aid Finland concert in 2019, she was awarded the title of Chief Climate Conductor. She has conducted numerous Finnish orchestras, premiered her own works, and appeared both as a conductor and vocal soloist. Her stage works include a musical fairy tale for children and the one-woman opera *Orlando*. Her upcoming projects include the music and dance drama *The Never Withering Rose*.

A graduate of the Sibelius Academy in orchestral and choral conducting, she is also known as an educator with a particular focus on rhythm, free voice, and improvisation.

Iryna Gorkun-Silén, flute

Ukrainian-born flutist Iryna Gorkun-Silén is an accomplished soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral performer who has appeared throughout Europe, the United States, and South Korea. She holds Master of Music and Master of Music Pedagogy degrees from the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), where she studied with Professor Philippe Racine.

Iryna has also participated in masterclasses with some of the world's leading flutists, including Emmanuel Pahud, Barthold Kuijken, Peter-Lukas Graf, Davide Formisano, Denis Bouriakov, William Bennett, and Sir James Galway. Her artistry has been recognized with awards at international competitions, including the Léopold Bellan Competition and a competition in Amiens.

Iryna earned her doctoral degree at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. She currently works as a cultural project coordinator at the Ukrainian Association in Finland.

Perespiv Choir

The choir of the Ukrainian Association in Finland promotes Ukraine's rich musical heritage, encompassing folk, sacred, and contemporary music. Founded together with Uliana Burdina, the choir is currently led by Volodymyr Andrushchak.

Jammarkören

Founded and directed by Johanna Almark, Jammarkören is known for its warm sound, rhythmic precision, and expressive performances. The choir combines classical tradition with new music, improvisation, and cross-genre projects. It is a community of singers united by creativity and the joy of making music.

String Ensemble

The string ensemble brings together some of Helsinki's most active and distinguished musicians: **Orest Smovzh, violin; Sebastian Silén, violin; Laura Vilagi, violin; Augustas Gocentas, cello** and **Teemu Kauppinen, double bass**. The ensemble was formed especially for this concert to present **Fedir Yakymenko's *Nocturne***, originally written for string orchestra, in an intimate chamber version. This performance offers a rare opportunity to experience Yakymenko's evocative music through the artistry of leading Helsinki-based performers.

National Ukrainian Anthem

Ще не вмер - ла У - кра-ї - ни ні сла - ва, ні во - ля,
ще нам, брат - тя у - кра-їн - ці, у - сміх - не - ться до - ля!
Зги-нуть на - ші во - рі- жень-ки, як ро - са на сон - ці!
За - па - ну - єм і ми, брат - тя, у сво - їй сто - рон - ці!
Ду - шу й ті-ло ми по - ло - жим за на - шу сво - бо - ду,
та й по-ка-жем, що ми, брат - тя, ко-заць-ко-го ро - ду! // ро-ду!

Transliteration:

Shche ne vmerla Ukrajinu i slava, i volia.

Shche nam, brattia molodiji, usmichnet'sia dolia.

Zhynut' nashi vorizhen'ky, jak rosa na sontsi,

Zapanujem i my, brattia, u svojij storonci.

[Chorus]

Dushu j tilo my polozhym za nashu svobodu,

I pokazhem, shcho my, brattia, kozats'koho rodu (2 times)

We would like to thank **Töölö Church, the Embassy of Ukraine in Finland, and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland** for their support, as well as all the musicians and everyone who joined us for this concert.

Thanks to your support, we are able to **preserve and promote Ukrainian culture** and provide much-needed assistance to music schools in Ukraine.

If you would like to support our humanitarian projects, please use the QR code below.



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