

# COMPOSER IN RESIDENCE

## LOTTA WENNÄKOSKI

THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2025, 6.30PM  
DUKE'S HALL



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**Lotta Wennäkoski (b 1970)**

Nosztalgiaim

Édesanyám –

Amott egy kis patak

**Rubens Askenar (b 1982)**

Artificial Paradise

**Kaija Saariaho (1952-2023)**

Semafor

**Lotta Wennäkoski**

Hele (UK premiere)

**ACADEMY MANSON ENSEMBLE**

**Conductor**

Timothy Weiss

**First Violin**

Eleanor Holmes

**Second Violin**

Chloe Prins

**Viola**

Constance Hayward

**Cello**

Haru Ogiwara

**Double Bass**

Felix Linden

**Flute/Piccolo**

Amélie Donovan

**Oboe**

Oscar Gillespie

**Clarinet/Bass Clarinet/E flat Clarinet**

Benjamin Atkinson

**Bassoon**

Alexander Hillary

**Horn**

Zander Williams

**Trumpet**

Iris Rushbrooke

**Trombone**

Samvel Davtyan

**Percussion**

Guozhi Long

Shesh Abu-Jabir

**Piano/Celeste**

Edward Harris-Brown

## Lotta Wennäkoski – Composer in Residence

Born in Helsinki, Lotta Wennäkoski studied violin, music theory and Hungarian folk music at the Béla Bartók Conservatory in Budapest. She then studied music theory and composition at the Sibelius Academy, receiving her diploma in 2000. Her teachers have included Eero Hämeenniemi, Kaija Saariaho, Paavo Heininen and Louis Andriessen.

Wennäkoski's output consists of orchestral, chamber and vocal works, and her pieces are frequently performed worldwide. Recent works include *Pige* (2022) for the Danish String Quartet, the harp concerto *Sigla* (2022) for Sivan Magen and the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and the violin concerto *Prosoidia* (2022-23) for Ilya Gringolts and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Wennäkoski has recently written her first big opera, *Regine*, a commission from Savonlinna Opera Festival. In October 2025, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra premiered her new recorder concerto with Lucie Horsch as the soloist. The London Philharmonic Orchestra has commissioned Wennäkoski an orchestral piece, *Zelo*, the premiere of which will take place in March 2026.

Wennäkoski was awarded Finland's State Prize for Music in 2020. She is currently an Artist Professor, an honorary title awarded by the Arts Promotion Centre Finland. The Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra has recorded Wennäkoski's *Soie* and *Sigla*, both for the label Ondine. The latter won the Gramophone Award 2023 in the contemporary music category.

## Timothy Weiss – conductor

Timothy Weiss has earned acclaim for his performances and bold programming throughout the US and abroad. His repertoire in contemporary music is vast and fearless, including masterworks, very recent compositions, and an impressive number of recordings, premieres and commissions.

For three decades, Weiss has directed the Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble, bringing the group to a level of artistry and virtuosity in performance that rivals the finest new music groups. He earned the Adventurous Programming Award from the League of American Orchestras for his work with Oberlin ensembles. He also serves as a faculty member and is the director of the Aspen Contemporary Ensemble at the Aspen Music Festival and School. Additionally, he is a co-director and founder of the Zohn Collective, a flexible contemporary music collective which seeks to produce and perform artist-driven projects generated by its members. He remains active as a guest conductor in the US and abroad and continues to be a regular guest of the Arctic Philharmonic Sinfonietta in Norway, an ensemble for which he served as Artistic Director for six years.

Weiss holds degrees from the Royal Conservatory of Brussels, Northwestern University and University of Michigan.