

# Aleksander Sinding-Larsen Waaktaar

Composer · Arranger · Producer · Songwriter

Åsengata 8b, 0480 Oslo | +47 480 09 644 | aleksander.waaktaar@gmail.com | aleksanderwaaktaar.com

## Profile

Aleksander Waaktaar is a Norwegian composer, arranger, producer and songwriter based in Oslo. His work spans film, television and game music, concert works, and studio production. He holds a Master's degree in Jazz Composition for Large Ensembles from the Norwegian Academy of Music, where he also teaches. His music ranges from acoustic songs to orchestral works and synth-based productions. He has also built an extensive career as an arranger, with works performed by leading orchestras across Norway and Europe.

## Awards, Nominations and Grants

- Winner Gullrutens fagpris — Best Sound Production (2026)
- Michael's Book on Bears by Konradsen — nominated for Spellemannsprisen (2023). Arrangements by Aleksander Waaktaar
- Height of the Reeds by Arve Henriksen, Jan Bang & Eivind Aarset — nominated for Spellemannsprisen (2019). Arrangements by Aleksander Waaktaar

*Spellemannsprisen is the Norwegian Grammy equivalent.*

- Recording grant from FFLB for studio album Feller (2021)
- The Norwegian State's grant for newly educated composers (2019)

## Film, Television and Games

- **Cliff Kingdom** — Currently composing music for the 2D platform game Cliff Kingdom, set to be released late 2027/early 2028
- **Askepote (Caterella)** — Animated feature film. Composed music for three cues, assisting main composer Gaute Storaas (2024/2025)
- **Sykkel-sommer** — NRK. Vignette music and orchestral underscore. Recorded with KORK (2023)
- **Festen etter fasten** — NRK. Vignette music (with Nawar Alnaddaf & Adnan Yusuf) (2021)
- **Side om side — Julespesial** — NRK. Orchestral underscore for closing sequence. Recorded with KORK (2019)

*Additionally composed music for several short films in collaboration with The Norwegian Film School.*

## Selected Compositions

- **Feller** — Studio album. Produced by Aleksander Waaktaar & Martin Miguel Almagro Tonne. 40' (2023)
- **All Wrong** — Studio album. Produced by Martin Miguel Almagro Tonne. 40' (2020)
- **Grenser (Limits)** — For Quartetto Testosterone and PERCelleh. 10' (2021)
- **Fanfare** — For Birkelunden Male Choir's 10th anniversary concert. 2' (2021)
- **Interruptions** — For the Norwegian Wind Ensemble. 6' (2017)
- **No Concept** — For the Norwegian Wind Ensemble. 4' (2017)
- **Sleep Deprivation** — For Waaktaar-ensemble (sinfonietta + band). 6' (2016)
- **Open Circle** — For Waaktaar-ensemble (sinfonietta + band). 6' (2016)
- **Second Ascent** — For Waaktaar-ensemble (sinfonietta + band). 6' (2016)
- **It's Not Safe Here** — For Waaktaar-ensemble (sinfonietta + band). 6' (2016)
- **First Ascent** — For Waaktaar-ensemble (sinfonietta + band). 6' (2016)
- **De blå minuttene** — Commission for woodwind Trio Coniro. 5' (2015)
- **Baldis Drømmer** — For the Norwegian Radio Orchestra. 6' (2014)

## Arrangements

Arrangements written for and performed by:

- Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra
- Norwegian Broadcasting Orchestra (KORK) — also serving as music producer on recordings
- Arctic Philharmonic
- Stavanger Symphony Orchestra

- Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra
- Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra
- Sveriges Radios Symfoniorkester
- Aalborg Symfoniorkester
- Opera North Orchestra & Choir
- The Norwegian Wind Ensemble
- Staff Band of the Norwegian Armed Forces

Artists arranged for include: Girl in Red, Beharie, Dagny, Frida Ånnevik, Thomas Dybdahl, Arve Henriksen, Konradsen, Astrid S, Lemaitre, Marthe Wang and others.

## Education

**2022–2023 Further education in Film Music Composition** — Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences

**2017–2018 Conducting I** — Norwegian Academy of Music

**2015–2017 Master's in Jazz Composition for Large Ensembles** — Norwegian Academy of Music

**2014–2015 Further education in Jazz Composition** — Norwegian Academy of Music

**2013–2015 Master's in Musicology** — University of Oslo

**2010–2013 Bachelor's in Musicology** — University of Oslo

## Teaching & Other Activities

- Music theory and arranging lecturer, 1st year students — Norwegian Academy of Music (2020–2023)
- Yearly workshops in arranging and songwriting — Norwegian Academy of Music (2018–)
- Freelance music producer, including for the Norwegian Broadcasting Orchestra (KORK) and Arctic Philharmonic
- Performs as guitarist and vocalist; two solo albums released under own name

## Professional Memberships

Norwegian Composers Society (Norsk komponistforening) — member since 2017

Norwegian Society of Composers and Lyricists (NOPA) — member since 2017