

Sakari Viitala



The Emperor
for solo marimba and percussion sextet
(2017)

Full Score

M229A

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Sakari Viitala (s. 1994) lyömäsoittaja, musiikkipedagogi, musiikin maisteri, lyömäsoitinsoolisti ja säveltäjä.

Sakari Viitala on kokkolalaislähtöinen lyömäsoittaja, joka valmistui Keski-Pohjanmaan Konservatoriosta Mika Viikin johdolla vuonna 2014. Sieltä hän lähti Tampereelle jatko-opintoihin. Välillä hän suoritti varusmiespalveluksensa Puolustusvoimien Varusmiessoittokunnassa vuonna 2015. Sakari valmistui musiikkipedagogiksi Tampereen Ammattikorkeakoulusta vuonna 2019 opettajinaan Harri Lehtinen, Jyri Kurri, Janne Tuomi sekä Lassi Erkkilä. Sakarin AMK opinnäytetyö oli nimeltään ”*Opeta se säveltäen - lyömäsoitinyhtyeelle säveltäminen ja yhtyeen ohjaaminen pedagogisesta näkökulmasta*”. Sakari sävelsi omille oppilailleen teoksen, jonka kautta hän tarkasteli opinnäytetyönsä aihetta.

Tampereelta Sakari lähti jatko-opintoihin Tanskaan, Odenseen. Hän valmistui Musiikin Maisteriksi Syddansk Musikkonservatorium:sta (SDMK) vuonna 2021. Sakari halusi vielä opintojensa jälkeen syventää opintojaan marimban soitossa ja suoritettuaan valintakokeensa hyväksytysti hän aloitti lyömäsoitinopinnot SDMK:ssa solistiluokalla vuonna 2021.

Kesäkuussa 2023 hän valmistui lyömäsoitinsoolistiksi ja Debyytti-konserttiinsa Sakari sävelsi melkein 50 minuutin mittaisen, kolmiosaisen marimbakonserton, ”Influences”, joka sai kantaesityksensä 19.5.2023 Odensessa, Tanskassa. Hänen opettajinaan siellä neljän vuoden aikana olivat Søren Monrad ja Johan Bridger.

Solistiopintojensa ”Artistic Research” - taiteellisen tutkielman lopputyönä Sakari teki amerikkalaisen Clair Omar Musserin marimba-etydeistä ja -preludeista. Työ tarkasteli pedagogisesta näkökulmasta Musserin marimbasävellyksiä, jonka tuotoksena syntyi opaskirja oppilaille ja opettajille, kuinka harjoitella C. O. Musserin etydejä ja preludeita marimballa. Sakari esitteli työnsä lautakunnalle huhtikuussa 2023.

Sakari Viitala percussionist, music pedagogue, master of music, soloist and composer.

Sakari Viitala was born in Kokkola, Finland in 1994. He studied percussion at Central Ostrobothnia Conservatory with teacher Mika Viik and graduated in 2014. In 2014 he started his Music pedagogue studies at the University of Applied sciences in Tampere Finland. He studied percussion in guidance of Harri Lehtinen, Jyri Kurri, Janne Tuomi and Lassi Erkkilä. In 2019 after he graduated from Tampere University of Applied sciences, Sakari moved to Denmark, Odense city and studied 2 years Masters programme and 2 years in soloist class with wonderful and inspiring teachers: Søren Monrad (Denmark) and Johan Bridger (Sweden).

At his Debut concert on 19th of May 2023 Sakari premiered his own concerto for Marimba, Strings and Percussion called Influences. It is a combination of different musical influences that Sakari has got from different styles and genres of Music. Finnish Symphonic Metal band Nightwish has inspired Sakari’s music a lot!

Part of his Soloist studies Sakari made an pedagogical Artistic Research project ”A year with Clair Omar Musser” where he studied marimba etudes and preludes composed by legendary American marimba virtuoso Clair Omar Musser who lived in the 20th century. The research was about making a guidebook for percussion teachers and students on how to practice Musser’s marimba etudes and preludes, which are challenging to be played well!

Sakari Viitala

The Emperor
for solo marimba and percussion sextet
(2017)

Marimba
Glockenspiel
Vibraphone
Gong, Sleigh Bells
Temble Blocks
Taiko Drums
Bass Drum

Full Score

The Emperor (2017)

The Emperor on teos marimbasolistille ja lyömäsoitisekstetille. Se on saanut vaikutteita Japanilaisesta musiikista. The Emperor on välillä hyvin voimallinen tarttuvien teemojensa ja groovaavien rytmiensä vuoksi, mutta toisaalta se on myös välillä tunnelmallinen ja aistikaskin. Teoksessa käytetään pohjana a-molli pentatonista asteikkoa. Nuotissa on kullekin jaksolle oma otsikkonsa, jotka antavat osviittaa siitä, mitä olen säveltäessäni ajatellut. Jaksot ovat nimeltään: *Guards of the palace - The Palace -The Garden and the Princess - The Warriors - Cat of the Palace - Misterioso*

The Emperor on haastava ja voimallinen teos, jonka marimbasoolo-stemma on haastava. Teoksen yhtyestemmat ovat helpompia, mutta silti ne vaativat soittajiltaan kamarimusiikin soittamisessa tarvittavia yhteismusisointi-taitoja sekä kykyä kuunnella muita ja reagoida kuulemaansa.

The Emperor is a piece for marimba soloist and percussion sextet. It got its influences from Japanese music that I have both played and heard myself during my percussion studies. Music wise The Emperor is sometimes very powerful because of the used instrumentation and with its catchy melodies and groovy rhythms, but on the other hand it is also atmospheric and sensually. The music is based on a-minor pentatonic scale.

The piece takes us to The Emperor's palace in Japan and it describes a normal they in the palace where the princess's cat is running in the palace, the guards are marching around the building and The Emperor's daughter, The Princess is walking in the beautiful garden.

I wrote titles for every section separately so that you could follow my thoughts during the composing process and where I got my inspiration from.

The different sections are called: *Guards of the palace - The Palace -The Garden and the Princess - The Warriors - Cat of the Palace - Misterioso*

The Emperor is a challenging piece for the marimba soloist. The ensemble parts are written to be easier, but still it requires good chamber music skills to listen to others, a sense of pulse and also different sounds and thoughts of what type of attitude you want to achieve for each section.

The Emperor

for solo marimba
and percussion sextet

Sakari Viitala 2017

Guards of the palace ♩=110

The musical score is written for a solo marimba and a percussion sextet. It consists of seven staves, each with a specific instrument label on the left. The top staff is for the Marimba Solo, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The remaining six staves are for the percussion sextet: Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, Gong, Sleigh Bells, Temple Blocks, Taiko Drums, and Bass Drum. The tempo is indicated as ♩=110. The music is in 7/8 time. The Marimba Solo part features a melodic line in the treble clef, while the percussion parts use various rhythmic notations including eighth notes, dotted eighth notes, and rests. The score is divided into two measures by a vertical bar line.

Full score
The Emperor

A

Mar. *p*
mp

Taiko D. *mp*

Mar. *mp*
mf

Taiko D. *mf*

B. D. *mp*

11 **B**

Mar. *f*
mf

T. Bl. *f*

Taiko D.

B. D. *mf*

Full score
The Emperor

14

Mar. *mp* 3

T. Bl. 3

Taiko D. *p*

B. D. *p*

16

Mar. *mp* 3 3 *rit.* *f*

B. D. *f*

The Palace ♩=60

20

Mar. *p* *mf* *p*

Gong *mf*

Taiko D. *mf*

B. D. *mf*

Full score
The Emperor

24

Mar.

Glock.

Vib.

Gong

Taiko D.

B. D.

f

mf

(play)

mf

(play)

mf

f

(32nd notes) *p*

change to hard beaters

II

C

Piu Mosso ♩=65

29 The Garden and the Princess

Mar.

Glock.

Vib.

Gong

S.Bells

B. D.

mf

(trem.)

p

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

3

3

Full score
The Emperor

35

Musical score for measures 35-38. The score includes parts for Mar. (Marimba), S.Bells, Taiko D., and B. D. (Bass Drum). The Mar. part features a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand, with dynamics *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. The Taiko D. part includes a section labeled "(Marimba)" in the bass clef with a dynamic of *f*. The S.Bells and B. D. parts provide rhythmic accompaniment.

Musical score for measures 39-42. The score includes parts for Mar., Glock., Vib., Gong, S.Bells, T. Bl., Taiko D., and B. D. A key signature change to D major is indicated by a box labeled "D" above measure 39. The Mar. part features a complex melodic line with dynamics *mf* and *pp*. The Glock., Vib., and Gong parts provide rhythmic accompaniment. The S.Bells part features a rhythmic pattern. The T. Bl. part features a triplet of eighth notes with dynamics *mf* and *p*. The Taiko D. part features a rhythmic pattern with dynamics *mf* and *p*. The B. D. part features a rhythmic pattern with dynamics *mf* and *p*.

Full score

The Emperor

molto accel. . . .

(Solo)

44

Mar.

p *f* *mp*

Glock.

mf

Vib.

mf

Gong

p



49

Mar.

cresc.



E

52 The Warriors ♩=130

Mar.

ff

Gong

f

Taiko D.

f

B. D.

f



56

Taiko D.

B. D.

Full score
The Emperor

60 **F** Cat of the Palace

Mar. *f*

Mar.

Mar.

Taiko D.

B. D.

68 **G**

Mar.

Vib.

S. Bells

Mar.

Vib.

S. Bells

Taiko D.

B. D.

Full score
The Emperor

74

Mar.

Vib.

Taiko D.

B. D.

H

78

Mar.

Vib.

Taiko D.

B. D.

82

Mar.

Glock.

Vib.

S.Bells

Taiko D.

B. D.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score for 'The Emperor' contains three systems of music. The first system (measures 74-77) features Maracas (Mar.) with a treble clef and a bass clef, playing chords. The Vibraphone (Vib.) part has a treble clef and plays a melodic line with a forte (f) dynamic. The Taiko Drum (Taiko D.) and Bass Drum (B. D.) parts have a treble clef and a bass clef, respectively, playing a rhythmic pattern with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The second system (measures 78-81) features Maracas (Mar.) with a treble clef and a bass clef, playing chords. The Vibraphone (Vib.) part has a treble clef and plays a melodic line with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The Taiko Drum (Taiko D.) and Bass Drum (B. D.) parts have a treble clef and a bass clef, respectively, playing a rhythmic pattern with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The third system (measures 82-85) features Maracas (Mar.) with a treble clef and a bass clef, playing chords with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The Glockenspiel (Glock.) part has a treble clef and plays a melodic line. The Vibraphone (Vib.) part has a treble clef and plays a melodic line with a forte (f) dynamic. The S. Bells (S.Bells) part has a bass clef and plays a rhythmic pattern. The Taiko Drum (Taiko D.) and Bass Drum (B. D.) parts have a treble clef and a bass clef, respectively, playing a rhythmic pattern with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The score is marked with double bar lines and a 'H' in a box at the beginning of the third system.

Full score
The Emperor

86

Mar. 


Glock. 

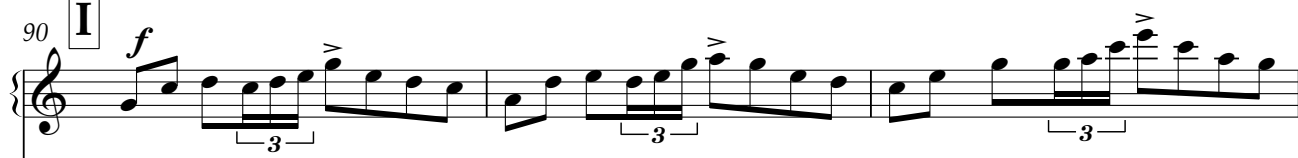
Vib. 
mf

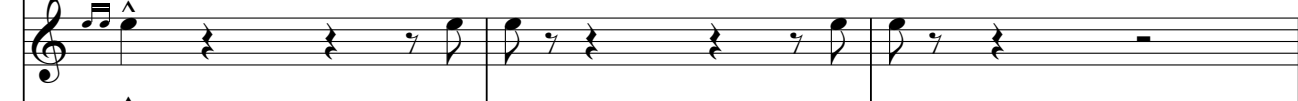
S. Bells 


Taiko D. 

B. D. 

90 **I** 

Mar. 
f

Taiko D. 

B. D. 

93 

Mar. 

S. Bells 

T. Bl. 
ff

Taiko D. 
ff

B. D. 
ff

Full score
The Emperor

96

Mar. (Marimba)

Glock.

Vib. *f* *mf*

99

Mar.

Glock.

Vib.

S.Bells *mf*

102

Mar.

Glock.

Vib.

S.Bells

T. Bl. *f*

Taiko D. *mf*

B. D. *mp*

Detailed description: This is a page of a full score for 'The Emperor'. It contains three systems of music. The first system (measures 96-98) features Marimba, Glockenspiel, and Vibraphone. The Marimba part has triplets and a 'Marimba' annotation. The Vibraphone part starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second system (measures 99-101) includes Marimba, Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, and Small Bells. The Vibraphone part has sustained chords. The Small Bells part has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The third system (measures 102-104) includes Marimba, Glockenspiel, Vibraphone, Small Bells, Tom Tom Bells, Taiko Drum, and Bass Drum. The Tom Tom Bells part has a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Taiko Drum part has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Bass Drum part has a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. There are double bar lines on the left side of the page, indicating section breaks.

Full score
The Emperor

105

Mar. *ff*

S. Bells

T. Bl. *ff*

Taiko D. *f* *ff*

B. D. *mf* *f*

108 **Misterioso**

Mar. *p*

S. Bells

T. Bl. *mf*

Taiko D. *p*

112

Mar.

T. Bl.

Taiko D. *ff*

Full score
The Emperor

116

Mar. *mf* *sp*

Glock. (Marimba) *mf*

Vib. *mf*

Gong *mf*

T. Bl. *mf*

Taiko D. *p*

120

Mar.

T. Bl.

Taiko D. *mf* *< f*

B. D.

124

Mar. *mf*

Gong

K (Solo)

Full score
The Emperor

128

Mar.

Vib.

f

132

Mar.

Taiko D.

f

L

136

Mar.

Glock.

Vib.

Gong

S. Bells

Taiko D.

B. D.

ff

mf

mf

M

Full score

The Emperor

140

Mar. *p* *f*

Taiko D. *p* *ff*

B. D. *ff*

143

Mar. *ff* 3 3 3 6

S. Bells *mf* *ff*

T. Bl. *ff*

Taiko D. 3

B. D.

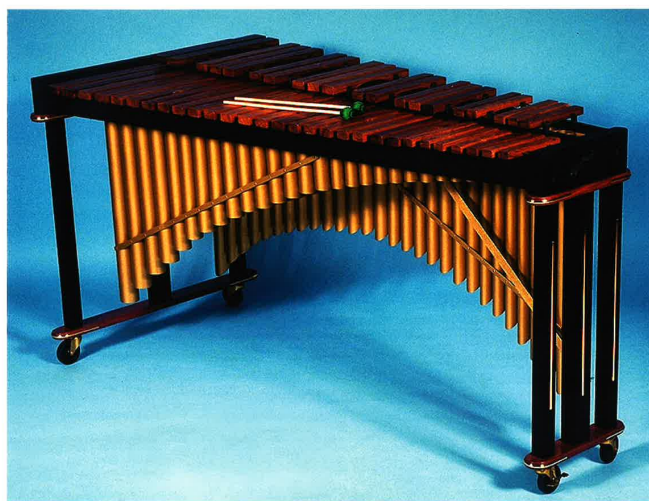


M136

Modus
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MIKA VEEK

Sarja marimballe
Suite for Marimba



M149

Modus
Musiikki

Julkaisuja lyömäsoittimille
Publications for percussion instruments

Mirja Saarberg: Hei, soita rumpua! / *Play the Drum!* M136

Mika Viik: Sarja marimballe / *Suite for Marimba* M149

Uusia julkaisuja/New Publications

Sakari Viitala: *Discofrisco for percussion sextet* (2012) score M224A
parts M224C

Meadow for two vibraphones (2012) score M225A
parts M225C

Vesipisararat / "Water drops" (2011) score M226A
for percussion quintet parts M226C

Winter Time (2010) score M227A
for percussion quintet parts M227C

Ice Dance (2011) score M228A
for percussion quintet parts M228C

The Emperor (2017) score M229A
for solo marimba and percussion sextet parts M229C

Modus
Musiikki

The logo consists of a white musical staff with five horizontal lines. A treble clef is positioned on the left side of the staff. A single eighth note is placed on the second line from the bottom. The word "Modus" is written in a white, sans-serif font above the staff, and the word "Musiikki" is written below the staff, with the note's stem acting as the letter 'i' in "Musiikki".