# **Beloved Estonia** piano teacher house in Canada falling looters

Piano teacher Winter Jaldre and his close friend Klaudia Can A cottage that reminds Estonians in Toronto of a teacher who has taught hundreds of children and young people in an abandoned house in abandoned houses in the Ontario region

# heartfelt story



house in Toronto, Canada. The next door has a hole next to the lock just big enough for your hand to unscrew the link from the inside. Someone broke in which. Fireplace trees next to the stove mouth. here

The living room is mixed up - the cupboards are dragged in the middle of the room, the picture frames are stacked in the says the voice behind the scenes. Later, the man armchair, the books are lifted out of the shelves. The boxes are on top of each

'Kalevipoeg', Kitzberg, Tolstoy), drawings - framed and unframed

, Turntable and typewriter. Small bedroom: the desk has a bunch new life online

of documents, photos, worship brochures and diplomas Canadian Estonian newspaper Meie



Life. Ammunition piled on the bed suitcases and boxes suggest that someone has been looking for something in them and then left things in the warehouse owl

Pianino with two drawn female portraits

Pillows decorated with embroidery crocheted chair covers

A brooch belonging to Estonian folk costume in a

iewelry box. A small Estonian flag on a shelf.

"Welcome to the time capsule," makes a blog post about the phenomenon in the house and writes in it the headline: "Piano Teacher Time sel-maia in Ontario ". To Canada

fleeing Estonians Winter Jaldre and Klaudia Can The story gets a Katrin Veski and Evi Tarkus

Vahtra watching videos and photos taken. "Miss

in. Piano and singing teacher Talvi Jaldre sits in the first row, third from the right. TTG director Jaan Roos sits in the middle row. TTG teachers recall that it was nice to work at the school because the atmosphere was youthful and sof

YOUNG TEACHER: Teachers of Tartu Girls'



PORTRAIT: Klaudia Can portrait



TALVI JALDRE KLAVERISTUUDIO OPILASOHTULT. 1. rida, vasakuli: Tiina Pedel, Marilyn Mori, Anne Pedel, Ingrid Laar, Martin Juuse, Derek Ewen. 2. rida: Tania Martinek, Rosemary Vairo, Liia Truman, Talvi Jaldre, Karen Viinamiie, Pia Metsala, Linda Norheim. 3. rida: Lisa Norheiri, Kalli Hubel, Juta Metsala, Marika Tamm, Tiina Pärnsalu, Piret Jõgeda, 4. rida: Rein Andre, Monika Pint, Faul Poolsaar, Hillar Prits, Tarmo Teng Ja Paul Fint, (Pildilla puuduvad: Merike Lainevool, Lisa Lambur, Diana Tom.)

STUDENT EVENING: Talvi Jaldre (pictured in the middle) dents' concerts were events that were also covered in stonian newspapers abroad

Everything was extremely well laid out in Jaldre's home. Certainly they would not have been left in such a house it is not the house where they lived, it must be their cottage, "Veski and Vahtra say, talking and remembering alternately. They are one of many Jaldre and Voiko students who talk about their teachers with a melting heart

# drade of Estonian children piano teacher in Toronto

In the winter in Jaldre's home in Toronto. in a small one-story apartment on Cleveland Street, there were not many things in the living room in the second half of the 1960s. "I always hoped that I would arrive before the end of the previous student's class, so I could wait my turn there because there was always something interesting to read on the table," recalls Katrin Veski (then called Kuuskne), for the first time at the age of eight when her mother took her piano lessons.

Veski and Vahtra remember that in one vear Jaldra had as many as 81 students (but they are beginning to doubt whether the teacher could really train so much alone). From pretty young to high school students.

The studies took place mainly on working days, but also continued on weekends. The students were all Estonian speakers and school classes abroad. "It couldn't be very expensive, my mother raised me alone and we couldn't afford much " recalls Wisdom Vahtra

At that time, or in the second of the 20th century

were still five or six Estonian piano teachers in Toronto in the first half of the year, and they were also highly valued Helmi Bethlehem song studio. In the case of piano teachers, it was dreamed o but just about getting to Jaldre "He was demanding, but no one knows who would have been sweeter." savs Veski, who studied with Jaldre for ten years. The mill had a talent, and Jaldre directed him so that his eight-year studies were completed in

"Once before the exam, I practiced with him for nine hours," recalls Wisdom Vahtra. It was by no means

but from the hour foreplay training exercise ton when it turned out that the student Wisdom is not comina soon samiks ready at all. "He did not object, but onlv his gaze was enough, that regrettable sin - why didn't I practice practice again! '

Jaldre sat, his hands on top of each other on his knees, and kept repeating in a mischievous voice, "Let's try again," When everything went wrong, the teacher still found some passages to praise. The exam passed the Wisdom nicely. "But then I realized I didn't have a career in music," he smiles now

"Miss Jaldre taught me to understand music," he recalls Helen Randalov Montagna. "What did Beethoven want to say in this sonata, and why? How does this phrase naturally grow from the previous phrase? How to make Chopin masurka dance? And Grieg's butterflies fly lightly? '

When the student successfully performed the song. Jaldre searched for Artur Rubinstein's or Walter Gieseking's records to listen to the virtuoso with the student how the virtuosos performed the same song. "At the end of the piano lesson. I was also full of music - even if I hadn't practiced much " Randalov now mentions

Jaldre taught classics. ven, Chopin, Tchaikovsky.And of course Estonian composers - Tubin, Tobias, Eller, JuhanAavik. Domestic works he had rewritten the notes by hand. By the way, Jaldre could talk about the last two on the basis of personal memories - he had studied in Estonia under them

# War piano teache

In 1926, Jaldre graduated from Tartu Girls' Gymnasium. In the same fall, he became a singing and piano teacher at his home school. "TTG gave free piano lessons to everyone who wanted to," one of Jaldre's school nurses and Estonian-era students recalled. May Cream-Sõrra In 1988 in the school memoir. "It simply came to our notice then



FOTOF TALKING WALLS PHOTOGRAP

EMPTY TUBA: Jaldre and Can hom was always beauti in order. Someone a stranger to the sobramas

BREAKING

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Walls Photo

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FRIENDS: Portraits of Talvi Jaldre (left) and Klaudia Voiko on a women'

a good and patient teacher to make us piano players. "By that time, Jaldre himself was a recognized.

pianist and 'sound artist', who also to his little daughter Katrin? also completed his studies in Berlin

in the Estonia Concert Hall, in Tallinn, Tartu, Winter and Claudia - two opposites

In Võru, but also in Berlin, Jaldre was often a private teacher, but he studied together Find with Aalund - Rare people were able to attend the Toronto Conservatory as a two-piano ensemble

send a diploma in music education. This In 1940, the Soviet occupation meant that

du to Germany.He arrived in Canada

and founded his own music studio.

at the Toronto Conservatory

the ocean

surname Wisdom

interesting piano lessons

Jaldre teach the piano

In 1948, with a maid's contract, However,

and became a music teacher. Finding students

was not difficult because the expatriate Estonian

community was growing nicely in Toronto, across

This is how he met his Tartu-era student

and he did not miss the opportunity: could

in Toronto Hilda Groswaldi, who had

meanwhile married and become the

as a certified pianist. Jaldre soon found an

At the beginning of the mission, all TTG categories and histories were fired. This was what the teachers got. In Jaldre's three houses, where Jaldre's relatives also lived Salme Pruuden KlaudiaVoiko is her rotten friend. things were moved out, other Tartu schools

# Wear small round glasses

Dev Voiko was strict and straightforward, the school burned down and was finally completely destroyed in 1944 by a fist. notes and books. Jaldre's father is the complete opposite of Jaldre. do your business.

But the two opposites collapsed Jaldre left to live together very well in 1944, and moved from Czechoslovakia to

### A school of decent kniks

At the end of the school year. Toronto's small Heliconiar

opportunity to continue as a piano teacher ginaga Jaldre's piano studio started student evening, a solid and long-awaited concert. On such festive occasions. Jaldre wore amber necklaces. The plan was put together by the teacher, but the students always felt that they (or the listeners) were kind to them Each child performed exactly the song that came out best, Reporters from Estonian-language newspapers were also present to write a review for the concert.

> 'Winter Peer-to-Peer should be judged as the best, as confirmed in full by the evening

are weaker and more timid students



accident, and to their comfort, let them glide beautifully over the vipers - let the experience

Published on Free Saturday in January 1964 TiinaTuvikene.

"Miss Jaldre taught me how to do a good job after the performance. This is really extremely important, I am now teaching it to my students how to make contact with the audience. Otherwise, they will run on stage right after the last note! "Laughs Veski.

> When moving to the US eratunde.Be understanding and student responsibility nice - these principles were taken by Veski from your teacher.

At one point it grew student evenings but the number was so large and the plan took so long that he

I set parental aunts and other relatives

run out of Sestpeale moved to Estonia House large desaleiningJaldre organized two concerts instead of one.

At the end of the evening, Jaldre's lap was filled with flowers of gratitude, and the photographer arranged the teacher and the pupils in a row, still longer backwards, smaller ones in front and in the middle of everything.

Jaldre's school was not just a hobby or a hobby. His students often won prizes and recognitions at performances, and for many music became a profession

Katrin Veski and Evi Tarkus Vahtra look at a 1968 photo of Jaldre's student evening and discuss where life has taken their classmates.

has become a doctoral musician, some as a music manager, but there are also doctors lawyers, bankers jad, engineers.

# The end of one (music) era

Jaldre and Voiko lived together for the rest of their lives. When Jaldre fell ill and moved to a care home - Suomi-Kot, which belongs to the Finnish community in Toronto - Voiko rented a small apartment in the same house

# Talvi Jaldre died in 2002 at the age of

96. The funeral came with him say goodbye to so many people that the small chapel at St. Peter's Church in Toronto was full of trees and some people were still behind the door

Klaudia Voiko died in 2005, also at the age of 96. Within a few years, other Estonian piano teachers who started working in Toronto after the war went one by one. One wonderful era in Estonian cultural history abroad came to an end

Ekspress thanks the blog TalkingWalls Photography for the photos.