

Kalevi Aho

Sonata Concertante

for Accordion ant Strings (2019)

Accordion solo part

M216B
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Kalevi Aho

Suomen kansainvälistä tunnetuimpiin nykysäveltäjiin kuuluva Kalevi Aho syntyi Forssassa maaliskuun 9. päivänä 1949. Hän alkoi soittaa viulua 10-vuotiaana, ja samaan aikaan syntivät jo hänen ensimmäiset sävellyksensä. Syksystä 1968 Aho opiskeli viulunsoittoa ja sävellystä Sibelius-Akatemiassa, jossa hänen sävellysopettajanaan oli Einojuhani Rautavaara.

Suoritettuaan keväällä 1971 sävellysdiplomin Aho jatkoi 1971–72 opintojaan Berliinissä (Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst) Boris Blacherin johdolla. Vuodesta 1974 vuoteen 1988 Aho työskenteli Helsingin yliopiston musiikkiteiden lehtorina ja vuosina 1988–1993 Sibelius-Akatemian sävellyksen professorina. Syksystä 1993 hän on toiminut Helsingissä vapaana säveltäjänä.

Ahon tuotannon keskeinen osa muodostuu laaja-muotoisista orkesteri- ja kamarimusiikkiteoksista. Hänen tuotantoonsa kuuluu tähän mennessä (2020) viisi oopperaa (1978–2013), 17 sinfonialla (1969–2017), 34 konserttoa eri soolo- ja orkesterille (1981–2020), kolme kamarisinfoniaa jousille sekä runsaasti muuta orkesteri-, kamarimusiikki-, soolosoitin- ja vokaalimuusikkia.

Hän on tehnyt lisäksi lukuisia sovitukseja tai täydennysosioiden muiden säveltäjien tuotannosta. Tärkein näistä on Uuno Klamin keskeneräisen baletin *Pyörteitä* täydentäminen. Aho toimi Sinfonia Lahden nimikosäveltäjänä vuodesta 1992 aina vuoteen 2011, jolloin hänet nimittiin orkesterin kunniasäveltäjäksi.

Aho on tullut tunnetuksi myös ahkerana musiikkikirjoittajana, joka on puheissaan ja kirjoituksissaan ottanut usein kriittisesti kantaa Suomen kulttuuri- ja yhteiskuntapolitiikkaan. Suomalaisen kulttuurielämän eri organisaatioidissa hänellä on ollut monia tärkeitä tehtäviä.

***Sonata concertante* harmonikalle ja jousikvintetille/jousiorkesterille (1984/2019)**

- I. *Preludi* (Molto rubato) ja *passacaglia*;
II. *Preludi* (Leggiero) ja *fuuga* (Andante –
Piu mosso – Leggiero)

Sonata concertante on versio harmonikalle ja jousille ensimmäisestä harmonikkasonaatistani, jonka sävelsin vuonna 1984 Matti Rantasan aloitteesta, mutta jonka lopullinen, esitettyvä versio valmistui vasta vuonna 1989 yhteistyössä teoksen kantaesittäjän, Marjut Tynkkisen kanssa. Tynkkynen kantaesitti 1. harmonikkasonatin Kuhmon kamarimusiikkijuhlilla 29.7.1989. 1. harmonikkasonatissa pyrin laajentamaan harmonikan teknisiä mahdollisuuksia äärimilleen ja kirjoittamaan instrumentille jotain yhtä huikean virtuoosista kuin ovat Lisztin virtuoosisimmat teokset pianolle.

Vuonna 1989 tein 1. sonaatista myös version kahdelle harmonikalle – se pohjautuu alkuperäiseen vuoden 1984 laitokseen. Susanne ja Veli Kujala kantaesittivät sonaatin kahdelle harmonikalle Helsingissä 27.10.2002.

Myöhemmin myös harmonikkataiteilija Janne Valkeajoki innostui 1. harmonikkasonatista, ja hän ehdotti että laatisin sonaatista lisäksi konsertoivan version harmonikalle ja jousille – Valkeajoen mielestä sonaatti on olemuk-seltaan niin orkestraalinen. Näin teosta voitaisiin esittää myös kamariorkesterien konserseissa. Valkeajoki teki syksyllä 2018 itse luonnoksen täksi konsertoivaksi versioksi, ja sen pohjalta loin elokuussa 2019 *Sonata concertanten*, joka pohjautuu varsin tarkasti alkuperäiseen sonaattiin. Laadin sovituksen niin, että se on mahdollista esittää sekä jousikvintetillä että pienehköllä jousiorkesterilla.

Sonata concertantessa on teoksen muiden versioiden tavoin kaksi laajaa osaa. Osat alkavat improvisatorisella preludilla ja ne myös päättyvät rakenteellisesti vapaamalla koodalla. Ensimmäisen osan alulle ovat ominaisia monet tempovaihdokset ja kadenssimaiset virtuoosikulut. Varsinaisena pääosana seuraa laaja, hyvin virtuoosiseksi muuttuva passacaglia. Toisen osan aloittavaa preludia hallitsevat huikeat, hyvin laajalla alueella liikkuvat oktaavi-intervallikuviot, jotka välillä pysähtyvät sävel-repetitioihin ja massiivisiin klustereihin. Niitä seuraa taas rakenteellisesti monimutkainen kolmoisfuuga.

Musiikillisena perusmateriaalina on kummasakin osassa sama, hyvin vapaasti käytetty 12-sävelrivi.



Kalevi Aho and Accordionist Janne Valkeajoki

One of the best-known contemporary Finnish composers in the world today, Kalevi Aho was born in Forssa, Finland on 9 March 1949. He took up the violin when he was ten, and around this time began composing. In autumn 1968, he entered the Sibelius Academy to study composition with Einojuhani Rautavaara, and the violin.

Graduating from the Sibelius Academy in 1971, Aho spent a year as a student of Boris Blacher at the Staatliche Hochschule für Music und Darstellende Kunst in Berlin. From 1974 to 1988 he lectured in musicology at the University of Helsinki and from 1988 to 1993 was Professor of composition at the Sibelius Academy. He has been a freelance composer living in Helsinki since autumn 1993.

Large-scale orchestral and chamber works make up the core of Aho's output. He has so far (2020) composed five operas (1978–2013), 17 symphonies (1969–2017), 34 concertos for different solo instruments and orchestra (1981–2020), three chamber symphonies for strings, and a wealth of other orchestral, chamber, solo instrumental and vocal works.

Kalevi Aho has also completed or made numerous transcriptions of works by other composers. Topping the list of these is his completion of the unfinished parts of the ballet *Whirls* by the Finnish composer Uuno Klami. Aho was Composer-in-Residence of the Lahti Symphony Orchestra from 1992 right up to 2011, when the orchestra awarded him the title Honorary Composer.

Also known as an active writer about music, Kalevi Aho has often taken a critical stand on Finland's cultural and social policy in his addresses and articles. He has also played a major role in various Finnish cultural organisations.

Sonata concertante for accordion and string quintet/string orchestra (1984/2019)

- I. Prelude (Molto rubato) and Passacaglia;
- II. Prelude (Leggiero) and Fugue (Andante – Più mosso – Leggiero)

The *Sonata concertante* is a version for accordion and strings of my first Accordion Sonata, which I composed on the initiative of Matti Rantanen in 1984. The final version of that sonata was not, however, completed until 1989, in collaboration with Marjut Tynkkynen, who premiered it at the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival on 29 July 1989. In my first Accordion Sonata I tried to stretch the instrument's technical potential to the limits and to write something for the accordion that was as immensely virtuosic as the most virtuosic works by Liszt for the piano.

In 1989, I also wrote a version of the first Sonata for two accordions based on the original one of 1984. Susanne and Veli Kujala premiered this Sonata for Two Accordions in Helsinki on 27 October 2002.

Another accordionist, Janne Valkeajoki, later became interested in the first Sonata, too, and it was he who suggested I further make a concertante version, this time for accordion and strings; for the original Sonata was, he said, by its very nature highly orchestral. It could then be performed in concerts by chamber orchestras. In autumn 2018, Valkeajoki himself produced a draft of this concertante version, and in August 2019 I used it as the basis for the *Sonata concertante*, which keeps very closely to the original Sonata. This new arrangement can be performed with either a string quintet or a fairly small string orchestra.

Like the other versions, the *Sonata concertante* is in two broad movements. They both begin with an improvisatory Prelude and end with a structurally freer coda. The beginning of the first movement is marked by many changes of tempo and brilliant, cadenza-like passages. The main movement proper is a broad Passacaglia that becomes highly virtuosic. The Prelude that begins the second movement is dominated by tremendous, far-roaming octave figures that pause from time to time on repeated notes and massive clusters. These are in turn followed by a structurally complex triple Fugue.

Both movements use the same basic musical material, a freely-applied 12-note row.

Translation Susan Sinisalo

Accordion

SONATA CONCERTANTE

for accordion and strings

Kalevi AHO

Molto rubato ($\text{♩} = 56\text{--}60$)

accel. ad libitum

Vno 1

Musical score for Accordion and Strings, page 1. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is for the Accordion (Vno 1) and the bottom staff is for the Strings. The tempo is Molto rubato ($\text{♩} = 56\text{--}60$) and the instruction is *accel. ad libitum*. The key signature changes from G major to F# major.

$\text{♩} = 92$

poco rit.

Meno mosso *accel.*

Più mosso

Musical score for Accordion and Strings, page 1. The score continues with dynamic *ff* and a triangle symbol. The tempo is $\text{♩} = 92$. The instruction is *poco rit.*, then *Meno mosso* with *accel.*, followed by *Più mosso*.

Musical score for Accordion and Strings, page 1. The score shows a complex harmonic progression with various chords and rests. The key signature changes frequently, indicated by arrows pointing to specific chords.

Tempo I
poco accel.

Musical score for Accordion and Strings, page 1. The score shows a transition back to Tempo I with *poco acceleration*. The tempo is $\text{♩} = 92$. The instruction is *a tempo*, dynamic *f*, and dynamic *ff*.

poco rit.

$\text{♩} = 69$

p leggiero

Musical score for Accordion and Strings, page 1. The score concludes with a dynamic *ff*, a bassoon part (B.B.), and a dynamic *p leggiero*.

14

poco rit.

mf

cresc.

Musical score for orchestra and piano, page 17, measures 17-20. The score consists of two systems. The top system features a piano part with a basso continuo line, a violin 1 part, and a ritardando instruction ('rit.') above the violin. The bottom system features a piano part with a basso continuo line. Measure 17 starts with a piano dynamic of **2**. Measure 18 begins with a piano dynamic of **3**, followed by a piano dynamic of **4**. Measure 19 begins with a piano dynamic of **8**, followed by a piano dynamic of **9**. Measure 20 begins with a piano dynamic of **9**, followed by a piano dynamic of **8**. The piano part includes various dynamics such as **mp**, **3 cresc.**, **accel.**, and **rit.**. The basso continuo part is indicated by a brace connecting the two systems.

Musical score for piano, page 21, measure 92. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in common time (indicated by '4') and the bottom staff is in 2/4 time. The tempo is marked as 92 BPM. The key signature changes between measures, indicated by various sharps and flats. The music features complex melodic lines with many grace notes and slurs. Measure 92 concludes with a repeat sign and a '3' above it, indicating a repeat of the previous section.

Musical score for piano, page 10, measures 24-25. The score consists of two staves. The top staff starts in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. It features a series of eighth-note patterns with grace notes. Measure 24 ends with a measure repeat sign and begins a new section in 6/8 time with a key signature of two sharps. The bottom staff also starts in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. It follows a similar pattern of eighth-note groups. Both staves transition to 6/8 time at the start of measure 25, indicated by a measure repeat sign and a key signature of two sharps. The dynamic ff (fortissimo) is marked above the second measure of the bottom staff.

Leggiero ($\text{♩} = 100$)

II

Musical score for measures 1-2. The first measure is in 5/8 time with a key signature of one sharp. The dynamic is pp . The second measure begins with a fermata over a bass note, followed by a melodic line. The key signature changes to two sharps. Measure 2 ends with a repeat sign and a key signature of one sharp.

Musical score for measures 3-4. Measure 3 starts with a melodic line in 5/4 time, ending with a repeat sign. Measure 4 begins in 4/4 time with a dynamic of mp . The key signature changes to three sharps. The score concludes with a final cadence in 6/8 time.

Poco più mosso ($\text{♩} = 116$)

Musical score for measures 5-6. Measure 5 starts with a dynamic of pp and a melodic line. Measure 6 begins with a dynamic of ppp . The key signature changes to one sharp. The score ends with a final cadence in 6/8 time.

Musical score for measures 8-9. Measure 8 starts with a dynamic of mp . Measure 9 begins with a dynamic of p . The key signature changes to two sharps. The score ends with a final cadence in 2/4 time.

Musical score for measures 10-11. Measure 10 starts with a dynamic of pp . Measure 11 begins with a dynamic of ppp . The key signature changes to one sharp. The score ends with a final cadence in 8/8 time.

Tempo I

12 *pp cresc.* *S.B.*

14 *pp* *pppp*

17 **G. P.**

Poco meno mosso $\text{♩} = 92$

20

23

25

Musiikkia harmonikalle – Music for Accordion

Sooloteoksia – Solo Works

Kalevi Aho:	Sonaatit 1–2 harmonikalle/Sonatas 1–2 for accordion ⁴⁾	M112
	Sonaatti kahdelle harmonikalle/Sonata for two accordions (1983/1989) ⁵⁾	M189A
	Parts for Accordion I-II	M189B-C
Kaj-Erik Gustafsson:	Missa Brevis harmonikalle/Missa Brevis for acc. (2005) ¹⁾	M158
Merja Ikkälä:	Flora – 12 karakteristista kappaletta harmonikalle/	M202
Inkeri Jaakkola:	Flora – 12 Characteristic pieces for accordion (2015)	
Unto Jutila:	Kolme kappaletta harmonikalle/Three easy pieces for accordion	M193
Timo-Juhani Kyllönen:	Sävellyksiä harmonikalle/Compositions for accordion ²⁾	M154
Matti Murto:	Sonatina for accordion op.11	M040
	Dona eis pacem, sacred music for accordion ¹⁾	M160
	Pieni sarja–Meditatio harmonikalle/Little suite & Meditation for accordion ¹⁾	M034
	Kesäkuvia harmonikalle/Images of Summer for the accordion ²⁾	M067A
	Partita for accordion (1998) ³⁾	M124
	Pelimannin penkillä I, kansanlaulusovituksia harmonikalle/	M147
	Finnish Folksongs for accordion ²⁾	
	Pelimannin penkillä II, suom. polskia harmonikalle/	M148
	Finnish Reel tunes for accordion ²⁾	
	Suomalainen sarja harmonikalle/Finnish suite fo Accordion (2014) ²⁾	M195
Mikko Nisula:	Sonata No. 1 for accordion "Fantasies" op. 17 (revised version 2012)	M186
	Sonata No. 2 for accordion "Emanations" op. 22	M187
	Four Concert Etudes for Accordion (2019)	M213
	Sonata No. 3 "The Phoenix" for accordion (2013)	M214
	Sonata No. 4 "Mucha's flowers" for accordion (2018)	M215
Outi Tarkiainen:	... ja alkoivat laulaa /...and they began to sing, for solo accordion (2015)	M201

Kamarimusiikkia ja Konserttoja – Chamber music and Concertos

Kalevi Aho:	Sonata concertante for Accordion and Strings /String quintet or String Ochestra ⁹⁾	M217A Score M217B Acc. part M217 String parts
Arr. Béatrice Berne & Vincent Lhermet	Winds from Ireland for clarinet and accordion (2012) ⁶⁾	M191
Susanne Kujala:	Vents d' Irlande et d' Ailleurs pour clarinette et accordéon (2012) ⁶⁾	M191
Veli Kujala:	Eläinten kokous 1–3 harmonikalle/Meeting at the Zoo for 1–3 accordion	M138
Timo-Juhani Kyllönen:	Shimmer of the North, Concertino for Acc. and String orch. or Quintet(2016) ⁵⁾	M210A Score M210B Piano Score
Matti Murto:	Unelmajuna harmonikalle ja viululle/Dream train for vl & acc.	M042
	Divertimento for violin, cello and accordion (rev.version 2013)	M009
	Kaksi kalevalaista Näkyä klarinetille ja harmonikalle (2012) ⁶⁾	M196
	Two Visions from Kalevala for clarinet and accordion	
	Concerto No.1 for accordion, percussions and strings "Ariel" ²⁾	M126A score
	Concerto No.1 chamber music version for acc. perc. and piano	M126B score
	Concerto No. 2 for accordion and strings "Finnish Pictures"	M206A score
	Kvintetto harmonikalle ja jousikvartetille "Talvimirskyjä"	M206B acc./pf
	Quintet for accordion and string quartet "Winter Storms" ³⁾	M178A score
	Kolme laulua Kantelettaren runoihin sopr. & lapinrummulle ja harmonikalle	M178C parts
	Three songs for sopr.& magician drum and accordion (2014) text. Kanteletar	M198
	Poliskafantasiota kahdelle harmonikalle/Reel Fantasies for two acc. score & parts ⁷⁾	M184
	Tanssillinen sarja viululle ja harmonikalle/Dancing Suite for vl and acc. ²⁾	M028
	Trio No. II for violin, cello and accordion	M54B
	Under The North Star, 12 Finnish folk songs for vl. vcl and acc. ²⁾	M116
Ari-Matti Saira:	Five Finnish Folk tunes acc. & strings	M205A score
Heikki Valpola:	Astory for violin, piano, accordion and contrabass	M205B acc./pf
	Three dances for vlc and acc. ¹⁾	M031
	Contacts for two accordions ¹⁾	M027
	Ludit for violin, cello and accordion ¹⁾	M141
	Marilina for piano and accordion ¹⁾	M024
	To make a fire for accordion, piano and percussion ¹⁾	M026
		M025

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