

CV • ✨ • Composer Leevi Räsänen (b. 1997, Enonkoski, Finland) • ✨ • Based in Helsinki

An internationally performed and award-winning composer known for multidisciplinary collaboration, microtonal writing, and playful, imaginative approaches to composition. Räsänen's compositional practice is based on iterative and process-based methods. Their oeuvre includes orchestral, chamber, opera, choral, and interdisciplinary works.

### Education

2023 Master of Music, Composition, Sibelius Academy (University of the Arts Helsinki)  
2022 Erasmus exchange, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow

### Major grants

Kone Foundation	2024 (two-year working grant)
Arts Promotion Centre Finland	2024 (artist grant & project grant) 2022 (working grant & project grant) 2021 (working grant)
Kordelin Foundation	2020
Paulo Foundation	2025, 2021
Sibelius Fund	2025, 2021, 2019
Madetoja Foundation	2023
Teosto	2025, 2022, 2019



### Awards and distinctions

2025	3rd prize, Turku Conservatory composition competition, for "Cat String Quartet"
2023–2024	Young artist of the "Future" theme, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra
2022	Prize (chamber music category), 4th International Composer Competition "New Music Generation 2022," for the string quartet "the two childhoods" Recognition grant from BNP Paribas
2021	Recognition grant, Martin Wegelius Foundation

**Performers** include Avanti! Chamber Orchestra, Tapiola Sinfonietta, Uusinta Ensemble, Kaaos Ensemble, Helsinki Chamber Orchestra, Chaos String Quartet, Helsinki Chamber Choir, Key Ensemble, Metropolitana String Quartet (Lisbon), K!art Ensemble (Copenhagen), chamber ensembles of the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra

**Soloists and conductors** include Aliisa Neige Barriere, József Hárs, James Salomon Kahane, Tuuli Lindeberg, Sirja Nironen, Elisar Riddelin, Kristian Sallinen, Kasmir Uusitupa

**Major commissioners** include Yle (Finnish Broadcasting Company), Kamarikesä Festival, Helsinki Music Centre's Organ Association, Hetta Music Days, duo Ilmo Ranta & Eeva Rysä, Kaaos Ensemble, guitarist Teuvo Taimioja, Brinkhall Soi Festival, Kitara Nova Festival, Savonlinna String Quartet, AEKI Ensemble, Detritus Duo, Helsinki Symphonic Brass, East Helsinki Music Institute, Finnish Defence Forces

**Festival appearances** include ISCM World New Music Days, Nordic Music Days, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra Chamber Music Festival, Ung Nordisk Musik (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark), Tampere Biennale, Kamarikesä, Tampering Festival, What ever Works!, Kokonainen Festival, Kitara Nova Festival, Hetta Music Days, Avanti! Summer Sounds, October of New Music

### Positions of trust and memberships

2025– Chair, expert committee for education, MES – The Foundation for Music Promotion  
Founding member & chair of the board, KOSKIFEST Association  
2024– Board member, Madetoja Foundation, chair 2025–  
2021– Member, Society of Finnish Composers, member of the composition pedagogy working group 2022–

### Other professional activities

2023– Composition teacher, East Helsinki Music Institute  
2019–2024 Producer in numerous festival and concert productions and ensembles  
Additional activities include panel discussions, guest lectures, and festival curatorial work.

### Selected works

Guitar concerto Pisces – Mime (2023/2025), 30 min – Tapiola Sinfonietta, soloist Teuvo Taimioja, conductor Kasmir Uusitupa  
Studying Gaze (2024), 20 min – commissioned by Kaaos Ensemble  
String quartet the two childhoods (2022), 13 min – widely performed and award-winning work  
maisema, muistuma, enne (2025), 25 min – composed for Anne Naukkarinen's interdisciplinary work Jousikvartetto  
Light Flowers (2023), 8 min – for brass quintet and light design, commissioned by Yle (Finnish Broadcasting Company)