

Lars Skoglund



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Lars Skoglund (1974) lives in Oslo, grew up in Hamarøy and is a composer, writer and musician.

He studied composition at The Norwegian Academy of Music (PhD and MA), Rotterdams Conservatorium in The Netherlands (2xBA) and musicology and philosophy (cand. mag.) at NTNU in Trondheim. During 2018-2021 he was artistic ph.d. candidate at The Norwegian Academy of Music with the project *The Theatre of Words Set to Music*, where he was librettist and composer.

He has worked with internationally renowned ensembles and orchestras like Ensemble Adapter (DE/IS), Holland Symfonia (NL), Radio Kamer Filharmonie with conductor Peter Eötvös (NL), Ensemble Zeitfluss (AT), Studio Dan (AT), Duo Koek (US), Ensemble Ernst, Nordnorsk Symfoniorkester, Tøyen Fil og Klafferi, Ensemble neoN, Affinis, Arktisk Sinfonietta, Trondheim Symfoniorkester and Bodø Sinfonietta (N). His music has been performed at festivals in a.o. Norway, The Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Russia, Iceland, Sweden, USA and China.

I 2018 he represented Norway at the ISCM World New Music Days in Beijing. In 2004 he received the NOG Jonge Componisten Prijs in Amsterdam for *Sentences for Orchestra*. Skoglund was composition fellow at Tromsø Music Conservatory 2006-08, where he later has taught composition. He has worked with music for dance and theatre, and is a member of the cult band Løkbød.

Memberships

Norwegian Society of Composers since 2012

Education

2018-2021 Artistic ph.d. at The Norwegian Academy of Music

Supervisors: Manos Tsangaris, Henrik Hellstenius, Darla Crispin, Gaea Schoeters, Merete Morken Andersen

2015-2017 Master in composition at the The Norwegian Academy of Music

Studies with professor Asbjørn Schaathun. Master thesis on polyphonic layering of sound

1999-2003 Bachelor in contemporary music composition at Codarts (Rotterdams Conservatorium)

Studies with professor Klaas de Vries, Rene Uijlenhoet

1999-2003 Bachelor in jazzkomposisjon ved Codarts (Rotterdams Conservatorium)

Studies with professor Paul van Brugge

1994-1998 Cand.mag. in musicology and philosophy at NTNU, Trondheim

Main instrument: Classical guitar, teacher Jarl Strømdahl. Essay on Kierkegaard

Masterclasses

George Crumb, Kaija Saariaho, James Dillon, Martin Iddon, Robin de Raaff.

Instant Composing course 2017 with **Carola Bauckholt, Manos Tsangaris, Caspar Johannes Walter, Daniel Ott** at Universität der Künste, Berlin

Teaching

Spring semester 2020 taught elective course Text-writing and vocal composition at The Norwegian Academy of Music

2008-09 and 2011-12 University lecturer in composition subjects at Tromsø University, Music Conservatory

Fellowships

2006-2008 Fellow in composition ved Tromsø University, Music Conservatory. Wrote music in close collaboration with the conservatory and the city's new music scene, and taught composition with Morten Eide Pedersen.

Stipends

2017 Arts Council Norway's Miscellaneous Grant for recently graduated artists

2014 The Composers' Renumeration Fund's Fordypningsstipend

2003-d.d. Work grants from Arts Council Norway, Norwegian Composers' Fund, The Composers' Renumeration Fund, The Audio and Visual Fund, TONO, Fonds voor de Scheppende Toonkunst (NL) a.o.

Awards

2004 1. price NOG Jonge Componisten Prijs in Amsterdam for *Sentences* for Orchestra, arranged by Holland Symfonia

2004 Finalist in Henriette Bosmans Prijs with the work *Flow* for Bass Drum and Orchestra, Radio Kamer Philharmonie, Utrecht, conducted by Peter Eötvös

Other work experience

2014-17 Board member in Norwegian Society of Composers (deputy)

2003-d.d. Professional composer full-time

1998-d.d. Private tuition guitar for children and adults

1998-99 Civil service at The University Library of Trondheim, NTNU

1998 Colloquium supervisor for philosophystudents at Ex.phil.senteret, NTNU

1993-94 Guitar teacher at Hamarøy Public Music School

Languages

Native speaker **Norwegian**, fluent **English**, good understanding **German** and **Dutch**

Presentations

2018 *La Boutique Obscure* representing Norway at ISCM World New Music Days in Beijing in May 2018

2018 Interviewed by Marion Hestholm at NRK P2 Radio about *A Journey to Sri Lanka*

2006 Dutch music radio station Concertzender broadcast a one-hour program of Lars Skoglund's music

2005 Own profile concert with Bodø Sinfonietta in the series «Ny norsk lyd», April 2005

- Ensembles/band** **1999-d.d.** member of the cult band Løkbød (Onion Bread) with Mikael Lindqvist. Tours and concerts across Norway, several internetvideos, radio plays and CD-r's.
- Discografi (selection)** **2020** Tøyen Fil og Klafferi: *Botanisk hage*, LP 2020, with *Radio Days*, Grappa
2018 Mean Steel: *Zwei-Mann-Orchester*, CD/LP 2018, with *Scener fra et nabolag*, Finito Bacalao Records
2015 Lars Lien: *Phonetix*, CD 2015, with *Haikus Before Sleep*, Lawo Classics
2014 Løkbød: *Bodde nerri svengen*, vinyl single 2014, Backbeat Records
2000-06 Løkbød: 8 self-produced CD-releases

Currently working on (December 2021)

New work for Ensemble neoN. Performed in 2022. Supported by Arts Council Norway.
New work for Trio Stillae. Performed in 2022. Supported by Norwegian Composers' Fund.
CD-release with textbased compositions, Mere Records. Supported by Arts Council Norway.
Music for theatre version of Axel Jensen's Epp, director: Tormod Lindgren, text: Aina Villanger, with Oslo Sinfonietta, for the Ultima festival 2022. Support: Arts Council Norway.

List of important compositions, with press quotes:

- Lambert, Lambert!** (30') for three singers and electro-acoustic soundtracks. Premiered by Halvor Festervoll Melien, Ditte Marie Bræin and Natali Abrahamsen Garner, NMH October 2021. Final concert PhD-project.
- En såpeopera** (22') for Tøyen Fil og Klafferi. Performed in Hamarøy, Stamsund and Sortland, October 2020.
- Sixty-Forty** (28') for Pinquins percussion trio, on the subject of *music and health*. Performed Ultima september 2020, in a performance with contributions from Manos Tsangaris and Jessie Marino. Support: Arts Council Norway.
- A Letter from Petter** (29'), radio theatre for percussion trio, with Jennifer Torrence, Bonnie Whiting and Cory Hills. Text by Skoglund. Performed in Oslo and Trondheim, February 2020.
- On Location** (11') work in progress in two versions: 1 with live performance by Eirik Krokfjord (narration) and 4-channel sound, November 2019. 2 electroacoustic composition with the voice of Bonnie Whiting, September 2021.
- Fast Food for Slow People** (10') for Tøyen Fil og Klafferi, flute, bass clarinet, violin, cello and soundtracks plus program text. Performed (and handed out) at Periferien, Bruket, Oslo in April 2019.
- NYC Rigging Music 1 & 2** (6') electroacoustic, performed at a concert with Ensemble neoN, New York, March 2019
- Innenstadt** (16') for two keyboardists, on four synths and two drum machines, for Sanae Yoshida and Jonas Olsson. Performed at Nødutgangfestivalen in Bodø November 2018 and Hæverket, Oslo 2019. Support: Arts Council Norway.
- Videregående (High School)** (15') chamber opera/monodrama for Norwegian Cornett & Sackbuts, supported by Composers' Renumeration Fund. Premiered at Periferien, Sentralen, Oslo in August 2018. Libretto by Skoglund.
- En reise til Sri Lanka (A Journey to Sri Lanka)** (19') chamber opera for Future Opera, commissioned by Borealis and Bergen Nasjonale Opera. For three singers and four instrumentalists. Borealis, Mars 2018. Libretto by Skoglund.

«Based on the concept of the things that go unsaid in conversation, the music and the libretto created a quirky, relatable scenario involving former lovers and perhaps soon-to-be lovers bumping into one another in a library. Through a combination of spoken word, disjunct recitative, and an angular, thin texture formed by plucked violin and guitar, Skoglund had the audience engaged and laughing at the all-too-familiar awkwardness of human interaction.»

- Amanda Cook, I care if you listen-website

«Lars Skoglund's opera made me cry laughing, and I was not the only one in the hall.» «He deconstructs the language we use in everyday situations, and the characters can say the most banal things in such a way that the audience is roaring with laughter.»

- Judith Dybendal og Maja Skanding i Balladepodden

Plateaux (15') for Ensemble neoN, with percussion soloist Jennifer Torrence. Performed in Oslo, December 2017. Supported by The Audio and Visual Fund. Text by Lars Skoglund.

Byggverk (52') 2014-2017, electroacoustic work, support by Composers' Renumeration Fund's Fordypningsstipend.

Klassefesten (50') radio play for quintet and narrator. Performed at Norwegian Academy of Music, June 2017.

Stillas (Scaffold) (11') for Trondheim Symfoniorkester, for a workshop, March 2017.

The Grand Hotels (14'), chamber opera for soprano and four channels electronics, performed by Sara Aasen and Lars Skoglund (live sound) at Ultima Festival, September 2016. Libretto by Skoglund.

Et dukkehus (A Doll's House) (24') for cello quartet, accordeon, narrator, synthesizer og bass clarinet, commissioned by Cellolyd Festival, Lofoten. Support: Arts Council Norway. Premiere August 2016. Text by Skoglund.

La Boutique Obscure (8') 2016 for ensemble and soundtrack. Written for Trondheim Symfoniorkester, reworked version for sinfonietta performed by Ensemble Ernst, November 2016. Represented Norway at ISCM World New Music Days in Beijing, May 2018.

Canto Elettrico (17') 2015 for Ensemble Adapter, Berlin. For flute, clarinet, percussion, harp and four channel soundtrack. Performed in Eidsvoll and Berlin 2015, Chiffren festival in Kiel May 2016. Support: Norwegian Composers' Fund.

Labyrint II (15') 2015 for solo piano, commissioned by Laurens de Boer, Holland. Supported by The Audio and Visual Fund.

Radio Days (9') 2015 for Tøyen Fil og Klaffer (flute, bass clarinet, violin, cello and soundtracks). Performed at Ultima, Notam, NMH, Sentralen Oslo, Fredrikstad, Trondheim, Göteborg, Reykjavik, Linz since 2015. LP with Tøyen Fil og Klaffer June 2020, on Grappa Records.

«...shows the possibilities in the meeting of instruments and technology. ...both refined and disarmingly enjoyable.»

- Emil Bernhardt, Morgenbladet

Scener fra et nabolag (Scenes from a Neighborhood) (15') for tenor sax, cello, objects and soundtracks, commissioned by duo Mean Steel. Supported by Composers' Renumeration Fund. Premiered spring 2015, performed several times on tours in Norway, released on CD and LP 2018, Finito Bacalao Records.

«Most remarkable is perhaps the brilliant «Scenes from a Neighborhood», that depicts an ordinary Sunday in Norway anno 2019, including bird song, dog barks and church bells. Here the composer Lars Skoglund and Mean Steel have created an attention-grabbing piece of music - a journey, rich of ideas, through sounds and impressions of the everyday.»

- Arvid Skancke-Knutsen, record review in Klassekampen 15.04.2019

Dual Layers (9') 2014 for Tøyen Fil og Klafferi (bass clarinet, bassoon and violin). Performed in Trondheim, Stockholm, Oslo, Arendal, Iceland spring and autumn 2014. Supported by Composers' Renumeration Fund.

Green Music (12') 2013 for Bodø Sinfonietta and clarinet soloist Martin Andersson. Premiered at Ilios Festival in Harstad. Support: Arts Council Norway.

Labyrint (15') 2013 for neoN Trio (flute, bass clarinet, percussion, video and three tape recorders). Performed at four concerts in Iceland, Biermannsgården and Kunstindustrimuseet Oslo 2013-14. Support: Arts Council Norway and The Composers' Renumeration Fund.

Haikus Before Sleep (9') 2013 for soprano, alto saxophone and electronics, commissioned by sax player Lars Lien. Performed at Ilios Festival in Harstad February 2013, in Tromsø 2014, and released on CD Lawo Classics 2015, soprano: Berit Norbakken Solset. Supported by The Audio and Visual Fund.

Nettverk (12') 2012 for Arktisk Sinfonietta, conducted by Thomas Rimul at the opening of the Nordlysfestivalen 2012. Supported by The Audio and Visual Fund. Also performed by Studio Dan (AT), Austria 2012.

Grusvei (Gravelled Road) (8') 2011 for ensemble, performed by Musikkonservatoriet i Tromsøs Sinfonietta, conducted by Lars Lien, November 2011.

Plakat (Poster) (8') 2011 for ensemble, performed by Arktisk Sinfonietta at their debut concert, cond. Thomas Rimul, Tromsø May 2011. Also performed by Studio Dan (AT), Austria 2012. Inspired by the phenomenon poster art.

Båndgneis (Banded Gneiss) (6') 2010 for orchestra, commissioned and performed by Arctic Filharmonic Orchestra (former NOSO) av Nordnorsk Symfoniorkester at the opening of the Nordlysfestivalen 2011, cond. by Christian Lindberg, Tromsø og Bodø January 2011. Direct radio broadcast at NRK P2.

«...this work ... is named after a type of stone, banded gneiss, which is characterized by different layers of both bright and dark colors. The contrasts and the alternating between the bright and the dark is also characterizing the music. ... Here are exciting massive harmonies and quiet sections not without lyrical elements, like glimpses of blue skies between stormy clouds.»

- Helge Matland, iTromsø 29.01.2011

Bleistiftzeichnung (7') 2009 for ensemble, performed by Ensemble Zeitfluss, Graz December 2009.

«Amazingly refreshing and instructively the virtuoso ensemble Zeitfluss from Graz, led by Edo Micic, presented a new work by the Norwegian Lars Skoglund (35): Bleistiftzeichnung einer Schotterstrasse», where rhythmical and sounding small stones mysteriously formed a whole.» - Kleine Zeitung, Austria December 2009.

Pant kr 1,- (16') 2009 for euphonium, quarter tone marimba and ensemble, performed by Ensemble Ernst cond. By Thomas Rimul, Nordlysfestivalen Tromsø Januar 2009. Soloists: Geir Davidsen and Kjell Tore Innervik. Supported by Arts Council Norway.

Monolitt (1') 2008 for solo trumpet, performed by Sten-Ivar Frydenlund at the cornerstone ceremony of the Hamsun center, Hamarøy May 2008. Commissioned by Nordland fylkeskommune.

Aften for to (Recital Night) (40') 2008 for danser, euphonium, soundtracks and live-electronics, with choreographer Annika Luschin of Wildlaks. Performed at Nordlysfestivalen and Hålogaland teater, Tromsø in 2008 and BarentsDans Festival, Hammerfest 2009. Supported by Arts Council Norway and The Composers' Renumeration Fund.

Fanfare ved åpningen av kunstakademiet i Tromsø (3') 2007, for 3 euphoniums, accordion and percussion.

Utrecht Muziek (15') 2006 for orchestra and soundtracks. Commissioned by NPS and Radio Kamer Orkest, The Netherlands. Performed at Nederlandse Muziekdagen, Utrecht February 2007. Supported by Fonds voor de Scheppende Toonkunst, Nederland. Score published by Donemus (NL).

I vintervinden/Hie und da, wenn das Glück mir günstig war (50') 2006, for dancer, electro-acoustic music, text and video, with choreographer Annika Luschin from performancegroup Wildlaks, Hamsundagene summer 2006. Text from Knut Hamsun's *Hunger*. Supported by Nordnorsk kulturråd and The Composers' Renumeration Fund. Performed 2006-2012 at Mørke Nu, Bodø, Iliosfestivalen, Harstad and Theater Werkstatt.02, Oberzeiring, Austria, Markedet for scenekunst, Sandefjord and Rom for dans, Oslo.

«Lars Skoglund's music is a motley mixture of abstract, electro-acoustic sound scenographies and frenetic techno, that would not have felt out of place in a club in Berlin in 2012. That is meant as a compliment.» - Øyvind Idsø, Scenekunst.no 20.04.2012

Diptych; Concertos I & II (24') 2005 for bass drum, trumpet and sinfonietta, performed by Bodø Sinfonietta cond. by Jonathan Stockhammer, Mørke Nu Festival, Bodø November 2005. Soloists: Sten-Ivar Frydenlund, trumpet og Rolf Lennart Stensø, bas drum. Supported by The Composers' Renumeration Fund.

Flow – short Concerto for large Bass Drum and small Orchestra (5') 2004, finalist at the Henriette Bosmans Prijs 2004. Radio Kamer Orkest conducted by Peter Eötvös, Nederlandse Muziekdagen, Utrecht.

Canto Domestico (14') 2004 for ensemble and soundtracks, commissioned by Lantaren/Venster, Rotterdam. Performed by Domestica Rotterdam, cond. Wim Steinmann, November 2004. Supported by Rotterdamse Kunststichting. Also performed by Bodø Sinfonietta in 2005.

Songs of Passion (14') 2003 for piano and vibraphone. Commissioned by duo De Watertoren. Supported by Fonds voor de Scheppende Toonkunst, The Netherlands.

Sentences (14') 2003 for orchestra. Performed by Holland Symfonia cond. by Hans Leenders, Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam. Awarded first price at NOG Jonge Componisten, Amsterdam, April 2004. Score published by Donemus. Supported by Fonds voor de Scheppende Toonkunst, The Netherlands.

*“A magician with colors. He makes acoustic instruments sound like electronic music.”
- Jury statement, 1. price at the NOG Jonge Componisten Prijs, Amsterdam 2004.*

*«Well-sounding and simultaneously eerie, the chords create a laden atmosphere, ... where the most unexpected sound colors emerge. It is especially the individual sound shadings Skoglund enjoys.»
-NRC Handelsblad (NL), April 2004.*

Book of Music with Ainhua (17') 2003 for bass clarinet and soundtracks. Performed in Holland and Norway.

Glass House (18') 2003, for ensemble. Commissioned by Theater Lantaren/Venster and Festival Rotterdamse Fabrikk. Performed four times in Holland and Norway.

Rotterdam Readymade (5') 2000 for 5 instrumentalists. Commissioned by Rotterdam Culturele Hoofdstad 2001, performed by musicians from Rotterdam Filharmonie cond. by Hans Leenders. Excerpt broadcast at NRK TV.

Vindu mot havet (0'11") 2000, electro-acoustic music, official musical logo for Rotterdam Culturele Hoofdstad 2001, in collaboration with Florian Magnus Maier.