

Sarasota Orchestra Welcomes Grammy Award-Winning Choir

The Sarasota Orchestra welcomes a two-time Grammy-Award winning choir for a Masterworks concert showcasing Mozart's *Requiem*. **Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir** will perform with the Sarasota Orchestra and Music Director Anu Tali in a concert called *Estonian Voices* from **February 23 to 26**.

Sarasota Orchestra.
"I think that Anu Tali is very clever putting this program together. Mozart is known to everyone and *Requiem* is a remarkable piece," says Linnamägi.
The concert also includes a piece by Arvo Pärt, in a pairing with the *Requiem* that first premiered with the Los Angeles Philhar-




Year 2006' by the Estonian Broadcasting Corporation. Several broadcasting stations, amongst them ARTE, NHK Japan, YLE Finland and Deutsche Welle, produced documentaries about Anu Tali's work. Anu Tali was appointed Music Director of the Sarasota Orchestra in 2013.



Anu Tali

twelve-tone composition. After studying French and Flemish choral music from the fourteenth to sixteenth centuries, Pärt began incorporating the style and spirit of early European polyphony into his own compositions.
The forced isolation behind the Iron Curtain and the endless struggle against Soviet bureaucracy forced Pärt to leave Estonia in 1980, settling in West Berlin. Since then, the majority of his compositions have been settings of religious texts. Around 2000 he returned to Estonia and now resides in both Berlin and Tallinn. Pärt composed *Credo* in 1968.

Mozart

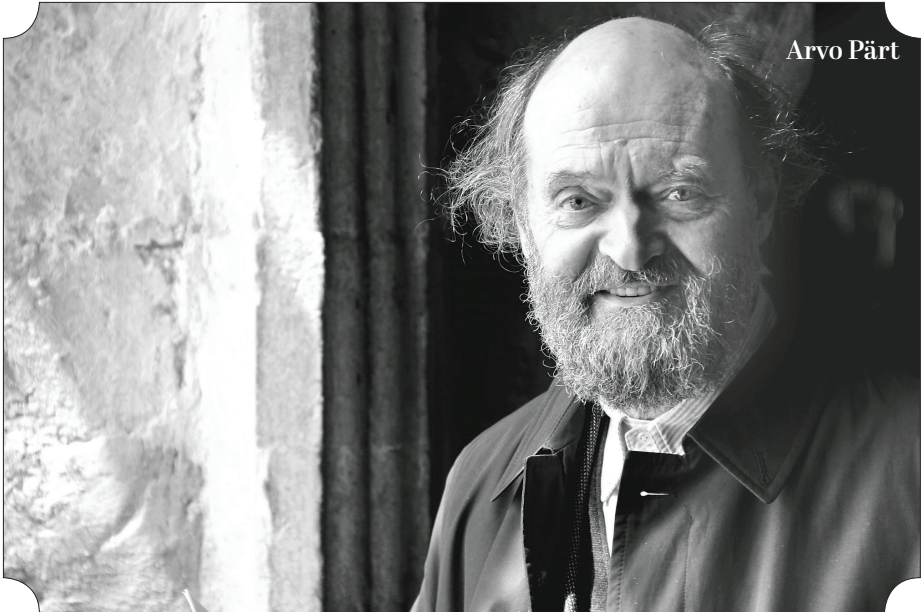
The *Requiem Mass in D minor* (K. 626) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was composed in Vienna in 1791 and left unfinished at the composer's death on December 5. A completion dated 1792 by Franz Xaver Süssmayr was delivered to Count Franz von Walsegg, who had anonymously commissioned the piece for a Requiem Mass to commemorate the February 14 anniversary of his wife's death. 

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



Arvo Pärt

Born near Tallinn, Estonia's capital, composer Arvo Pärt entered the Tallinn Conservatory in 1957 while working as a recording engineer with Estonian Radio. Although still a student, he was already composing music for the stage and film. By the time he graduated in 1963, he was considered a professional.
Immediately preceding World War II, the Soviet Union annexed Estonia, leaving the young Pärt with only limited access to the musical developments in the West. His early compositions, including his first two symphonies, employed serial techniques, but he soon tired of the rigid rules of



Arvo Pärt

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When searching for a way to describe the sound of the Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, one often finds reaching toward the heavens to find the words: Ethereal. Otherworldly. Transcendental.
The Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir was founded in 1981 and is to this day regarded as one of the finest a capella choirs in the world, with two Grammy wins and fifteen nominations to date. The touring Choir has appeared at numerous music festivals and outstanding venues all over the world including Sydney Opera House, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.
The repertoire of the Choir extends from Gregorian chant and baroque to music of the 21st century, and for more than 20 years, the Estonian Philharmonic has worked closely with composers from around the world in introducing new works.
"I think that we have been a very privileged group to have an opportunity to work with their music, record their music, and to perform their music all over the world," Esper Linnamägi, Manager of the Estonian Philharmonic says of the Choir's relationships with renowned composers.
The Estonian Philharmonic arrives for its first time in Sarasota in February, capping off a 12-concert tour of the United States and will perform Mozart's *Requiem* with the

monic to rave reviews. "It is very demanding music for some sections — sopranos, for instance, in particular. I very much hope that the Sarasota audience finds this program as exciting as we do, as we share this musical experience with them," he adds.
Another important aspect in the Choir's life is recording music, resulting in various award-winning CDs. The Estonian Choir have won two Grammy Awards for Best Choral Performance.
Purchase tickets online at www.sarasotaorchestra.org, over the phone at 941-953-3434, or visit the Sarasota Orchestra Box Office at 709 N. Tamiami Trail, Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
True to her Roots
Born in Estonia, Anu started her musical training as a pianist, graduated from the Tallinn Conservatory in 1991 and continued her studies at the Estonian Academy of Music as a conductor with Kuno Areng, Toomas Kapten and Roman Matsow. From 1998 to 2000 Anu Tali studied at the St. Petersburg State Conservatory with Ilya Mussin and later with Leonid Kortchmar and Jorma Panula.
In 2003, Anu Tali received the Cultural Award of Estonia and the 'Presidential Award of Estonia' in 2004 for her work introducing Estonian music to the world. Anu was also named 'Musician of the