

## Selected Press 2015

# The New York Times

## Chelsea Music Festival Celebrates Music and Food

By VIVIEN SCHWEITZER JUNE 10, 2015



The Avanti! Chamber Orchestra will play Finnish works on Monday at the Chelsea Music Festival.

[The Chelsea Music Festival](#) is a true feast for the senses, offering an imaginative lineup of musical, visual and culinary treats. This year, the arts and gastronomy of Finland and Hungary are in the spotlight. On Sunday, the 150th anniversary of the births of Jean Sibelius and Carl Nielsen will be celebrated, paired with a culinary art reception by the Danish chef Carl Frederiksen and the Finnish chef Sami Tallberg.

On Monday, the Avanti! Chamber Orchestra offers a portrait of contemporary Finnish music by composers including Kaija Saariaho, Magnus Lindberg and Ilari Kaila, the festival's composer in residence. There is the premiere of a piano trio by the Finnish composer Uljas Pulkkis on Tuesday and a late-night jazz concert on Wednesday. Songs by Sibelius are on the lineup on Thursday, and on Friday, the Tapiola Chamber Choir will perform a cappella Finnish choral works and songs by Sibelius and other Scandinavian composers. The festival concludes on Saturday with a jazz performance by the Tuomo Uusitalo Trio.

[https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/14/arts/music/chelsea-music-festival-celebrates-music-and-food.html?\\_r=1](https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/14/arts/music/chelsea-music-festival-celebrates-music-and-food.html?_r=1)

# The New York Times

## Classical Music This Week:

This is the time for series like the idiosyncratic [Chelsea Music Festival](#), which starts Friday and offers not just a visual artist in residence but also a culinary artist in residence. While it can all seem a bit loopy, the music — this year the theme is the juxtaposition of Finland and Hungary, whose languages, are, believe it or not, [related](#) — is excellent.

[https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/10/arts/music/classical-music-this-week-joan-of-arc-birtwistle-and-a-different-barber.html?partner=rss&emc=rss&smid=nytimesarts&\\_r=1](https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/10/arts/music/classical-music-this-week-joan-of-arc-birtwistle-and-a-different-barber.html?partner=rss&emc=rss&smid=nytimesarts&_r=1)

# The New York Times

## CHELSEA MUSIC FESTIVAL



From left, Miranda Cuckson, Gregg Kallor and Joshua Roman at SubCulture in the East Village. Mr. Kallor, a composer, works in jazz and classical forms. Michelle V. Agins/The New York Times

### *Canoe Studios*

Even in a multimedia world, a true feast for the senses is rare. The [Chelsea Music Festival](#) works hard to cater even to olfactory needs, offering guests an earthy, floral scent called Finno-Ugric OsmoLanguage No. 5 in honor of this year's Finnish-Hungarian theme. Such touches can be gimmicky, but they are quirky complements to the festival's thematic offerings in light of the thoughtful programming and dynamic music making.

The opening-night program, held in the loft-like [Canoe Studios](#), with its sprawling views of Lower Manhattan and the East River, was a tribute to the 150th anniversary of the birth of Jean Sibelius. From the 12th century to the early 19th century, Finland was controlled by Sweden; Sibelius, who was born in Finland, grew up speaking Swedish, his Finnish identity later forming a crucial element of his compositional output.

The violinists [Lisa Lee](#) and [Alex Shiozaki](#), the pianist Helen Huang and the cellist Angela Lee offered an elegantly shaped rendition of Sibelius's Piano Quartet in C minor (1891), marred only by the clatter from the kitchen next door as the Finnish chef Sami Tallberg prepared the evening's Finland-inspired menu.

Sibelius's national identity is more clearly marked in his lyrical, sweet-natured "[Andante Festivo](#)" (1922), given a passionate, rousing rendition by a string ensemble conducted by Ken-David Masur, one of the festival's artistic directors. The work was paired with [Rautavaara's dark-hued, "Finnish Myth"](#) (1977), whose tense undercurrents were revealed with sizzling energy here.

Contemporary music is an important facet of the festival: The flutist Malla Vivolin, the violist Derek Mosloff and the pianist Emil Holmstrom performed the premiere of "Cameo" by the Finnish composer [Ilari Kaila](#), inspired by the polyrhythms of 1970s progressive rock and the Carnatic music of southern India. Written as a celebration of Finland's cosmopolitan outlook, the engaging piece features jaunty flute fragments, a soulful piano part and thick, rumbling textures.

The concert concluded with a terrific rendition of Bartok's Piano Quintet by the violinists Tessa Lark and Amy Galluzzo, Mr. Mosloff, the cellist Michael Dahlberg and the pianist Nicolas Namoradze, whose sensitivity and coloristic playing enhanced the bristling, high-energy performance.

VIVIEN SCHWEITZER

[https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/15/arts/music/reviews-chelsea-music-festival-gregg-kallor-and-st-petersburg-philharmonic.html?\\_r=0](https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/15/arts/music/reviews-chelsea-music-festival-gregg-kallor-and-st-petersburg-philharmonic.html?_r=0)

# The New York Times

★ **Chelsea Music Festival** (Friday) The last classical event of this multi-sensory festival should be a gem: rare choral works from Finland, sung by the Tapiola Chamber Choir on its first North American tour. That means Sibelius, of course, and some of his lesser-known contemporaries and living composers, including Einojuhani Rautavaara. Moreover: open bar. At 7:30 p.m., St. Paul's German Lutheran Church, 315 West 22nd Street, 646-820-6506, [chelseamusicfestival2015.org](http://chelseamusicfestival2015.org). (Allen)

Classical & Opera Listings for June 19-25

[https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/19/arts/music/classical-opera-listings-for-june-19-25.html?\\_r=0](https://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/19/arts/music/classical-opera-listings-for-june-19-25.html?_r=0)

## I CARE IF YOU LISTEN

5 Questions to the Composer

<https://www.icareifyoulisten.com/2015/06/5-questions-to-ilari-kaila-composer/>

Opening Night Review



## Chelsea Music Festival brings Finland and Hungary to NYC

<https://www.icareifyoulisten.com/2015/06/chelsea-music-festival-brings-finland-hungary-nyc/>

Avanti Carte Blanche Review

<https://www.icareifyoulisten.com/2015/07/avanti-chamber-orchestra-carte-blanche-chelsea-music-festival/>

untapped cities.  
Rediscover your city.

<http://untappedcities.com/2015/06/02/win-two-tickets-to-the-2015-chelsea-music-festival-in-some-of-nycs-most-unique-venues/>

<http://untappedcities.com/2015/06/19/inside-greenwich-village-historic-st-johns-lutheran-church-for-the-2015-chelsea-music-festival/>

[chelseamusicfestival.org](http://chelseamusicfestival.org)

## Inside the 2015 Chelsea Music Festival Preview at NYC's Consulate General of Hungary



A performance from the 2013 Chelsea Music Festival, now in its sixth season. Image via [chelseartmuseum.org](http://chelseartmuseum.org)

<http://untappedcities.com/2015/06/09/inside-the-2015-chelsea-music-festival-preview-at-nycs-consulate-general-of-hungary/>

# WQXR :||

## Five Ways to Celebrate Carl Nielsen's 150th Birthday

### 5. Attend the Chelsea Music Festival

The [Chelsea Music Festival](#) in New York City is planning a sesquicentennial bash for Nielsen and his Finnish contemporary, Jean Sibelius (who was also born in 1865). This 150th birthday party for both figures includes a chamber music concert, featuring Nielsen's *Serenata in Vano*, Two Fantasy Pieces for Oboe and Piano, and the Violin Sonata No. 1 in A Major. Following the performance, a pair of chefs-in-residence will prepare Danish and Finnish treats for the crowd.

<http://www.wqxr.org/#!/story/five-celebrate-nielsens-150th-birthday/>

# THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

CLASSICAL MUSIC RECITALS

## Chelsea Music Festival

Music, art, and good food combine in this wide-ranging festival, under the leadership of Melinda Lee Masur and Ken-David Masur, now well established downtown. This year's series focusses on the music and culture of Finland and Hungary, showcased in a variety of concerts and other events. A program at Canoe Studios (one of several venues), hits a glamorous note, with music by the sesquicentennial birthday boys Sibelius and Nielsen (performed by such noted musicians as the pianist Helen Huang and the bassoonist Brad Balliett) accompanied by "a culinary-art reception" prepared by the chefs Carl Frederiksen and Sami Tallberg. (601 W. 26th St. June 14 at 6. For tickets and full schedule, see [chelseamusicfestival.org](http://chelseamusicfestival.org). June 12-20.)

<http://www.newyorker.com/goings-on-about-town/classical-music/chelsea-music-festival-3>

[chelseamusicfestival.org](http://chelseamusicfestival.org)

HONEST  
COOKING

# Hear, Taste, See at the Edible Chelsea Music Festival

JUNE 18, 2015 by ANNELISE MCAULIFFE

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The fifth edition of the Chelsea Music Festival is taking place this week in NYC. Be sure to stop by for a bite of Finnish and Hungarian cuisine and a sound of its musical history that will tickle all of your senses.

By Annelise McAuliffe

<http://honestcooking.com/hear-taste-see-edible-chelsea-music-festival/>

**Nordophile** [A Person who loves all things Nordic]

<http://nordophile.com/nordic-music/2015/06/chelsea-music-festival-new-york/>

## GRAMOPHONE

THE WORLD'S BEST CLASSICAL MUSIC REVIEWS



### Chelsea Music Festival NY

June 12-20

In 10 Manhattan venues (including St Paul's German Lutheran Church of New York, Canoe Studios and the Leo Baeck Institute), the 2015 Chelsea Music Festival offers a 'multi-sensory exploration' of the cultures of Finland and Hungary, past and present, including Sibelius, Bartók and Kodály. Artists include Ensemble-in-Residence 'Avanti!', Finnish composers Ilari Kaila and Ulfar Pulkkis, the Tapiola Chamber Choir and Artistic Directors Ken-David Masur and Melinda Lee Masur. Theatre and food also play a role.

[chelseamusicfestival.org](http://chelseamusicfestival.org)

### Television links

<http://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/arts/2015/06/17/your-weekend-starts-now-6-18-15.html>

<http://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/arts/2015/06/17/your-weekend-starts-now-6-18-15.html>

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/video/#!/on-air/as-seen-on/Chelsea-Music-Festival/307068231>

[http://www.nbcnewyork.com/on-air/as-seen-on/6\\_5\\_15-Freebie-Friday\\_New-York-306308641.html](http://www.nbcnewyork.com/on-air/as-seen-on/6_5_15-Freebie-Friday_New-York-306308641.html)

[chelseamusicfestival.org](http://chelseamusicfestival.org)