



ANNUAL REPORT 2015

UMO JAZZ Orchestra's 40th year had its fair share of high points. The orchestra performed a total of 96 concerts at public events, festivals, free and private events. The concerts were of high artistic quality and showcased a wide variety of jazz and related genres from Finland and abroad.

THE ANNIVERSARY year's program placed an emphasis on Finnish and new music. During the year UMO commissioned a total of 25 compositions as well as 59 new arrangements for big band. The share of Finnish music in the band's oeuvre for 2015 was 59%.

IN ADDITION to Finnish music, UMO Jazz Orchestra hosted some of the year's most interesting foreign artists as a part of its anniversary celebration. In 2015, the orchestra featured performances by the hottest name in jazz and Grammy winning singer Gregory Porter (USA), saxophonist and composer Paquito D'Rivera (Cuba/USA), jazz vocalist Cæcilie Norby (Denmark) and singer Dee Dee Bridgewater (USA). In August UMO hosted multi-instrumentalist Hermeto Pascoal and composer-bassist Itiberê Zwarg from Brazil.

CLOSER COOPERATION with the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra resulted in two world-class concerts. In March UMO and the Philharmonic hosted a visit by legendary soundtrack composer and pianist Michel Legrand (France) and in October an up-and-coming singer-songwriter Laura Mvula (Great Britain).

IN 2015 UMO's audience was the biggest so far in the 21st century, with almost 40,000 people attending the concerts or other events. UMO also reached an additional one million people via concert recordings broadcast on TV and radio.

UMO IS active in audience education and engagement, organizing school concerts, presentations of works and matinee concerts aimed especially at seniors.

IN ADDITION to 16-piece big band, UMO's staff includes five employees, who are responsible for the administration and organization of the UMO Foundation, as well as the operative running of the orchestra. The orchestra's chief conductor for 2015 was Kirmo Lintinen.

UMO JAZZ Orchestra is a member of Association of Finnish Symphony Orchestras, Finnish Jazz Federation, European Music Circle and European Jazz Network.

UMO JAZZ Orchestra receives grant money from the City of Helsinki (43%) and Ministry of Education and Culture (29%). Other income (28%) consists of ticket sales, grants from private foundations, compensations for radio recordings and other performance-related fees. The foundation's expenses came out to 1 947 494 euros, of which 68% were staff-related. In 2015 UMO foundation's operating loss was 34,247 euros.

39 848

UMO REACHED 39 848 LISTENERS

96

UMO PERFORMED AT 96 CONCERTS, AUDIENCE EVENTS AND COMMISSIONED CONCERTS

59 %

59% OF UMO'S REPERTOIRE WAS FINNISH

85

UMO IS ONE OF FINLAND'S MOST SIGNIFICANT EMPLOYERS OF JAZZ MUSICIANS: IN 2015 UMO WORKED WITH 85 FREELANCE ARTISTS

WHAT IS UMO JAZZ ORCHESTRA?

UMO - Uuden Musiikin Orkesteri (Orchestra for New Music) is Helsinki-based professional big band employing top musicians.

UMO's repertoire consists of a wide variety of jazz and new rhythm-oriented music.

UMO was founded in 1975 and celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2015.

UMO Jazz Orchestra is administered by the UMO Foundation