

## Frigg workshops

Aside from performing, Frigg can also provide folk music courses and workshops.

Members of Frigg have a wide knowledge among Finnish instrumental traditions as well as Norwegian fiddling traditions. Also they've put effort to learn things from other musical styles like old-time/bluegrass, irish, balkan etc. They all have studied music in many different music schools such as Sibelius-Academy in Helsinki (FIN), Ole Bull Academy in Voss (NOR) and Musikkhøgskolen in Oslo (NOR). In all of these schools the genre is found folk music but for example next year Alina is about to graduate in classical fiddle teaching -studies at Tampere Conservatory.

Antti, Alina and Esko Järvelä are known of belonging to a family with unusually strong musical background. Through all the seasons since the 19th century this family has had a frontline fiddler who has carried the traditional way of playing for the forthcoming generations. Annually Antti and Esko guide fiddlers and bands at folk music happenings and courses. Alina teaches at Tampere Suzuki School of Music.

Among last 25 years Mauno Järvelä (father to Alina and Esko, uncle to Antti) has been an all-around music pedagogist in Middle-Ostrobothnia region in Finland. With hundreds and again hundreds of fiddle pupils he's done a wonderful job to keep the tradition alive. Mixing classical way of teaching (Suzuki-method) into elements of traditional folk music he's found a method which carries the children into a joyful path of learning and musical fun. With this method Mauno and his assistants (incl. Antti, Alina and Esko) have been on the road for over 10 years to teach at music schools and music courses all over Finland and Scandinavia.

Antti plays nowadays with Finnish supergroups JPP and Troka (just to mention some of his bands...). As years have gone by, together with his cousin Esko they've build an accompanying engine that always keeps groovy and bubbles ideas! At the moment they have lots of common projects to go for - like another multicultural band Baltic Crossing with Kristian Bugge - a fiddler from Denmark, guitar player Ian Stephenson and northumbrian pipes player Andy May - both of them from England. Antti and Esko have also been playing at the same time in a folklore/dance group Tsuumi.

Einar Olav and Gjermund have been teaching their home regions style all over Norway and rest of the Europe. Their area tradition is based on Hardanger- and ordinary fiddling which has melodies and stylistic details adapted mostly from a respected local fiddler Hilmar Aleksandersen. Also their father Geir-Egil Larsen has done a great job as a musician and youngsters musical leader in Verdal area. Einar Olav has got lots of traditional music projects going on in his home area which keep him busy. At present he plays with a very popular traditional dance music orchestra PA Røstad Jr's Orkester. Gjermund is one of the busiest folk musicians in Norway. He plays with a Norwegian Grammy winner fiddle band Majorstuen and he used to be the one who approximately always wins all the folk music awards available! As an individual and also together with Einar Olav he's won the most respected traditional

music orientated competition Landskappsleik many times...

Tuomas teaches guitar at Joensuu Conservatory in Eastern Finland. He has been one of the original members of the early Värttinä so he's got the interest into folk music in very early stage, too. He has taught guitar at various folk music events and is one of the best bluegrass musicians in Finland. Just recently Tuomas finished his music master degree -program at Sibelius-Academy in Helsinki. He has started a solo project Tuomas Logrén Band with Petri, Juha-Matti Kurra and a bass player Tapani Varis (known from Maria Kalaniemi & Aldargaz, Erik Hokkanen & Lumisudet etc).

Petri teaches mandolin related instruments at Sibelius-Academy and Kokkola Conservatory. He's got students also at some music schools in Helsinki area. In early 90's he got a spark towards folk music after being a member of a very popular pop music group Pekka Ja Susi. At the moment he is about to be raised as the pioneer of Finnish bagpipes tradition. Petri plays several instruments in several bands. Other folk/world music projects his name popping up with are at the moment Plektronite and Hyperborea.

For the participants Frigg will offer a happy and educating experiment with Scandinavian traditions!