

# EAR-ly 2022\*

\* due to the pandemic, the competition will be held in 2023

STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN  
1-2 JUNE 2023  
Stockholm Early Music Festival  
[www.semf.se](http://www.semf.se)

## AIM & BACKGROUND

The overall aim of EAR-ly is to stimulate an interest in early music among students and young professional musicians and to encourage the formation of new early music ensembles in the Nordic and Baltic countries.

The first edition of EAR-ly took place as a national competition and was organised by Stockholm Early Music Festival in Sweden in June 2008. Since 2010, the competition has become a Nordic/Baltic event arranged by NORDEM—Nordic Early Music—and held every second year in one of the Nordic/Baltic countries, hosted by one of the federation's member festivals. In 2010 the final took place in Stockholm (Sweden), 2012 in Oslo (Norway), 2014 in Skálholt (Iceland), 2016 in Vantaa (Finland) and 2018 in Copenhagen (Denmark) and 2020 in Riga (Latvia).

For the purposes of EAR-ly 2022, early music means medieval, renaissance or baroque repertoire, performed according to the principles of HIP (historically informed performance practice). EAR-ly particularly encourages the inclusion of medieval and renaissance music, if possible.

The criteria for selection are musical quality, stylistic knowledge, communicative authenticity, and, in the final round, overall artistry.

The 2022 edition of EAR-ly will be held on 1-2 June 2023 in Stockholm, co-hosted by Performing Premodernity, Early Music Sweden and Stockholm Early Music Festival.  
[performingpremodernity.com](http://performingpremodernity.com)  
[semf.se/series/early-music-sweden](http://semf.se/series/early-music-sweden)



Kathrin Lorenzen. Photo: Pablo Palmieri

## COMPETITION RULES

- EAR-ly 2022 is open to vocal, instrumental or mixed ENSEMBLES consisting of a minimum of *three* and a maximum of *eight* members.
- An individual musician may compete in a maximum of *two* ensembles.
- All entrants must without exception be born no earlier than 1 January 1989.
- All participants must be either citizens of one of the Nordic or Baltic countries or permanent residents of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Åland, Greenland, Faroe Islands, Estonia, Latvia or Lithuania.
- The competition has two parts: a preliminary presentation (audio) and live presentations (in Stockholm).
- Audio files for the preliminary presentation must include a minimum of *two* separate works, or parts of works, with a total duration of no more than *twelve* minutes (see *APPLICATION PROCESS 1*).
- Repertoire chosen for the final round must include a work written by a Nordic/Baltic early music composer.



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## APPLICATION PROCESS

**Please prepare:**

**1. An unprocessed audio file** of minimum *six* and maximum *twelve* minutes, containing a minimum of *two* separate works or parts of works. The audio file must be marked with a pseudonym. Please use one of the following formats: mp3, aiff or wav.

**2. A PDF document** containing the following information:

- a. Name of the participants and details of instrumentation/vocal parts;
- b. A copy of each participant's passport (photo page) or national ID card;
- c. E-mail, postal address and phone number of a contact person;
- d. Full and complete details of a programme for presentation in the final round, in performance order. The programme must include a work written by a Nordic/Baltic early music composer. The total length should be ca.30 minutes;
- e. A biography or CV of the ensembles, max. 1 000 characters;
- f. Programme notes for the final presentation, max.1 000 characters;
- g. A link to the ensemble's Facebook page and/or website.

**3. A PR picture** of the participants in print quality (300 dpi). Please specify the name of the photographer.

Please send the prepared material via [wetransfer.com](https://www.wetransfer.com) to [secretary@nordem.org](mailto:secretary@nordem.org) before the DEADLINE for applications: 23:59 (CET) on 31 March 2023.

For the selection of the finalists, all applications will be evaluated anonymously by a jury consisting of NORDEM members.

## FINAL PRESENTATIONS

The final presentations will be held on 2 June 2023.

Up to three ensembles will be selected for the final presentations. These will be held in front of an international jury and will be open to the audience.

Prior to the final presentations, the finalists will participate in one or more master-classes led by the members of the Jury.

After the final round, each of the final ensembles will have a 15-minute feedback session with members of the jury.

NORDEM will cover 50% of the participants' travel expenses, up to a maximum of 1 000 SEK.

Simple accommodation will be provided.

By taking part, participants agree that the final round of presentations may be recorded, filmed and broadcast live and/or subsequently by radio, television and internet with no fee obligation.

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

- The winning ensemble will be awarded a prize of 50 000 SEK.
- The jury reserves the right not to select prizewinners.
- The audience will select one ensemble for the special EAR-ly Audience Award. The winner of this award will be invited to perform at one of the NORDEM member festivals during the season 2024-26.

For general inquiries, please contact: Katerina Roussou (NORDEM Secretary) [secretary@nordem.org](mailto:secretary@nordem.org) or visit: [www.nordem.org](http://www.nordem.org)