YVETTA UUSTALU

Yvetta Uustalu is an Estonian pianist, singer, composer, arranger, and music teacher. Her musical style combines elements of jazz, pop, and classical music. She is known for her velvety voice and elegant piano playing, often compared to Diana Krall. Although she has an academic training in classical piano, her absolute pitch and self-education have allowed her to develop a unique style expressing creativity and deep musicality.

Accompaniment on the piano can make singing more enjoyable and authentic. It gives the artist complete control over melody and harmony. Her playing is smooth, soulful, and expressive, mixing elements of jazz, blues, Latin American music, and pop. Over the years, she has adored film music created by the great Francis Lai, Michel Legrand, John Williams, and Hans Zimmer. As a musician she has also been influenced by several brilliant performers, including Ella Fitzgerald, Nat King Cole, Julie London, etc. There is a special place in her heart for the Argentine tango composer Astor Piazzolla.

Uustalu has performed at various festivals and concerts both in Estonia and abroad. Her solo album *Uued tuuled* contains original Estonian poetry. In addition to performing, she is a piano teacher and concertmaster at Tallinn's Nõmme Music School and Saku Music School.

TÕNIS TÜÜR

Tonis Tüür, the eldest of five children in a family of teachers and sailors, first found his way to music by studying accordion at the Haapsalu Music School and bass guitar at the Georg Ots Music School in Tallinn.

Since the early 1990s, Tüür has been a versatile player on the Estonian music scene, performing with many ensembles, such as ValgeMaja, New Murphy Band, Picante, Aivar Vassiljev Quartet, Brian Melvin Trio, Tõnu Naissoo Trio, Helmut Aniko Trio, etc. He has played in Europe and Canada, has recorded jazz standards and original compositions. He has twice won the Uno Naissoo Composition Competition (1991 and 1992), and has been awarded the Outstanding Instrumentalist Award at the Rainbow Jazz Festival in 2003. In addition, Tüür has made himself a name as a music manager, collaborated on theatrical productions, and played a significant role.

In addition, Tüür has made himself a name as a music manager, collaborated on theatrical productions, and played a significant role in the Estonian jazz community as a founding member of the Estonian Jazz Association. Since 2018, he has also been a board member of the Estonian Scottish Club, a reflection of his love for culture in its many forms.

INDREK TETSMANN

Indrek Tetsmann has been playing drums for over forty years. His musical education began at the Jõgeva Children's Music School where he studied piano. He later studied drums at the Georg Ots Music School in Tallinn. He has played in various bands, such as the Nevil Blumberg Band, Rubundi, Mr. Lawrence, Nemo, Moon, and Gourmet Duo Plus. He has recorded eleven LPs and participated in numerous TV recordings. He enjoys playing freestyle jazz, experimenting with different styles and dynamics.

VILLU VESKI

Villu Veski's versatility as a musician, composer, promoter, and art lover is truly impressive. Veski finds a wide range of expression even within the narrow definition of a saxophonist: with equal scope and sensitivity that transcends genres – from vintage swing to ethno-jazz and funky groove – on both the tenor and soprano saxophones.

Veski's bold approach has led to projects as diverse as his collaboration with accordionist Tiit Kallust on the Nordic Sounds albums, where they explore jazz and folk through their original compositions; and as the leader of groups such as Avicenna (1986–1990) and Saxappeal Band. He has performed at many international festivals, such as the Rochester Jazz Festival in New York, the Pori Jazz Festival in Finland, Natt Jazz in Norway, the Brussels Jazz Marathon in Belgium, and the British Saxophone Congress at the Royal College of Music in London.

Collaboration with British soul and jazz singer Ola Onabule has taken Veski to many festivals around the world: the South Bank Centre Choir Festival at Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Lagos Jazz Series in Nigeria, the Istanbul Jazz Festival in Turkey, the International Jazz Day RO, and many others. Veski has been the artistic director of the Muhu Future Music Festival JUU JÄÄB since 1997. During this time, the festival has hosted many of the greatest jazz personalities, including Gilles Peterson, Bobo Stenson, Ola Onabule, Jazzie B, Lee Oscar, Dwight Trible, Kurt Rosenwinkel, etc.

Gournet Quartet FRAGMENTS OF TIME

GQ was born as a collaboration between singer-pianist Yvetta Uustalu and double bass player Tonis Tüür, who originally performed under the name Gourmet Duo. Their debut album Secret Marriage was released in 2010.

The following year, the band expanded to become the Gourmet Quartet at the Jazzkaar Festival, adding drummer Indrek Tetsmann and saxophonist Marko Mägi. This memorable performance was later released as a double album Live in Tallinn.

The current line-up includes the brilliant soprano and tenor saxophonist Villu Veski.

Over the years, the quartet has collaborated with many prominent soloists, including saxophonists Lembit Saarsalu,
Raivo Tafenau and Ivo Lille, accordionist Tiit Kalluste, guitarist Mart Soo, trumpeter Aleksei Saks, and others.

In addition to performances at the Jazzkaar Festival, the Gourmet Quartet has been invited to perform abroad on several occasions.

Uustalu's rare ability to combine vocal performance with sensitive and expressive piano playing makes her one of the few true singer-pianists in Estonia. Her music focuses on sincerity, simplicity, and emotional depth.

Gourmet Quartet offers understandable and subtle jazz that appeals to casual listeners and experts alike.

This recording is unique in every aspect, offering profound musicality and performance straight from the soul.

Recado Bossa Nova Love Letters Libertango I Will Wait for You Luiz Antonio, Djalma Ferreira 4.33
Edward Heyman, Victor Young 4.13
Astor Piazzolla, Grace Jones, Barry Reynolds 5.12
Norman Gimbel, Michel Legrand,
original lyrics by Jacques Demy 6.19

Koop Island Blues
I Put A Spell On You
Mar Desconocido

Story in the Music

Magnus Zingmark, Oscar Simonsson, Ane Brun 4.06
Screamin' Jay Hawkins, Herb Slotkin 5.52
Martin Proano Zarzar – sampled Frederic Chopin's "
Waltz op.64, No.2 in C-sharp Minor 3.27
Raimond Valgre, Alice Feillet 6.07

Live recording at Heino Eller Music School on April 19, 2025. • The recording has not been cut or edited.

Microphones: Piano – Sonodore MPM 81 • Double bass – Josephson C700A, Sonodore MPM-81 • Drums – Sonodore CMA16, Josephson C715, e225 • Vocal: Sonodore MPM 81

Preamps: Rens Heijnis 8 MS, Grace Design MK II • AD converter: Merging Horus • Recording format: DSD 256

Recording engineers: Aular Soon, Priit Kuulberg • Photos: Endel Apsalon • Design: Lemmi Kuulberg
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