



# Somnium Ensemble

Somnium Ensemble has grown to be regarded as one of the most exciting mixed choirs in Finland since its foundation in 2009. Its singers, consisting of experienced choristers and young music students, form an ensemble known for their rich sound and thoughtful interpretations. The choir's second album "Unesi ääni", ranging from renaissance to contemporary music, was awarded the title "Album of the Year" by the Finnish Broadcasting Company in 2019. This was the first time the title was awarded to a choral a cappella album.

Recently, Somnium Ensemble has guested Finnish orchestras such as Sinfonia Lahti (2022 with Dalia Stasevska) and Kymi Sinfonietta (2023 with Topi Lehtipuu). The choir has been invited to perform at important national events like the Tampere Vocal Music Festival and Helsinki Organ Festival (2023). Significant premieres include the Requiem by Olli Saari (2023) and "Northern April" (2023) as well as "Cathedral of Spring" (2019) by Alex Freeman. Somnium Ensemble has also sung major works like Brahms' Requiem (2019), Mendelssohn's Paulus (2018) and Schnittke's Choir Concerto (2022 with EMO Ensemble).

Somnium Ensemble has excelled at choir festivals, garnering several awards such as the first place in the Florilège Vocal de Tours competition in France (2018) as well as second place and the people's choice award at the International Choral Festival Neuchâtel (2014). Prize-winning conductor Elisa Huovinen has been the artistic director of Somnium Ensemble since 2021. She has been awarded at the Fosco Corti International Competition for choral conductors (2021), the Finnish Choral Conductor Competition (2018), Gheoghe Dima International Competition (2018) and International Choir Festival Cracovia Cantans (2016). Huovinen currently also conducts the oldest extant Finnish choir, Akademiska Sångföreningen, and acts as the chairperson of the Finnish Choral Conductor Association since 2018.