

# LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CULTURAL SOCIETY 28 YEARS ON

Presented in association with the  
EMBASSY OF FINLAND

**PETRI KUMELA, Guitar**

MONDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2011 at 7.45 pm.  
PURCELL ROOM, QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL  
SOUTHBANK CENTRE, LONDON SE1 8XX

## PROGRAMME

LOTTA WENNÄKOSKI (b. 1970)  
BALAI\*\*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)  
CIACCONA (BWV 1004)  
(arr. P. Kumela)

AKI YLI-SALOMÄKI (b. 1972)  
ODOTA (WAIT)\*\*

## INTERVAL

### SMALL CREATURES A MUSICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA IN THE MAKING

EMILIO PUJOL (1886-1980)  
EL ABEJORRO, (*Bumblebee*)

PAAVO KORPIJAAKKO (b. 1977)  
COSSUS COSSUS\*\*  
(and its mystical disappearance  
during metamorphosis), (*Goat Moth*)

RIIKKA TALVITIE (b. 1970)  
HIPPIÄISTYTÖ\*\* (*Hippie Goldcrest*)

JUAN ANTONIO MURO (b. 1945)  
LA PETITE BÊTE HYSTÉRIQUE  
*Small Hysterical Beast, (Least weasel)*

MICHAEL PARSONS (b. 1938)  
SIILI\* (*Hedgehog*)

ULJAS PULKKIS (b. 1975)  
ÖÖPÖ METSÄSTÄÄ\* (*Owl Hunts*)

JYRKI MYLLÄRINEN (b. 1961)  
SCARABE\*\* (*Scarab*)

JAVIER CONTRERAS (b. 1983)  
COLEÓPTEROS\* (*Beetle*)

JOACHIM F. W. SCHNEIDER (b. 1970)  
CALYPTE ANNA\* (*Anna's Hummingbird*)

CARLÉ COSTA (b. 1959)  
HUMMINGBIRD\*

JULIO SAGRERAS (1879-1942)  
EL COLIBRÍ (*Hummingbird*)

GIULIO REGONDI (1822-1872)  
NOCTURNE RÉVERIÉ, OP. 19

\* World Premiere  
\*\* U.K. Premiere

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# KNOW YOUR

**BALAI\*\***, **LOTTA WENNÄKOSKI** (b.1970). Finnish composer who studied the violin at the Béla Bartok Conservatoire of Budapest (1989/90), and composition at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki (1944), graduating in 2000; also took lessons at the Amsterdam Music Academy (1988/99).

As a composer she began by writing music for short radio plays and films including choral and orchestral works and is now known by her stage composition *N! (Woman's love and life)*, premiered in the Helsinki Festival in 2003, next she was nominated for the Nordic Council Music Prize.

Her recent work is the flute concerto *Soie* played by Petri Alanko and the Finnish RSO.

In the composer's own words, *Balai\*\** for solo guitar, "...was inspired by the most common technique on the world's most common instrument, the sound of strumming on a guitar. The Ballet interlude momentarily interrupts the continuous rhythms with its decadent dance steps...".

*Balai\*\** was commissioned by Petri Kumela and was made possible with a grant from the Foundation for the promotion of Finnish Music. (LUSES).

**CIACCONA BWV 1004**, **JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH** (1685-1750). The German composer of the late Baroque period Johann Sebastian Bach learned musical technique near Arnstadt, a place where his elder brother Johann Christoph Bach (1671-1721) lived. He was self educated in composition when copying out the works of other composers. In 1707 he moved to Mühlhausen as organist at the Blasiuskirche and made his job to renovate the organ. He married Maria Barbara Bach and they had seven children. *Ciaccona BWV 1004* is a very difficult set of variations in where the performer has to combine thematic elements from preceding movements in a tripartite structure, minor-major-minor which requires a masterful interpretation. The first arrangement for guitar was made by Andrés Segovia in the early 20th century and this led to believe the piece was written for the guitar. However, tonight's arrangement is by Petri Kumela and the quite intimate expression when playing, brings Bach near to the audience.

**ODOTA\*\* (WAIT)**, **AKI YLI-SALOMÄKI** (b.1972). Many of his compositions could be classified as easy listening music; he plays electric as well as classical guitar, and is now dedicated to compose contemporary music; to continue with his career, he took lessons in composition and orchestration at the Helsinki University with Harri Vuori. He is an open minded composer, who does not use strongly marked boundaries and dismisses contrasts in his themes, so

in *Odota\*\* (Wait)* the music float free without a rhythmic drive as if without limits, that is to say, there is not a final end to reach, relying on the ephemeral and fading moments as if nothing existed. *Odota\*\** is part of an extensive series for solo instruments *Viipyillen*. Just as in a large structure, the word is also a command for the performer: "wait"... "listen"... "stop"... "focus"... "remain silent"... something like instructions given to the guitarist to allow freedom of interpretation.

## INTERVAL

\* World première \*\*U.K. première

### SMALL CREATURES - A MUSICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA IN THE MAKING.

**E. PUJOL (1886-1960)**  
**P. KORPIJAAKKO (b. 1979)**  
**R. TALVITIE (b. 1970)**  
**JUAN A. MURO (b. 1945)**  
**M. PARSONS (b. 1938)**  
**U. PULKKIS (b. 1975)**  
**J. MYLLÄRINEN (b. 1961)**  
**J. CONTRERAS (b. 1953)**  
**J. F. W. SCHNEIDER (b. 1970)**  
**C. COSTA (b. 1959)**  
**J. SAGRERAS (1879-1942)**

These are compositions in mix with suggestive strumming. All of the *Small Creatures - A Musical Encyclopedia in the Making* are pieces connected with each other by some extended tremolos and a virtuoso performer to evoke the fly or the myth of the creature transformation when emerging as a new living animal after metamorphosis. These works were written for the guitar allowing the player freedom of artistic expression. This special set of eleven pieces include five *world premières* and two *U.K. premières*. Petri Kumela starts the second half of the concert, and the first piece of the above-mentioned set with *El Abejorro (Bumblebee)*, by **Emilio Pujol (1886-1980)**, Spanish classical guitarist, pedagogue and historian, who was one of the best students of Maestro Francisco Tárrega in Barcelona; back in Madrid took lessons in theory and composition at the King Conservatoire with Dionysio Aguado. *El Abejorro* refers to a large kind of hairy bee with a loud hum, and the music relates to the flight of the *bumblebee* when spreading its wings. *Cossus cossus\*\* (Goat Moth)*, **Paavo Korpajaakko (b. 1970)**. He is a Finnish composer, a genuine musician and one of the best guitarists of his generation. The *Goat Moth's* music has a unique colourful tones, a suggestive piece and a world première. *Hippiäistytö\*\* (Hippie Goldcrest)*, **Riika Talvitie (b. 1970)**. A very talented Finnish composer she writes modern music using a kind of elastic mobility and clear tones in addition to delicate noise effects. Her *Hippiäistytö* is full