

**Ärr** (2014), 11'  
Orchestra

*Ärr* means "scar" and is based on the song *Bleed* by extreme Metal band *Mesbuggab* from Umeå. It is dedicated to the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic and Baldur Brönnimann. The music of *Mesbuggab* is highly complex and rhythmically intricate. In *Ärr* I used material from the song *Bleed* as a starting point. Sometimes it is not audible at all but sometimes you might recognize the basic riff or the harmonies of the song.

*Ärr* (2014) is the second piece in a trilogy commissioned to the three major symphony orchestras in Sweden.

The other two pieces are:

*Åkallan* (2013) which is based on the traditional Swedish folk music *Kalning*, dedicated to the

Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra and Kent Nagano.

*Öde* (2015) which is based on recordings by classical singers like Jussi Björling and Birgit Nilsson and dedicated to the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Daniel Harding.

*Ärr* was commissioned by Stockholm Concert House  
Premiered by Stockholm Royal Philharmonic conducted by  
Baldur Brönnimann 10/4 2014

## **Jesper Nordin (b. 1971)**

Jesper Nordin is a leading Swedish composer, and one who has garnered considerable international acclaim in recent years. His music, with its powerful emotional impact and traces of traditional Swedish folk music, rock music and improvised music, is broadcast and performed throughout the world. He has collaborated with conductors like Kent Nagano, Daniel Harding and Pierre-André Valade. His orchestral pieces have been played by such orchestras as the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonieorchester Basel and the Swedish and Finnish radio orchestras. He is also included in the repertoires of several of the world's foremost contemporary music ensembles, amongst them ASKO-ensemblen, Ensemble Itineraire, Ensemble Orchestral Contemporain and The San Francisco Contemporary Music Players. He was composer-in-residence for Swedish Radio's serious music station (P2) between 2004 and 2006.

Jesper Nordin has also had huge success with his iOS apps *Gestruent* and *ScaleGen* that are based on his own composition technique. It is used worldwide to create music in genres ranging from Electronica and Techno to Jazz Impro and Contemporary Classical music. For more info see [www.gestruent.com](http://www.gestruent.com)

His music has been performed at numerous festivals, including ISCM, Gaudeamus, Musiques en Scène, Ultima, Stockholm New Music, Tokyo Summer Music Festival and Archipel. In 2010 he received the Grand Christ Johnson Prize for being "a sound magician, who explores and expands the acoustic space with originality and an uncompromising curiosity" (Royal Swedish Academy of Music). He has also been awarded the Lesser Christ Johnson Prize and received a recommendation at UNESCO's Rostrum. His piece *calm like a bomb* has won multiple awards in composition competitions around Europe and the USA.

Nordin studied at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm for Pär Lindgren, Bent Sørensen and William Brunson, before taking further studies at IRCAM for Philippe Leroux and others. He subsequently was invited to be a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University, where he studied with Brian Ferneyhough and worked in the CCRMA studio. His music is published by Edition Peters, Frankfurt. More information at [www.jespernordin.com](http://www.jespernordin.com)

