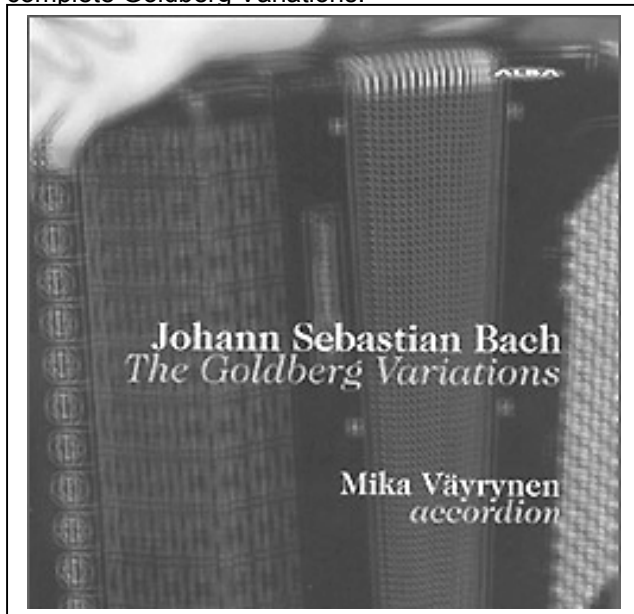


Suomen Harmonikkaliitto (SHL)

Mika Väyrynen Activities: Concert accordionist and former CIA Coupe Mondiale World Champion – Mika Väyrynen recently released a new CD of the complete Goldberg Variations.

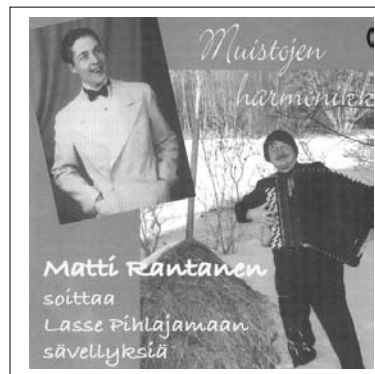


Mika, who received his Doctoral Degree from the Sibelius Academy (Helsinki) where he now teaches, has recorded thirteen CD's which include almost 100 compositions on world famous labels such as ALBA, Finlandia Records/Warner Classics, JVC Victor Japan and Naxos. This ALBA released Goldberg Variations CD was chosen as "CD of the Month" by the Finnish Classical Music Magazine "Rondo Classica".

In July Mika was a guest artist at one of the most important music festivals in world, the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival which was celebrating its 35th year. At the Opening Concert of this prestigious festival, Mika performed the Aulis Sallinen work entitled Chamber Music V, Op. 80 "Barabbas Variations" (composed in 2000) with the Jean Sibelius Quartet - Parviainen. He also performed Sequenza No. XIII for Accordion "Chanson" by Luciano Berio at this annual festival which attracts the worlds finest musicians.

Recently Mika also performed at the Tuusula Lake Chamber Music Festival organized by Sibelius Society where he performed the complete Goldberg Variations. At this festival, he also performed on Bandoneon as well as presenting the Barabbas Variations by Aulis Sallinen with String Quinte and also the work "A Little Something" at the closing concert. In addition to these two high profile world class chamber festivals, Mika recently performed a concert with cellist Jan-Erik Gustafsson in Koski, at the main Church where their program included Bach, Piazzolla, Scriabin, Handel and more.

Mika Väyrynen's repertoire is exceptionally broad, including contemporary accordion music, transcriptions from various periods, new tango, concertos and chamber music and most recently includes performances on Bandoneon. For more information, please visit www.accordions.com/mika



New CD released - Matti Rantannen: Accordionist and teacher of accordion at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki Matti Rantannen recently released a CD of the works of Lasse Pihlajamaa. This newly published CD is available from the:

Finnish Accordion Institute by contacting Kimmo Mattila at: kimmo.mattila@harmonikkaliitto.net

Primus Ikaalinen International Accordion Competition: The Primus Ikaalinen International Accordion Competition will be organized by the Sata-Häme Soi Accordion Festival and Municipality of Ikaalinen together with guidance of the Finnish Accordion Association, the Confédération Internationale des Accordéonistes (CIA) and Finland's National TV Channel 'TV2' on 1st July 2005.

Offering 7,000 Euros in prize money, the contestant must perform two (2) virtuoso entertainment style pieces of 3-4 minutes in duration suitable for a public entertainment concert, and should include one (1) folkloristic piece from their native country if possible. The contestant will perform their pieces accompanied by a band provided by the organizers and the competition will be televised live on Finland's National TV Channel 'TV2.' For more information, please visit: www.satahamesoi.fi

You are invited to the 2005 Sata-Häme Soi Accordion Festival

June 28 - July 3rd, 2005

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