

PRELUDE NO.1

by
UNO ALEXANDER VESJE



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Uno Alexander Vesje (1989)

is a Norwegian harpist and composer. Uno studied harp performance at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City and earned his Masters Degree at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo. In 2017, Uno earned a Masters Degree in Composition at the Norwegian University of



Science and Technology with the project “Harp – from solo to bigger format”.

Uno has won a number of prizes and scholarships for his harp compositions as well as his performances on the instrument. His accolades include Winner of the 6th USA International Harp Competition Composition Contest (2018), third prize in the International Edvard Grieg Composition Contest (2014), semifinalist at the World Harp Competition (2018), and receipt of two Norwegian Art Councils Art Grants, both as a harpist and as a composer. His harp concerto, Bragi’s Harp, was selected to be performed with the Bergen Philharmonic Youth Orchestra at the final gala concert at the Young Nordic Music Festival in 2018. His international debut performance as performer/composer took place at Carnegie Hall in New York City in 2016.

Uno has performed as a soloist with orchestras such as the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Arctic Philharmonic Sinfonietta and performed the world premiere of his own harp concerto with the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra and Opera. He has performed as a soloist of his own compositions in venues around the world including the Hong Kong Jockey Club Amphitheater at the World Harp Congress, in the Oslo Concert Hall at TEDx, at TivoliVredenburg in Utrecht for the Dutch Harp Festival, University Aula in Oslo, Olavshallen in Trondheim and Grieghallen in Bergen. As a chamber musician Uno has played in venues all over Norway with international acclaimed performers such as; Avi Avital (mandolin/IL), Mari Samuelsen (violin/NO), Lise Davidsen (soprano/NO), Measha Brueggergosman (soprano/CA), Eugenie Skilnand (prima ballerina/NO) Frøy Aagre (saxophone/NO), Tom Ottar Andreassen (flute/NO) and David Campell (clarinet/GB).

Uno has contributed to a number of recordings as both a harpist and composer. After winning the Gold prize in Audio Engineering Society Recording Competition in Berlin (2014) with the soprano Margrethe Fredheim for the *The Exquisite Hour* (EP), Uno released his first solo album *Poems From a City* (Sweet Sound Records 2014), receiving great reviews from international press. In November 2017 Uno released his second album, *Oslo(ve)* (Audio Records AS) with his own compositions for harp, strings & flute. As an orchestral musician Uno serves as a stand-in harpist in a number of professional orchestras, such as The Norwegian Radio Orchestra, The Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, The Norwegian National Opera & Ballet, The Arctic Philharmonic Orchestra, The Trondheim Symphony Orchestra & Opera and The Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra.

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SHORT BIO:

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www.unoharp.com

FOREWORD:

Prelude no. 1 is not a prelude for a bigger musical work, but a prelude for life and all its expectations. I composed this prelude as the entrance music for my wedding and want to dedicate this piece to my wife Camilla Sophie Storrø. This piece has after the time been arranged for different ensembles (always with the same harp part), but the solo version is still the most pure and delicate version. It should be performed with the warmest ringing sound and the most delighted, feathery and exquisite atmosphere.

Prelude no. 1 is the first track on my debut solo album "Poems from a City" (2014) and the bonus track on my chamber music album "Oslo(ve)" (2017).

"A stunningly beautiful, eye-opening and deeply touching album (...) what every harpist wants to do with their strings. The effects are stunning, the resolution is a breath of fresh air."
– Alison Young, Harp Column Magazine (US) sept./oct. 2015.

Prelude no. 1

Dedicated to my wife Camilla Storvollen

Uno Alexander Vesje

2013

Moderato

The musical score is written for Harp and consists of six systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The score begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The melody in the treble clef is a steady eighth-note pattern. The bass clef provides harmonic support with chords and occasional single notes. Measure numbers 6, 11, 16, 21, and 26 are indicated at the start of their respective systems. The piece concludes with a final chord in the bass clef at the end of the sixth system.