



JAZZkaar 25

Did You know that
that the biggest jazz festival
in the Baltic States

has been going a year longer than the Republic of Estonia's renewed period of independence? Jazzkaar has been held since 1990; Estonia regained its independence on 20 August 1991.

Tiesitkö, että Baltian suurin jazz-festivaali on vuoden vanhempi kuin Viron tasavallan uusi itsenäisyysaika? Jazzkaar on järjestetty vuodesta 1990 lähtien, Viro itsenäistyi uudelleen 20. elokuuta 1991.

Знаете ли вы, что крупнейший в Балтии джазовый фестиваль продолжается уже дольше, чем новообретенная независимость Эстонской Республики? Jazzkaar проводится с 1990 года, а независимость Эстонии была восстановлена в 1991 году.

Kas teadsid, et Baltikumi suurim jazzifestival on kestnud aasta kauem kui Eesti Vabariigi uus iseseisvusaeg? Jazzkaar toimub aastast 1990, Eesti taasiseseisvus 20. augustil 1991.



The first musicians from the United States to be allowed behind the Iron Curtain was the quartet of saxophonist Charles Lloyd, in 1967. The plan was to play for twenty minutes; however, the concert lasted for fifty minutes, with another eight minutes and twenty seconds of applause. After the concert, jazz festivals were banned in Soviet Estonia; however, Tallinn's reputation of being a jazz city persisted until continuation was provided by the new festival in 1990.



Jazzkaar featured performances by 851 groups, totalling 4,277 musicians from 64 different countries. During the festival's exciting history, over a quarter of a million music devotees have been able to enjoy the music of the world's jazz legends. Pictured: Cassandra Wilson.



Every festival has featured musicians from the native land of jazz, the United States such as, for example, Bobby McFerrin (pictured, ten Grammys), Dianne Reeves and Joe Zawinul. The more exotic performers have hailed from Tunisia, Benin, Congo and Mali.



Performers at Jazzkaar have won a grand total of over ninety Grammys over the years! The highest number of Grammys, twenty, have been won by the guitar king Pat Metheny, who was also the featured performer at the Jazzkaar anniversary in 2014.



Dianne Reeves (USA) - 4 Grammys



Gregory Porter (USA) - 1 Grammy



Fatoumata Diawara
(Mali, photograph: Serena Auroras)



Gregory Porter (USA)



Gregory Porter (USA)



Charles Lloyd (USA)



The best time to visit Tallinn is in April, during the ten-day Jazzkaar festival. If you happen to be in Tallinn at Christmas, make sure you check out the performers at Christmas Jazz! Have a look at Jazzkaar's website at www.jazzkaar.ee and follow us on Facebook or Instagram.