

English translation for CD liner notes

# SPELARIT

The image features a violin and its bow as the central visual elements. The violin is positioned in the lower half, with the bow resting across it. The background is a solid teal color. The word 'SPELARIT' is written in a large, dark, stylized font with a distressed, ink-like texture. A decorative flourish extends from the top of the letter 'I'.

**PATRIARCHAL ERA**



# SPELARIT

## PATRIARCHAL ERA

A lot of water has flowed in the River Vantaa since the publication of the previous Spelarit CD. Therefore, in the early days of spring 2017 Spelarit made a weekend trip to Tampere to record the present sound of the band. Under the command of art director Patrik Weckman, the sound of the band has developed from one with accordion and mandolin to a full fiddle tone as the fiddle plays the leading role in the sound of the band.

The harmonium and double bass build the rhythmic ground on which the fiddle and viola play in harmonies and sometimes you can hear the archaic drone of the Swedish bagpipe supporting the melody. Antti Järvelä has regularly, annually, conducted workshops for the Spelarit where they have practiced their repertoire and refined their arrangements as well as sought for the disappeared pulse and rehearsed stage dynamics.

The origins of the group Spelarit dates back to year 1982 when the group was established to accompany Finnish folk dance. Subsequently, accompanying folk dances has become secondary to the Uusimaa region tradition respecting and grooving style of folk music Spelarit cultivates. The band has performed with its present lineup since 2013. This third album of Spelarit contains repertoire and trends from the past ten years.

### **1. HONKA-LEANDER'S WEDDING WALTZ 3:28**

(Trad. arr Patrik Weckman) Leander Honga (b. 1836, d. 1917) was a leading folk fiddler in the Kokkola area at the end of the 19th century.

### **2. THE OLD GRANDMA WATERING THE FLOWER – OJALA'S SCHOTTISCHE 2:20**

(Trad. arr. Antti Järvelä and Patrik Weckman) Two Tavastian schottisches from Matti Yrjölä of Leppäkoski and Toivo Helander of Hattula

### **3. PICNIC POLKA 2:18**

(Trad.) From the repertoire of Master Fiddler Johannes Järvelä (b. 1905 d. 1992) of Kaustinen

### **4. THE DEVIL'S POLSKA (HEAVEN'S POLSKA) 3:29**

(Trad. Turku/Södermanland arr. Antti Järvelä) A devil's polska from Adolf Fredrik Stare's music book from 1806. Stare (b. 1787 d. 1810) was from Eskilstuna in Sweden and studied for a few years in Turku/Åbo, Finland from



which period the music book is from. It is almost impossible to tell which side of the present border– Sweden or Finland – the polskas he collected originated from, at that time it probably made no big difference. Stare would be amazed at the present name of the polska referring to heaven, if he knew about it.

### **5. WALTZ FROM LOHJA 3:36**

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) The Uusimaa suite on this CD begins with a waltz collected from Karl Johan Fagerström (b. 1866 d. 1929) of Lohja. There are several variants of this tune around Finland. The waltz reached Finland at the beginning of the 19th century.

### **6. REINLÄNDER FROM LOHJA 2:48**

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) Fagerström wrote down this German polka or schottische – a dear child has many names. Schottisches reached Finland in the 1870's and 1880's.

### **7. POLKAMAZURKA FROM LOHJA 2:40**

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) Likewise collected by Fagerström. Originally the Polish mazurka reached Finland in the 1840's.

### **8. POLKA AFTER K. J. FORSMAN**

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) A polka after carpenter Karl Johan Forsman (b. 1859 d. ?) of Espoo. We feel a somewhat Estonian tone in this tune, maybe due to the instruments. The polka epidemic reached Finland in 1844 and prevails still endemic.

### 9. BIG COTTAGE MARCH 2:32

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) The Big Cottage March is from the repertoire of barber Martin Hellstrom (b. 1898 d. 1988) who came from Nuuksio in Espoo. The tune seems to originate from Uppland in Sweden where it is known both with this name and as the Mungalåten.

### 10. WANÉR'S POLSKA 3:28

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) This dance tune was written down from the repertoire of Gustaf Wilhelm Wanér (b. 1838 d. ?) who was a workman from Lohja. The polska was the leading dance in Finland from the 18th century to the beginning of the 19th century.

### 11. ÖBERG'S WALTZ 2:28

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) A waltz from Helsinki! Bernhard Wilhelm Öberg (b. 1894 d. ?) was born in Vuosaari (Eastern Helsinki) which belonged at that time to Helsinki Parish. He moved later to Helsinki where he worked as a gate keeper and folk fiddler.

### 12. A MENUET FROM NUMMI – A POLSKA FROM LOHJA 5:45

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) The tunes were written down from a famous folk fiddler and clocksmith Karl Fredrik "Ukko" Lungren (b. 1836 d. 1925) of Nummi and his musician mate, aforementioned K. J. Fagerström. The trend dance of the French court during the

baroque period, the minuet, has survived as a living tradition right up to the present only in Finland, especially in Swedish speaking Ostrobothnia. The minuet reigned in the 18th century.

### 13. BONAPARTE'S MARCH 2:24

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) There are several marches named after the French Emperor. Here is a version from "Ukko" Lundgrén of Nummi. You can find scattered information of the bagpipes also in Finland. It couldn't have been very popular but it would be strange if this pan-European instrument wouldn't have been found also here.



### 14. THE YANKEE WALTZ OF VIOLA TURPEINEN 2:18

(Trad.) Artturi Peltokangas (b. 1898 d. 1973) of Kaustinen brought this from the States. As the name suggests, it was part of the repertoire of the "American accordion

princess".

### 15. WEDDING POLSKA FROM HÄRMÄ 2:29

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) A polska from the "King of Folk Fiddlers" Matti Haudanmaa of Korteesjärvi (b. 1858 d. 1936). In his time Haudanmaa was one of the few professional folk musicians whose fiddling territory extended from Helsinki in the south to Kuusamo in the north.

## 16. RIKO-LOTKA'S MAZURKA

### – ANTTI ORAVAINEN'S MAZURKA 2:37

(Trad.) Two mazurkas from Northern Savonia. The first is from Kalle Suhonen of Niilsä and the second from Tuure Niskanen (b. 1899 d. 1978), Master Fiddler of Pielavesi.

## 17. VIJAMI KANGASMÄKI'S POLKA 1:50

(Trad. arr. Antti Järvelä and Patrik Weckman) A polka from the wide repertoire of Master Fiddler Arvo Lindfors (b. 1904 d. 1977) of Northern Satakunta.

## 18. THE WALTZ OF THE SONG THRUSH

### – F MAJOR WALTZ 2:22

(Trad.) Two old-fashioned running waltzes from gunsmith Antero Haapanen (b. 1854 d. 1932) of Kauhajoki

## 19. JOONAS KYRÖHARJU'S MAZURKA

### 1:58

(Trad.) A difficult tough mazurka for dancers from Allan Pajukangas (b. 1939) of Kaustinen's village of Köyhäjoki.

## 20. THE YOUNG MEN'S POLSKA 3:26

(Trad. arr. Antti Järvelä) An old seremonious wedding polska from Samuel Rinta-Nikkola's music book dating back to 1809. Samuel came from Ilmajoki. The tune is a variant of a very common devil's polska or whole world's polska.

## 21. LUUMÄKI'S

### WRETCHED ONE 2:15

(Trad. arr. Patrik Weckman) Archaic sounding polka from a blind broom-maker Jalmary Siiriäinen (b. 1895 d. 1970) of Mäntyharju

## 22. A PURPURI WALTZ FROM KAUHAJOKI 2:53

(Trad.) A waltz with syncopated bowings from the repertoire of Antero Haapanen.

## 23. NIGHTINGALE'S POLKA 2:14

(Trad./Tuure Niskanen) The most famous tune of Tuure Niskanen which he learnt from his mentor Antti Oravainen. Tuure felt the polka ended too abruptly, therefore he composed one more part to it.

## 24. ASTRID'S WALTZ 2:50

(Trad. arr. Antti Järvelä and Patrik Weckman). A waltz from Sigvard Kuoppa of Kitkiöjoki in North Bothnia in Sweden where dialectal form of Finnish language meänkieli (lit. our language) is spoken. The tune was ranked fifth in a competition for "the Gloomiest tune in Finland".



# SPELARIT

PATRIK WECKMAN, leader,  
fiddle (1-12, 14-24), viola (2,4),  
Swedish bagpipes (5,8,10,13),  
harmonium (10)

JUHANI KAIVOSOJA, fiddle (1-2,  
4-6, 11-12, 14-16, 19-20, 22),  
viola (21), nyckelharpa (7-10, 17, 24),  
shoe (17)

SARI MARTTIINI, fiddle (1-2, 4-12,  
14-17, 19-20, 22, 24)

OSMO HAKOSALO, fiddle (1-12,  
14-17, 19-22, 24), harmonium (10)

TOPI SALONEN, fiddle  
(1-4, 6-9, 11-12, 14-24),  
viola (5)

JUSSI SUONIKKO, fiddle (24)

ANTTI KEIPI, harmonium  
(1-10, 12, 14-19, 21-24)

SIMO-PEKKA LINDSTRÖM,  
double bass (1-10, 12, 14-19,  
21-24)



OSKU



SIMPPA



TOPI

ANTTI



PATRIK AND JUHANI



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Organizer Juhani Kaivosoja

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SPELCD03

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