

More *women composers*
in the *public arena*
makes for democracy
and *excellent art.*

KVAST | Kvinnlig Anhopning av Svenska Tonsättare
Association of Swedish Women Composers



During the 2008/09 season, nearly 99 % of the works performed by Swedish orchestras were composed by men, while just over **1 % were by women.**

These dismal figures triggered the establishment of KVAŠT, an acronym meaning “Broom”, a not-for-profit organization of and for female composers, in autumn 2008.



The objectives of KVAŠT are to:

- ensure that the repertoire expands to include works by more women composers,
- provide the decision-makers at music institutions with more knowledge and information concerning the works of female composers from all eras and all corners of the world,
- raise awareness of the gender perspective in the choice of repertoire.

If we are to have a chance of achieving full **equality** before the end of the present millennium,
our **orchestras** must continue to commission new works
at the same time as they **consciously begin to build up a repertoire**
of the works of women composer.

www.kvast.org

KVAST will set up a web-based data bank with information concerning women composers – www.kvast.org

KVAST will be a forum for questions and information concerning women and contemporary music.

KVAST will be in active contact with orchestras, arrangers of chamber music, etc., both to initiate dialogues and circulate information.

KVAST will encourage those who arrange concerts to commission new works in addition to adding existing works by women to their programs, thus building up a repertoire bank of women's work.

These efforts will mean not only that more women are included in the musical dialogue taking place at Swedish concert venues but also to a more general renewal.

The more artistic expressions, the greater the breadth of the music scene!





KVAST will establish a prize, the Gold Broom (Guldkvasten), to be awarded to the orchestra or arranger of orchestral concerts, chamber music or electro-acoustic music that has made the greatest effort to include works by women composers.

The prize will include a dedicated fanfare!

We also hope to secure funding so that a commissioned piece can be made part of the prize.

KVAST is open to anyone, irrespective of sex and origin, whose sympathies are in line with the objectives of the association and who wish to encourage its efforts.

There are two levels of membership: full membership and supporting membership.



www.kvast.org

KVAST has the support of
Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs,
The Royal Academy of Music,
and the Helge Ax:son Johnson Foundation.