

VILMA JÄÄ

MUSICIAN & COMPOSER



PROFILE

I am a singer, composer and fiddler specialized in Finno-Ugric folk music. My work extends from the Finnish folk music field to international opera productions, and my professional roles range from performing artist to composer and researcher.

SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES

Instagram: [vilma.jaa](#)

TikTok: [vilma.jaa](#)

Facebook: [Vilma Jää Music](#)

Website: [vilmajaa.fi](#)

YouTube: [Vilma Jää](#)

RÉSUMÉ

ARTIST

Vilma Jää 2021–

"Shifting between acoustic and electronic sounds, archive recording soundscapes melt into synthetic beats as Finno-Ugric tradition flirts with highly produced pop in Jää's new solo material."

- Four released singles, over 0.5 million streams on [Spotify](#) 2021–
- Music media YleX's break-through listing 2023
- Performing at prestigious Flow Festival 2022
- Artist of the Year award – Eläköön Folk! & Finnish Musicians' Union 2022
- Yle *Kulttuuricocktail* guest as a researcher and performer 2022
- Feminist *Kosto (Revenge)* concert 2021
- Performing at *the Finnish Culture Gala* 2021
- On the radio i.e. YleX & Radio Suomi playlist, [Levyhautakunta](#) 2021–

SOLOIST

***Innocence* – Kaija Saariaho's newest opera** 2021–

Student 1 (Marketa), a role composed for me, a folk singer

- Festival d'Aix-en-Provence 2021
- Finnish National Opera 2022
- Royal Opera House Covent Garden 2023
- Dutch National Opera 2023
- San Francisco Opera 2024

COMPOSER

Kosto 2021

Vilma Jää – master's recital concert

Tontun toive, lyrics by Erika Hammarberg 2020

Vocal ensemble (SATBaB)

Tulen tyttö, lyrics trad. 2019

For SibA Folk Big Band

Lasinsiruja 2019

Mixed Choir (SSAATB)

Piano music 2016–

- *Kuovalo, Ketunleipää ja nokkosia, Sydänmurskaa?, Tangled, Kolmio, Tyhmyri-lisakki*

IN ENSEMBLES

Jäine 2019–

Fresh runolaulu vocal ensemble

- singer, composer, arranger

EDUCATION

Sibelius Academy of the UniArts Helsinki

FOLK MUSIC

- Master of Music degree 2021
- Bachelor of Music degree 2018

Karelia University of Applied Sciences

FOLK MUSIC

- Music pedagogy studies 2014–2015

Sibelius-lukio upper secondary school

Matriculation exam & graduating 2014

Other

- Theatre studies at The University of Toronto
- Czech language studies at The University of Helsinki



IN ENSEMBLES continues

mammantytöt!

2016–2019

Folk music duo combining glitter and tradition

- **voice, whistling, harmonium, fiddle, piano, composer, arranger**
- Nomination for Newcomer of the Year at Ethno Gala Finland 2019
- On the radio i.e. *Etno-ilta*, *Levyhautakunta*, *Sydänjuurilla* 2018–2019
- Production of self-released album *Glitter & trad.* (Jäähile Records) 2017

SibA Folk Big Band

2015–2020

- **voice, fiddle**

Musta lammas

2016–2018

- **1st soprano**
- 1st place in Aarhus Vocal Festival choir competition 2017

RESEARCHER

Finnish herding calls

2020–

Folklore research and sheet music publication about Finnish herding calls

GRANTS

Finnish Cultural Foundation

- €21,000 For artistic work and advancing artist career 2022

Niilo Helander Foundation

- €14,000 For working as a musician, composer and researcher and for developing artist career in the crossroads of folk music and pop music 2021

Arts Promotion Centre Finland

- €4,000 For artistic work 2021

The Finnish Music Foundation

- €1,900 For working 2021

Vuoksen säätiö

- €700 Support grant 2021

Finnish Musicians' Union

- €500 For artistic work 2021
- €1,000 For artistic work 2020

Arts Promotion Centre Finland

- €3,000 For preparation of sheet music publication and artistic work 2020

Finnish Cultural Foundation

- €10,000 For artistic work and working as a folk singer in Canada 2019
- €5,000 For purchasing a five-string fiddle 2018