



GEHRMANS COMPOSERS

Rolf Martinsson

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All Rolf Martinsson photos and heading photos on page 6 and 7 by Anders Åberg.

More information on Rolf Martinsson can be found at www.gehrmans.se or www.rolfmartinsson.com

Rolf Martinsson

- › Rolf Martinsson is one of Sweden's internationally most represented contemporary composers. His music has been performed the world over, in venues such as New York, Vienna, Paris, London, Berlin, Prague, Madrid and Tokyo. The cooperation with **Håkan Hardenberger**, which commenced in the late 1990s with the first performance of the trumpet concerto *Bridge*, opened the doors to the international stage. This was an immediate success, and Hardenberger has since performed the work at some 40 different concerts, for example at the Berliner Philharmonie.
- › His cooperation with **Christian Lindberg** has also formed an important part of Martinsson's international breakthrough. The trombone concerto *Fairlight*, received high critical acclaim after its first performance in the Stockholm Concert Hall in the spring of 2005. It has been followed by performances among others at the historic Musikverein in Vienna by Lindberg and the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra.
- › Martinsson has taken part in many international cooperation projects together with leading conductors, soloists and orchestras. In 2005, the BBC Symphony Orchestra commis-



sioned and premiered Martinsson's *Cello Concerto No. 1* with **Mats Lidström** as soloist and **Mario Venzago** conducting.

Rolf Martinsson also cooperates on a continuous basis with the major Swedish orchestras. The Malmö Symphony Orchestra has during the past few years performed all his orchestral works and solo concertos, and the Royal Stockholm PO has under the baton of **Alan Gilbert** frequently been on tour with Rolf Martinsson's music to Japan and the Balkans, as well as other countries.

- › Rolf Martinsson's production includes some 90 different works, spanning and representing an impressive musical breadth: orchestral works, solo concertos, choir music, several chamber music works for a variety of instrumental conformations, radio theatre, and soloist works, to mention a few. His music is characterised by a powerful stylistic awareness and

exceptional musical craftsmanship, together with highly skilled orchestration, which contribute towards making him a much appreciated and preferred composer by many different musicians. Rolf Martinsson holds the position of Artistic Advisor with the Malmö SO, as well as the Chair in Music Theory including Arrangement and Composition at the Malmö Academy of Music.

Future commissions

- › In March 2009, Anne Sofie von Otter will premiere Martinsson's *Orchestral Songs* together with the Malmö SO under its chief conductor Vassily Sinaisky. Among his future projects are new solo concertos for clarinetist Martin Fröst (Malmö SO/City of Birmingham SO) and double bass player Dan Styffe (Oslo PO).

Biographical dates

- › Born in 1956
- › 1981–1985 Composition studies at the Malmö Academy of Music with among others Brian Ferneyhough and Sven-David Sandström
- › 2000–2001 Composer-in-Residence with Musica Vitae
- › 2002–2006 Composer-in-Residence with the Malmö Symphony Orchestra
- › Artistic adviser of contemporary music (Malmö SO) since 2002
- › Guest professor at Royal College of Music, London 2005
- › The Chair in Music Theory including Arrangement and Composition at the Malmö Academy of Music since 2006
- › Guest professor at Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst, Vienna 2006 and 2007
- › 2005 Swedish Music Publishers Award
- › 2007 Hilding Rosenberg Prize
- › 2008 Featured composer of the Stockholm International Composer's Festival

Press and comments

Bridge – Trumpet Concerto No. 1

“..Bridge is aurally coherent, skilful in its scoring, big on melody and ultimately a resounding tour de force of virtuosity, adrenalin and exhilaration...”

Musicweb/Christopher Thomas

Fairlight – Trombone Concerto No. 1

“...Rolf Martinsson will have great success with his first trombone concerto. Not a single note was superfluous in his concerto which entertains on a high level, starting with the big bang...”

Carl-Gunnar Åhlén/Svenska Dagbladet



FAIRLIGHT MUSIKVEREIN LINDBERG DE BILLY

Violin Concerto No. 1

It is above all the lyrical quality in Rolf's music that I fall for. I experience much of his music as deeply moving. Being a participant in the creative process of a concerto of this calibre is simply overwhelming.

Jan Stigmer, violinist

Cello Concerto No. 1

Finally a concerto with all the wonders of the contemporary music world, mixed with the lushness of Richard Strauss and Korngold! The cello concerto is music by a highly skillful composer who is not afraid of romanticism and sensuality. I find the Martinsson concerto one of the best written for my instrument in a long while!

Mats Lidström, prof. of cello, Royal Academy of Music, London

Shimmering Blue – Flute Concerto No. 1

“...I have listened to many first performances of contemporary music, but rarely has a work's orchestral attire conveyed such spontaneous and captivating beauty, nor has any solo part revealed so much of the instrument's hidden powers as in this solo concerto...”

Bengt Hultman/Västerbottens-Kuriren

Open Mind CD

“Rolf Martinsson knows how to make an orchestra sound exciting without making them sound crazy... he expresses it all effortlessly in colourful, deeply felt orchestral expression... The whole program is recorded in beautifully resonant sound and I found it a satisfying experience with a sensitive composer.”

David Moore/American Record Guide



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Orchestra

- > **Bridge – Trumpet Concerto No. 1** (1998)
 Dur: 27' *Trumpet solo/3(picc).2+ca.2(picc.cl)*
+bcl.2(cbn) – 4.3.3.1/timp/3perc/2hp/pf(cel)/strings
- > **Cello Concerto No. 1** (2005)
 Dur: 26' *Cello solo/2(picc).2(ca).2(bcl).2(cbn)*
– 4.3.3.0/timp/2perc/hp/pf(cel)/strings
- > **Concerto for Orchestra** (2008)
 Dur: 24' *2+picc.2+ca.3(picc.cl/bcl).2+cbn*
– 4.3.3.1/timp/3perc/hp/strings
- > **Dawning Landscapes op 10a** (1984)
 Dur: 11' *flute, oboe, string orchestra*
- > **Dreams** (1995)
 Dur: 26' *3(alto/picc).2+ca.2(picc.cl)*
+bcl.2f(cbn) – 4.3.3.1/timp/3perc/2hp/pf(cel)/strings
- > **Fairlight – Trombone Concerto No. 1** (2004)
 Dur: 20' *Trombone solo/2+picc.3.3(bcl)3(cbn)*
– 4.3.3.1/timp/3perc/hp/pf(cel)/strings
- > **Open Mind** (2005)
 Dur: 10' *2(picc).2(ca).2(bcl)2(cbn) – 4.2.3.0/timp/2perc/strings*
- > **Shimmering Blue – Flute Concerto No. 1** (2005)
 Dur: 26' *Flute solo/2(picc).2(ca).2(bcl).2(cbn)*
– 2.2.1.0/perc/strings
- > **Variations for Orchestra** (2007)
 on themes from Dietrich Buxtehude
 Dur: 17' *2(picc).2(ca).2.2 – 4.2.3.1/timp/perc/strings*
- > **Violin Concerto No. 1** (2007)
 Dur: 28' *Violin solo/2(picc).2(ca).2(bcl).2*
– 2.2.0.0/perc/hp/strings

String Orchestra

- > **A. S. in Memoriam** op 50a (1999)
 Dur: 12' *15 strings (5-4-3-2-1)*
- > **A. S. in Memoriam** op 50b (1999/2001)
 Dur: 12' *string orchestra*
- > **Kalliope** (2004) Dur: 27'
- > **String Moments** (2001) Dur: 15'

Chamber Music

- > **Carillon** (2006) Dur: 6' *4 trumpets (C), 2 horns (F), trombone, bass trombone, tuba*
- > **Dawning Landscapes op 10b** (1984)
 Dur: 11' *flute, oboe, string quintet*
- > **Duo** (1986) Dur: 10' *violin, cello*
- > **Oboe Quartet** (1988) Dur: 11' *oboe, violin, viola, cello*
- > **Symbiosis** (2003) Dur: 20' *2 violins*
- > **Triptyk** (1987) Dur: 14' *bass clarinet/piano*

Instrumental

- > **Aquarius** (2006) for piano/Dur: 7'
- > **Capriccio** (1991) for violin/Dur: 10'
- > **Chords and Bells** (2006) for organ/Dur: 10'
- > **Exposé, Concert Fantasy** (2005)
 for cello/Dur: 9'
- > **Face it!** (2006) for trumpet/Dur: 4'
- > **Scorpius** (1987) for piano/Dur: 9'

Choir (a cappella)

- > **Mänsånger** (1993) for male choir/Dur: 6'
 Text: Tanka poems (Sw. transl. P.E. Wahlund)
- > **Nattviol** (2007) for male choir/Dur: 9'
 Text: Carl Snoilsky (Sw)
- > **Vattennätter** (1987) for mixed choir/Dur: 12'
 Text: Wilhelm Ekelund (Sw)

For a complete list of Rolf Martinsson's works please visit his web page at: www.rolfmartinsson.com



Cello Concerto No. 1, Exposé, Concert Fantasy, Open Mind, Shimmering Blue - Flute Concerto No. 1

Mats Lidström, cello/Magnus Båge, flute/
Norrköping SO/Swedish Radio SO/Malmö SO/
Mats Rondin/Manfred Honeck
DAPHNE 1029 (Open Mind 2007)

Symbiosis

Duo Gelland
Nosag CD 152 (Violin Duos vol. 3 2007)

Carillon

Recorded by an ensemble of brass teachers at the
Malmö Academy of Music led by Håkan Hardenberger.
MMHCD 2010 (Brass 2007)

Libra, Gemini, Leo

Anders Kilström, piano
DAPHNE 1018 (Solo 2005)

Coloured Flames

The Amadé Quintet
DAPHNE 1019 (Flames 2004)

Kalliope, At the End of Time, A. S. in Memoriam, Dreams

Jacques Werup, recitation/Malmö SO/Christoph
König/Markus Lehtinen
DAPHNE 1022 (Dreams 2004)

Tics

HOT3
PSCD 148 (Trio con forza 2003)

Bridge

Håkan Hardenberger, trumpet/Gothenburg SO/
Neeme Järvi
BIS-CD-1208 (Trumpet Concertos 2002)

Libra

Hans Pålsson, piano
CSCD 00032 (Dedicated to Hans Pålsson 2001)

Reflexer

Gunnar Spjuth, guitar
dBCD69 (Gunnar Spjuth 2001)

Triptyk

Michael Davenport, bass clarinet/
Kimberly Davenport, piano
Alea Recording AR002 (Music f bass clarinet and
piano 2000)

Vattennätter

Malmö Chamber Choir/Dan-Olof Stenlund
dBCD25 (Scania Sonans 1997)

Whiz

Terje Thiwång, flute/Roger Svedberg, percussion
dBCD24 (Whiz 1996)

Virgo

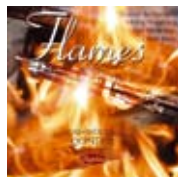
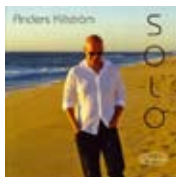
Olof Höjer, piano
MAP 9601 (Among Friends 1996)

Monogram, Monodi

(Sven-Olof Juvas, tuba/The Mälars Quintet
KISCD 1&2 (Vågspel 1996)

Triptyk

(Tommie Lundberg, bass clarinet/Olle Sjöberg, piano
FYCD 1001 (Blow 1991)



*"His tone language is stunningly attractive,
revelling in sonorous beauty."*

Svenska Dagbladet/Sofia Nyblom 2007
(Open Mind/Daphne 1029)

*...This (CD), then, is a real sleeper, and I give
it my most enthusiastic welcome. Sweden is
no stranger to neoromanticism, of course, but
this composer is an impressive new contributor.
Performances and sonics are exquisite."*

Allen Gimbel/American Record Guide 2005
(Dreams/ Daphne 1022)

PHOTO: PER-ERIK ADAMSSON ©



PHOTO: MATS BÄCKER ©



PHOTO: MARCO BORGCREVE ©



PHOTO: PEKKA MÄENPÄÄ ©



PHOTO: MATS BÄCKER ©

CHRISTIAN LINDBERG, MAGNUS BÅGE, HÅKAN HARDENBERGER, JAN STIGMER, MATS LIDSTRÖM
AND ANNE SOFIE VON OTTER ARE SOLOISTS THAT COOPERATE WITH ROLF MARTINSSON.



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