

WELCOME TO AINOLA!

Jean Sibelius, a Finnish composer, and his wife Aino moved to Ainola in 1904 with their three daughters Eva, Ruth and Katarina. At the time Sibelius was 38 years old and on the way to international fame. In total, Jean and Aino had six daughters of whom Margareta and Heidi were born in Ainola. Their third daughter Kirsti had died in 1900 from typhoid fever. Ainola was Jean's home for the last 53 years of his life and the birthplace of most of his works.

Jean Sibelius

Jean (Janne) Sibelius was born into a Swedish-speaking family on December 8th 1865. His father, Christian Gustaf Sibelius, was a doctor, and his mother Maria Charlotta Borg was the daughter of a clergyman. Music was the family's common pastime. The children played music in a chamber trio; Jean was the violinist, his older sister Linda the pianist, and younger brother Christian played the cello.

Having completed the Finnish secondary school in Hämeenlinna, Sibelius moved to Helsinki to continue his studies of violin and composing. After four years at the Helsinki Institute of Music (nowadays called the Sibelius Academy) he went to study in Berlin

Aino Sibelius

Aino Sibelius was born in 1871 as the seventh child of Elisabeth and Alexander Järnefelt. Her family was an artistically gifted noble family. Three of her brothers became famous artists: Eero a painter, Arvid an author and Armas a conductor and composer.

Sibelius named his home "Ainola" after his wife. Aino's emotional support was essential

At the beginning of the century an artist community was forming around the Lake Tuusula. The community consisted of artists such as painters Pekka Halonen, Eero Järnefelt and Venny Soldan-Brofeldt, a writer Juhani Aho and a poet J.H Erkkö. Besides desiring to live among this community, Sibelius was attracted by the peaceful countryside. The house was designed by architect Lars Sonck, and it soon became a central meeting place for the local artists.

and Vienna. In 1892 Sibelius married Aino Järnefelt, and the same year saw his breakthrough with *Kullervo*, a symphony for orchestra, choir and vocal soloist.

Sibelius had a great influence on the national awakening of Finland; *Finlandia* (published in 1899) became a symbol of Finnish struggle for independence. Sibelius's period of National Romanticism ended soon after the family's move to Ainola. Expressions of this era are the *Karelia Suite*, the *Lemminkäinen Legends*, the first two Symphonies and *Valse Triste*. The first works to be composed at Ainola were the *Violin Concerto* and the Third Symphony.

for her husband's work. Aino was responsible for the finances of the household as well as for the everyday matters. Along with much of the needlecraft, the cupboards and the handrail of the dining room are expressions of Aino's own creativity, as is the sauna building in the garden. She was a woman of many talents who taught the daughters at home, spoke five languages and was a skilled pianist.

1 . DRAWING ROOM

At Ainola the numerous guests were welcomed in the drawing room. To the right of the window there is a portrait of 38-year-old Sibelius by Albert Edelfelt. The watercolour portrait of Aino Sibelius to the right of the green fireplace is by her brother, Eero Järnefelt.

The grand piano was a gift to Sibelius for his 50th birthday in 1915. However, he seldom used it for composing since he composed everything in his head. Sibelius called

composing “forging a theme”, and only when the mental process was over did he write out the score of the finished work. Sibelius himself said that silence spoke to him; the absolute peace needed for work was created for him by Aino and the daughters.

Nature was a major source of inspiration for Sibelius. Long walks in the surroundings of Lake Tuusula belonged to his daily programme.

2 . DINING ROOM

Sibelius wanted a green fireplace built in the dining room, and it was designed by the architect, Lars Sonck. Sibelius had a condition called synesthesia, hence colours had a special meaning for him. Each colour symbolised a different chord, the green colour being F major.

Oscar Parviainen’s large painting to the left of the fireplace was called the D major painting because of its yellow colour.

3 . UPSTAIRS

There are three rooms upstairs: Aino’s bedroom, Jean’s longest standing study, and a guest room for the grandchildren and other guests. There is also an attic upstairs.

The 2nd floor is closed to the public due to fire safety concerns. On Ainola’s website you can find a video of the rooms upstairs.



4 . LIBRARY

The laurel wreath to the right of the library’s entrance is a greeting from the whole Finnish nation to the 85-year-old composer. The library was originally a nursery, but after the marriage of the youngest daughter, Heidi, it was redesigned by Heidi and her husband, architect Aulis Blomstedt.

The library was Sibelius’ favourite room in the house. To the left of the door is his corner for smoking cigars. Sibelius was particularly fond of reading historical works and poetry. On the back wall there is Akseli Gallen-Kallela’s

triptych *En Saga (The Saga)*, one part of which is a portrait of the young Sibelius.

5 . STUDY AND BEDROOM

At the age of 75 Sibelius transferred his bedroom and study downstairs as moving in the stairs became more challenging. He worked on the 8th Symphony during the latter part of his life, but eventually burned its sketches in the fireplace. He did not publish

any works after 1929, which was said to be due to his extreme self-criticism.

Sibelius's Italian Borsalino hat and walking stick are on the round corner table.

6 . KITCHEN

Everyday life at Ainola was relatively self-sufficient; in the garden Aino Sibelius grew berries, fruits, and vegetables for the family's own use. Running water and electric heating were installed in 1960. Before that, the house was wood-heated and seven wells around the property provided water.

On the kitchen range there are many objects such as a waffle iron, a beef grill, and a pan for frying doughnuts. An apple drill, Sibelius's souvenir from America in 1914, is screwed on to the shelf above the range.

7 . MAID'S ROOM

The Sibelius family had two housekeepers, Aino Kari and Helmi Vainikainen, who lived in the room next to the kitchen stove. They worked for the Sibelius family for nearly sixty years, and were regarded as family members.

The room is not in its fully original state, as the housekeepers took their personal belongings with them when they retired and moved out in the 1960s. The furniture and decorations are original nonetheless, as the room was redecorated after the maids had retired.

8 . THE GRAVES

Jean Sibelius died in Ainola at the age of 91 on September 20th 1957. Aino Sibelius lived in the house for another twelve years after her husband's death; she died in 1969 at the age of 97.

Foundation was also founded then to maintain the museum. In 1974 the house was opened to the public just as Aino Sibelius had left it.

The daughters of Sibelius sold the house to the Finnish government in 1972; the Ainola

Aino and Jean Sibelius are buried in the garden of Ainola.

AINOLA'S WORKS OF ART

Drawing Room (from the left of the entrance)

Bouquet of Roses

Portrait of Aino Sibelius

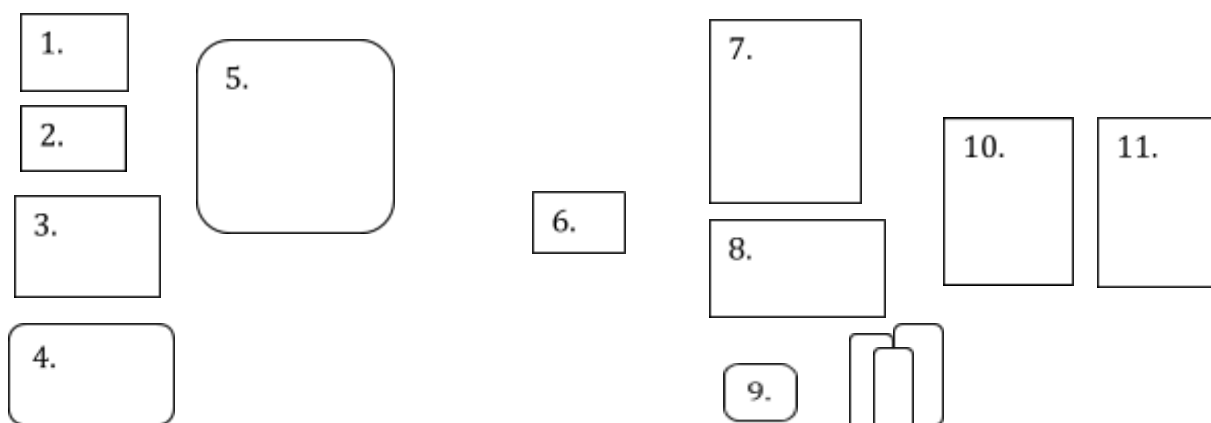
Swans in the Mist

Werner von Hausen, oil painting, undated.

Eero Järnefelt, watercolour, 1908.

Lennart Segerstråle, gouache on paper, 1914.

Drawing Room (left corner and window wall)



1. *On a Rocky Shore*

2. *Landscape*

3. *Jean Sibelius Relief*

4. *Wooden Chest*

5. *Portrait of Jean Sibelius*

6. *Grief*

7. *Portrait of Jean Sibelius*

8. *Landscape*

9. *Ceramic Vases and Mask*

10. *Old Church*

11. *A View from Rome*

Eero Järnefelt, oil painting, 1880s.

Akseli Gallen-Kallela, painted on the cover of a cigar box, oil painting, 1894.

Gerda Qvist, bronze, 1955.

Eric O.W. Ehrström, oak, iron fittings forged by Paavo Tynell. Contains a congratulatory address to the 50-year-old Sibelius signed by 15.000 people.

John Munsterhjelm, bronze sculpture, 1909. Sibelius placed the horseshoe on the sculpture himself.

Emil Halonen, bronze sculpture, 1909.

Albert Edelfelt, pencil, charcoal and watercolour, 1904.

Christian Sibelius, nephew of Jean Sibelius, india ink, 1943.

Heidi Blomstedt (Jean and Aino Sibelius's youngest daughter).

Wilho Sjöström, oil painting on cardboard, 1905.

Väinö Hämäläinen, oil painting, 1905.

Drawing Room (right wall)

Death of a Child

Photograph

Photograph

Oscar Parviainen, oil painting, c. 1910.

Victoria, Queen of Sweden, who gave the photograph to Aino while visiting Finland in 1925.

Panorama of Rapallo, Italy.

Winter Forest
Beech Forest
A View from Lake Ladoga

Interior
A View from the Lake Shore

Pekka Halonen, oil painting, 1915.
Victor Westerholm, oil painting on cardboard, 1880.
Mihail Clodt von Jürgensburg (Aino Sibelius's uncle), oil painting, undated.
Mihail Clodt von Jürgensburg, oil painting 1878.
Kasper Järnefelt, oil painting, undated.

Dining Room (from the left)

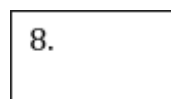
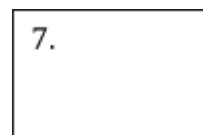
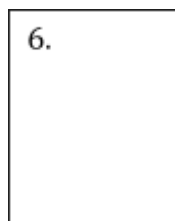
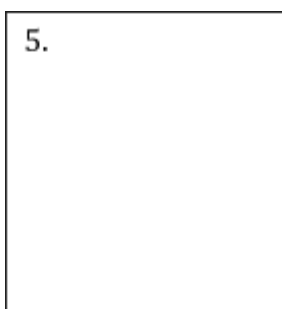
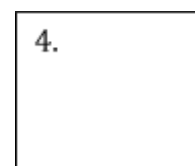
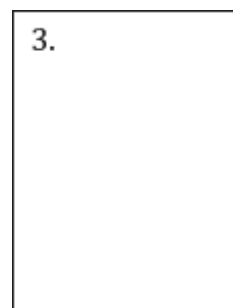
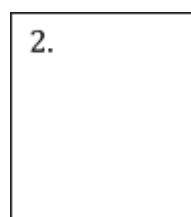
Girl's Head Relief
Rug

Wäinö Aaltonen, bronze relief, 1935
Traditional rug from Satakunta. A wedding gift from Sibelius's school friend Walter von Konow. The rug was woven in 1841, the same year Sibelius's mother Maria Borg was born.

Wall next to the staircase

1. *Landscape*
2. *Landscape*
3. *Spanish Woman*
4. *At Sarvikallio*
5. *Portrait of Elisabeth Järnefelt*
6. *Cloudy Day*
7. *Old Well*
8. *Farmyard Sauna*

Tyko Sallinen, oil painting, 1918.
Uno Alanco, oil painting on cardboard, 1915.
Christian Sibelius (Jean Sibelius's nephew), oil painting, undated.
Eero Järnefelt, pastel, 1919.
Laura Järnefelt's copy of the original painting by her father Eero Järnefelt, undated.
Wilho Sjöström, oil painting, 1902.
Pekka Halonen, oil painting, 1897.
Kasper Järnefelt, oil painting, undated.



Wall next to the fireplace

Funeral Cortège

Landscape

Signed: Eero Rauta.

Rapid Listener

Oscar Parviainen, oil painting, 1906–1908.

Eero Järnefelt, oil painting, 1889.

Akseli Gallen-Kallela, charcoal drawing, 1894.

Wall next to the window

Tree

Interior (Red Chair)

Barn Corner and Bushes

Christian Sibelius, charcoal drawing, 1939.

Eero Järnefelt, oil painting, 1915.

Juhana Blomstedt (Heidi Blomstedt's son), undated.

On the shelves below the clock

Two Girls Embracing

Photograph

Valse Triste

Embrace

Ville Vallgren, bronze sculpture, 1915.

Elisabeth Clodt von Jürgensburg, Aino Sibelius's mother.

Knut Jern, bronze sculpture, 1923.

Emil Wikström, bronze sculpture, 1915.

Library (on top of the fireplace)

Relief *Mother and Child*

Bust of Heidi Sibelius

Wäinö Aaltonen, gilded plaster cast. A detail from the relief at the base of Aleksis Kivi's monument in Helsinki, undated.

Gunnel Nyholm, bronze-painted plaster sculpture.

On the wall (from the left)

En Saga

Singing Monks

Relief of Jean Sibelius

Portrait of Jean Sibelius

Akseli Gallen-Kallela, gouache and watercolour, 1894.

Jean Rene Gaugin (son of Paul Gaugin), bronze sculpture, undated.

Wäinö Aaltonen, plaster cast 1945.

Kain Tapper, plaster cast, 1964.

Bedroom and study (from the left)

Print

Castle in the Air

Portrait of Aino Sibelius

Photograph (on the table)

Sculptures from the pediment of the Parthenon.

Eliel Saarinen's unrealized plan for the House of Parliament, 1908.

Eero Järnefelt, watercolour, 1896.

Aino Sibelius in Tiffany frame, 1925

JEAN SIBELIUS (JOHAN JULIUS CHRISTIAN SIBELIUS)

Life and work

- 1865 Born on December 8th in Hämeenlinna
- 1874 First piano lessons
- 1875 First experiments with composing
- 1880 First violin lessons with conductor Gustaf Levander
- 1885 Matriculation examination
Sibelius enrolls in the Institute of Music in Helsinki
- 1889 Diploma from the Institute of Music
First public performance of String Quartet in A minor
- 1889–90 Studies with Albert Becker in Berlin
- 1890 Engagement with Aino Järnefelt (born August 10th, 1871, in Hikiä)
- 1890–91 Studies with Robert Fuchs and Karl Goldmark in Vienna
- 1892 *Kullervo*, a symphony for orchestra, choir and soloists, op. 7
Marriage with Aino Järnefelt. Honeymoon in Karelia, Eastern Finland.
En Saga, tone poem for orchestra, op. 9
- 1892–1901 Teacher at the Institute of Music in Helsinki
- 1893 *The Swan of Tuonela*, legend for orchestra, op. 22
Karelia Suite, op. 10 and 11
Birth of first daughter Eva
- 1894 Trip to Bayreuth and Italy
Birth of daughter Ruth
- 1895 *Lemminkäinen Legends*, op. 22
- 1897 Sibelius receives state pension at the age of 32
- 1899 Symphony No. 1 in E minor, op. 39
Finlandia, op. 26
Birth of daughter Kirsti-Maria
- 1900 Participation in Paris World Exhibition with the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra.
Performance of Symphony No. 1 and *Finlandia*, among other selected works.
Death of daughter Kirsti-Maria

- 1901 Symphony No. 2 in D major, op. 43
- 1903 *Violin Concerto* in D minor, op. 47
Valse Triste, op. 44
 Birth of daughter Katarina
 First trip to England
- 1904 Moved to Ainola
- 1907 Symphony No. 3 in C major, op. 52
- 1908 Birth of daughter Margareta
- 1909 String Quartet *Voces Intimae*, op. 56
- 1911 Birth of daughter Heidi
 Symphony No. 4 in A minor, op. 63
- 1913 *Luonnotar*, tone poem for soprano and orchestra, op. 70
- 1914 *The Oceanides*, tone poem for orchestra, op. 73
 Trip to America
- 1915 Symphony No. 5 in E flat major, op. 82
- 1921 Last trip to London
- 1923 Symphony No. 6 in D minor, op. 104
- 1924 Symphony No. 7 in C major, op. 105
- 1925 *Tapiola*, tone poem for orchestra, op. 112
- 1926 *The Tempest*, composed to Shakespeare's text, op. 109
- 1929 Compositions for piano and violin
- 1957 Jean Sibelius dies aged 91 on the 20th of September
- 1969 Aino Sibelius dies aged 97 on the 8th of June