

CV

Arja Kastinen
Leppämäentie 10
FIN - 21 800 Kyrö
arja.kastinen@uniarts.fi
www.temps.fi

Studies

- Matriculation examination, 1982, Kaustinen Music High School
- Master of Music, 1994, Sibelius Academy, Folk Music Department
- Doctor of Music, 2000, Sibelius Academy, Folk Music Department

Concert performances

Performing in Finland for about 30 years. Performances outside Finland in Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Germany, Belgium, Italy, France, Ireland, Serbia, USA, Kanada, Russia, Vietnam and Brazil.

Recordings

- *IRO*; Solo-CD, MIPUCD401, Mipu Music, 1995. Re-released under the name "Kantele Meditation", Warner Innovator Series, 1996
- *VITA*; with goathorn player Virpi Forsberg, SibKaCD027, Sibelius-Academy Folk Music Department recordings 55, 1999
- *KAJO*; with flutest Riitta-Liisa Joutsenlahti, TEMPSCD-01, Temps Oy 2005, Sibelius-Academy Folk Music Department recordings 55
- *ANI*; Solo-CD, TEMPSCD 02, Temps Oy 2008
- *Vaskikantele 1833*; Solo-CD, AANIA-6, Kanteleen Ääniä, 2008
- Annex CD for the book *Taivas auki - Itäisen Suomen ja Karjalan kanteleista 1800-luvun käsikirjoituksissa*, TEMPSCD 03, Temps Oy 2009
- Two folkmusic videos for Finnish Television, *Musiikin muisti*, Yle Teema, released on spring 2010, Director: Mirja Metsola
- *Lavender Calm*; with world flutest Peter Phippen, Promotion Music Records 2011
The Last Gathering; Solo-CD, TEMPSCD 04, 2012
- *Runoitrio*; Taito Hoffrén, vocals – Arja Kastinen, kanteles – Markus Ketola, percussions (Juminkeko Foundation, promo CD published in Vietnam 2014)

- *Emanuel*; Solo-CD, TEMPSCD 05, 2016
- Annex CD for the book *Pisarassa laajat lammet - Improvisaatio ja luova musisointi pienkanteleilla*, TEMPSCD 06, 2016
- Single *Riivattu*; (AANIA-33), 2019 (digit.)
- *Forest of a Thousand Songs*; with world flutest Peter Phippen, TEMPS07, 2020
- youtube.com/arjakastinen
- soundcloud.com/arja-kastinen

Research

- Research on aesthetics of the 19th Century Karelian Kanteleimprovisation in the light of contemporary sources; studies at the University of Tampere, 1984-1987.
- A biography of the Karelian kanteleplayer Vanja Tallas and the study of his music by FFT analysis, a thesis for the Master of Arts degree at the Sibelius Academy Folk Music Department, 1993.
- An acoustical investigation of a 15-string kantele; the FFT analysis of the harmonics and changes in their performance during different playing techniques. The doctoral dissertation, Sibelius Academy Folk Music Department, 2000.
- Research of the late 19th century manuscripts and field trip information from Karelia; research published in the book (+ appendix CD) *Taivas auki* (Temps Oy, 2009).
- Researching and re-writing the kantele-tune manuscripts from the beginning of the 20th century by Armas Otto Väisänen and Armas Launis, 2009–2010; research published in the book *Kizavirzi* (Kastinen-Nieminen-Tenhunen, Temps Oy, 2013).
- Elemental analysis and comparison of bronze and brass wires in museum kanteles, 2009–2012; research published in the above-mentioned *Kizavirzi* book (2013).
- From 2008 onwards, comparison study of different brass and bronze wires in kantele replicas and modern small kanteles; some of the timbre experiments are published on videos at temps.fi/en/presentations.
- Mapping and researching historical small kanteles in Finnish museums during 2011–2013.
- Measuring and photographing all kanteles in the Museum of Porvoo, 2014.
- Measuring and photographing all kanteles in the City Museum of Hämeenlinna, 2015.
- Measuring and photographing all kanteles in the Turku Museum Center, 2014–2015.
- Measuring and photographing all kanteles in the Sibelius Museum in Turku, 2015–2017.
- Brain and music: a six-hour exploratory improvisation concert (Musiikkitalo, Black Box, 6.2.2017) and related EEG measurement from the Cognitive Brain Research Unit, University of Helsinki, under Mari Tervaniemi, PhD. Analysis of the improvisation by Arja, 2020.

Publications

- *Erään 15-kielisen kanteleen akustisesta tutkimuksesta* (Sibelius-Akatemian kansanmusiikinosaston julkaisuja 5, 2000). [An Acoustical investigation of a 15-stringed kantele, Sibelius Academy Folk Music Department publications 5, 2000. Helsinki. The written part of the artistic dissertation.]
- A guidebook for the 5-string kantele (in Finnish): *Juhlivat hiiret. Leikkiohjeita ja viisikielisen kanteleen soitto-ohjeita varhaiskasvattajille* (Arja Kastinen and Pirjo Pirinen, Temps Oy, 2006).
- A guidebook for the 11-string kantele (in Finnish): *Heilani sydän teräksestä* (Arja Kastinen and Pirjo Pirinen, Temps Oy, 2007).
- A book (+ a supplement CD) about the 19th century kantele tune manuscripts (in Finnish): *Taivas auki - Itäisen Suomen ja Karjalan kanteista 1800-luvun käsikirjoituksissa* (Arja Kastinen, Temps Oy, 2009).
- *Wilho Saari, Tune-a-Day, Compositions for the 36-, 10- and 5-string kanteles* (Ed. Kastinen, Temps Oy, 2010).
- A guidebook for the 11-string kantele (in English 2011): *In Visible Vibration* (Arja Kastinen and Pirjo Pirinen, Temps Oy).
- Articles about Karelian kantelemusic in the Finnish music research journal *Musiikin suunta*:
 - "Vanja Tallas – kanteleensoittaja kahden musiikkikulttuurin murroksessa" (in Finnish, *Musiikin suunta* 3/1993)
 - "Karjalainen kanteleimprovisaatio 1800-luvulla ja nyt" (in Finnish, *Musiikin suunta* 3/2002)
 - "Karelian Kantele Improvisation in the Light of the 19th Century Manuscripts" (in English, *Musiikin suunta* 1/2009)
 - "One Hundred Years of Beauty Sleep" (in English, *Musiikin suunta* 3/4 2012)
- An article about the Karelian kantelemusic at the beginning of the 20th century (in Finnish): "Totta vai tarua - vuosituhantisen jatkumon osavuosikatsaus" (*Kantele* 4/2012).
- A book about the Karelian kanteleplayers, their music and instruments at the beginning of the 20th century (in Finnish): *KIZAVIRZI karjalaisesta kanteleperinteestä 1900-luvun alussa* (Arja Kastinen, Rauno Nieminen and Anna-Liisa Tenhunen, Temps Oy, 2013).
- The final report: *Pienkanteleiden luova käyttö musiikkikasvatuksessa* (The creative use of small kanteles in the music education), 2014.
- On-line publication (PDF): "Porvoon museon ja J. L Runebergin kotimuseon kanteleet", 2015.
- On-line publication (PDF): "Hämeenlinnan kaupungin historiallisen museon kanteleet", 2015.

- On-line publication (PDF): "Turun museokeskuksen kanteleet", 2015.
- An article (in Finnish) about the Karelian kanteleimprovisation: "Laulo päivän, laulo toisen, laulo kohta kolmannenki" (IssueX, Taideyliopiston lehti [The journal of the University of the Arts, Helsinki], October 2016).
- An article (in Finnish) about the kantele instruments in the Sibelius-museum, Turku: "Sibelius-museon kanteleet" (Suomen musiikkimuseo -yhdistyksen vuosikirja 2, 2016).
- A guidebook about the improvisation and the creative way of making music on the small kanteles: *Pisarassa laajat lammet – Improvisaatio ja luova musisointi pienkanteleilla* (Arja Kastinen ja Tuula Olkanen, Temps Oy, 2016).
- On-line publication (PDF): "Sibelius-museon kantele SM68", 2019.
- On-line publication (PDF): "Sibelius-museon kantele SM811", 2019.
- On-line publication (PDF): "Sibelius-museon viisikielisiä kanteleita", 2019.
- On-line publication (PDF): "Suomen Kansallismuseon kanteleet K1855:12 (Ruskeala/Ilomantsi), KF1178 (Korpiselkä) ja K1763 (Pielisjärvi)", 2020.
- An article about the history and aesthetics of the so called quiet exaltation, the kantele improvisation inside ancient runosong culture: "Soitti päivän, soitti toisen, soitti kohta kolmannenki" (*Satasarvi*, Finnish Journal of Folk Music Research Vol 1 / Nro 1, Dec 2020).

Teaching

Teaching kantele for about 35 years. Latest: Sibelius Academy, the University of the Arts, Helsinki (1993–), Naantali music school (2003–2018), Turku conservatory (2013–2017).

Grants

- Artist grants from the Arts Promotion Centre Finland between 2002–2003 and 2004–2006
- Research grants:
 - Alfred Kordelin Foundation, 2008
 - Arts Promotion Centre Finland, Regional Office of Southwest Finland, 2009
 - Finnish Cultural Foundation 2010
 - Kone Foundation, 2011–2012
- A grant for composing: Alfred Kordelin Foundation, 2011
- One year grant for reviving the use of small kanteles in music education in the area of Finland Proper: Finnish Cultural Foundation, Varsinais-Suomi Regional Fund, 2013-2014
- A grant for recording music at the Emanuel Vigeland Mausoleum, Oslo, Norway: Alfred Kordelin Foundation, 2015
- A grant for Arja Kastinen & Sanna Kurki-Suonio for building up the improvised six-hour-concert with the brain researchers: The Foundation of Jenny and Antti Wihuri, 2016
- Five-year artist grant 2018-2022, the Arts Promotion Centre Finland