



Hilmar Thórdarson

Composer

hilmarthordarson.com

Education

- 2019 **Doctor of Fine Arts, Doctoral Artistic Research Program (PKUm)**
Program of Kunstnerisk Utviklingsarbeid
Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway
Thesis: *The Extended Role of the Conductor in Mixed Music Performance*
- 1991 **Master of Musical Arts**
Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, United States
- 1989 **Master of Fine Arts**
California Institute of the Arts, Santa Clarita, California, United States
- 1985 **Bachelor of Arts**
Menntaskóli í tónlist, Reykjavik, Iceland

Teaching Experience

- 2017-2020 **multiple lectures and seminars throughout Norway and Iceland**
including at NTNU, Tromsø, Oslo and Bergen
The Extended Role of the Conductor in Mixed Music Performance
sponsored by the Norwegian Artistic Research Program
- 2012 for the **Bodø Sinfonietta, Workshop for Creative Artists**
on the use of technology in contemporary composition
- 2012 **Iceland Academy of the Arts, Echo of Nature**
workshop for international students, including onsite recordings of nature
- 1995-2012 **faculty, Kopavogur School of Music**
teaching computer music composition and live interactive performance
- 2007 **Eidar Sonic Arts Project, Eidar, Iceland**
festival and workshop with guest artists
including Fred Frith, Frank Denyer and James Fulkerson amongst others

- 2000-2006 **faculty, Iceland Academy of the Arts:**
teaching computer music composition and live interactive performance.
- 2003 throughout Iceland; visiting elementary and high schools, ***Music for All***
performances and introduction to electronic music for children, age 6 – 16
- 2002 for high school children in **Holmen, Copenhagen, Denmark**
workshop in interactive electronic music
- 1999 **Warsawa Autumn Music Festival, Warsaw, Poland**
creating The Northern Noise Orchestra
workshop and concerts for Polish youth
as they built instruments from recycled garbage
- 1995-2001 **faculty, Reykjavik College of Music**
teaching composition, counterpoint and tonal harmony
- 1998-1999 **Gerduberg Cultural Centre and Krakkakot Kindergarten, Reykjavik, Iceland**
workshop for young children
- 1996 **Cyber City 2002, Copenhagen, Denmark**
New Century View of the Future, workshop and concert with Nordic youth,
part of the **Copenhagen Cultural City of Europe Programme**

Grants and Commissions

- 2024 **Commission for a large multimedia project**
with the working title *The Sea: Journey into the Mysterious Depths*
grant provided by the **Arts Council Norway**
in conjunction with the **ensemble SiTron (Trondheim Sinfonietta)**
- 2019-2022 **Artistic Work Grant (Arbeidsstipend), provided by Arts Council Norway**
- 2019-2022 *Sort Glimmer/Hrafninnna*, commission for a large interdisciplinary art work
grant provided by **Arts Council Norway**
- 2021 ***Music of Hilmar Thordarson***, a full-length concert at Verkstedhallen, Trondheim, Norway
with grants from: **Arts Council Norway, Trondheim Kommune,**
The Norwegian Society of Composers and SiTron (Trondheim Sinfonietta)
- 2021 ***Hearing the Air***, for album recording including mixing, mastering and design
with grants from **Arts Council Norway and The Norwegian Society of Composers**

2019	travel and work grant to facilitate interdisciplinary workshops in Iceland and Norway for the performances of <i>Sort Glimmer/Hrafninn</i> with participants including CAPUT ensemble, Iceland Opera, IMNO ensemble and Tabula Rasa Vocal ensemble grant provided by the Norwegian-Icelandic Cultural Cooperation
2014-2019	artistic work stipend grant, Norwegian Artistic Research Program (PKU)
2016	<i>Kuuki no Sukima</i> , commission for chamber ensemble and live interactive electronics grant provided by Arts Council Norway
2014	travel grant, to study the use of sensor technology at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries provided by Scandinavia-Japan Sasakawa Foundation
2013	<i>Silence I Ask</i> , commission for a work for five instruments provided by Arts Council Norway
2013	<i>Daggry (Dawn)</i> , commission for a work for orchestra for the concert celebrating the bicentenary of the Norwegian constitution provided by Arctic Philharmonic Orchestra
2013	research grant for the pilot project <i>Digidi</i> exploring the use of sensor technology in live performance grant by Art and New Media as part of Arts Council Norway
2012	<i>Arctic Circles</i> , commission for a percussion concerto provided by the Bodø Sinfonietta
2011	<i>Migrant Bird</i> , for the official video recording of this opera by Strengjaleikhúsið (String Teater), staged at Salurinn Music Hall in Kopavogur STEF Grant. Music and Video Production
2009-2010	<i>Migrant Bird</i> , commission of chamber opera provided by the Musica Nova Innovation Fund, Iceland and the 365 Media Corporation, Iceland
2001	<i>Tumultuous Passion</i> , commission for voice, small ensemble and live electronics provided by Nordic Council of Ministers
1998	Artistic Work Grant, funded by the Icelandic Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
1994	<i>Goblins from the Land of Ice</i> , commission of a concert-length multimedia event with interactive electronic music and video with dancers and lighting provided by Rockefeller Foundation, Arts and Humanities Grant
1993	Artistic Work Grant, funded by the Icelandic Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

Artistic Research

- 2014-2019 **Norwegian Artistic Research Programme** (Program for Kunstnerisk Utviklingsarbeid)
on the Conducting Digital System known as ConDiS
NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)
Department of Music - Music Technology
- 2012-2014 **Independent Research/Study**
preliminary research on the use of sensors within live performance
NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)
Department of Music - Music Technology
- 2004-2007 **Cost287-ConGAS**, as part of a joint research program sponsored by the European Union
on gesture controlled audio systems controlling sound and music processing
Iceland Arts University with University of Leeds, University of Oslo, University of York and Université de Bretagne du Sud
- 1996-1998 **Amuse**, a research project exploring the future use of the internet
sponsored by Icelandic National Broadcasting Services and Iceland University
- 1994-1995 Independent Researcher, on interactive multimedia performances
by **Centre de Recherché et Informatique de Music (CRIM)** Institution, Marseille
- 1992-1994 Composer in Residence, with work on the use of computers in algorithmic composition
Centre for New Music and Audio Technology (CNMAT)
at University of California Berkeley, United States

Administrative Experience

- 2024 to present **Founder and CEO Lava Nova, AS**, Trondheim, Norway
*creating, coordinating and overseeing large cultural projects
that bring together those in the arts, technology and science communities*
- 2012 to present **Artistic Director and Conductor, Kor Kjartans**, Trondheim, Norway
*devising programming, directing the choir
and fostering fellowship within the Icelandic community*
- 2012 - 2022 **Founder and Artistic Director of CAVE production**, Trondheim, Norway
developing a digital conducting glove, with the startup Ntension
sponsored events throughout **Scandinavia, Iceland and the Faroe Islands**
- 2012 - 2013 **Founder and Director of Klang & Etterklang**, at Mediegården, Bødo, Norway
created an annual forum as an introduction to contemporary music and art
sponsored by CAVE production

2000 - 2012	Board Member of The Iceland Composers Society (Tónskáldafélag Íslands)
2007 - 2011	Co-founder and board member of Raflistafélag Íslands Iceland Electronic Art Society
2007 - 2010	Founder and organizer of the festival RAFlost, an annual festival of electronic arts in Reykjavík, Iceland comprised of performances, concerts, lectures and workshops
2001 - 2007	Founder and Director of Music, New Media, at the Iceland Academy of the Arts.
2002 - 2006	Chairman of the Iceland Music Information Centre (MIC) liaison with the government, representing composers responsible for the operation of the centre involved in decision making with parliamentary ministers regarding funding and other administrative issues
1997 - 2001	Member of the program committee, Iceland Symphony Orchestra.
2000	Founder, organizer, and artistic director of the ART2000 an international computer music festival winner of the Menningarverðlaun Dagblaðsins Cultural Award
1995 - 2012	Founder and Director of Kopavogur Computer Music Centre (KCMC)

Notable Performances

2022	<i>Sort Glimmer/Hrafninn</i> , an interactive interdisciplinary event with voices, chamber ensemble, live electronics, lighting and choreography premiere at Norðurljós in Harpa Music House as part of the Reykjavík Art Festival performed by CAPUT Ensemble, the Icelandic Opera, IMNO Ensemble, and Tabula Rasa Vocal Ensemble with Hilmar Thordarson and Halldis Rønning.
2021	<i>Music of Hilmar Thordarson</i> , full-length album release concert with voices, chamber ensemble, percussion, live electronics, lighting and actor at Verkstedhallen, Trondheim Norway with SiTron (Trondheim Sinfonietta), Iceland Sound Company, UBV6 Art Theatre, Kurs Kjartan, Hilmar Thordarson conducting with his digital controller glove
2018	<i>Kuuki no Sukima - Between the Air</i> , for large chamber ensemble and live electronics as part of the Trondheim Sinfonietta Nordic Tour including performances in Iceland, Faroe Islands and Denmark

- 2015 ***Lupus Chorea***, for large orchestra
world premiere at Eldborg Hall at Harpa, Reykjavik, Iceland
performed by the Iceland Symphony Orchestra
with Petri Sakari conducting
- 2014 ***Hearing I Ask***, for small chamber ensemble and live electronics
as part of the AJO Ensemble Counterpoint Iceland Tour
including performances in Reykjavik, Bodø, and Stockholm
- 2013 ***Arctic Circles***, percussion concerto
world premiere at the Ilios Festival, Harstad, Norway.
performed by the Bodø Sinfonietta, with soloist Jennifer Torrance
and Peter Szilvay conducting
- 2013 ***Cycles I***, trio with live electronics
world premiere at the Nordic Music Days, Helsinki, Finland.
performed by Defunensemble
- 2010 ***Farfuglinn/Migrant Bird***, chamber opera with live computer processing sounds.
world premiere by Strengjaleikhúsið at the Dark Music Days Festival in Reykjavik.
- 2002 ***Sononymus***, for flute with computer generated sounds
International Society for Contemporary Music, World Music Days, Hong Kong
- 2002 ***Tumultuous Passions***, for voice, chamber orchestra and interactive electronic sounds
at the Up North Festival, Dublin, Ireland
performed by the Crash Ensemble