



KARDEMIMMIT

PHILADELPHIA DEBUT

FRIDAY, **SEPTEMBER 30** @ 8 PM

Annenberg Center, Harold Prince Theatre/Livestream Event

There will be no intermission.

PENN LIVE ARTS

22/23 SEASON

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The world's most well-known kantele band, Kardemimmit, has toured the world for 22 years. During their career, they have published five albums, and the sixth will be released during the 2022 USA tour. *Autio Huvila - Abandoned Villa* was chosen as the 2012 Folk Album of the Year in Finland.

The four women of Kardemimmit sing and play the Finnish national instrument, the kantele, which is similar to a zither or dulcimer. The quartet plays both the 15-stringed and 38-stringed kantele, producing the distinctive sounds made by the plucked and strummed acoustic instrument that then blend with delicate, tight vocal harmonies. This standout contemporary Nordic ensemble – composed of Maija Pokela, Jutta Rahmel, Anna Wegelius and Leeni Wegelius – writes its own new world music rooted in Finnish, Finno-Ugric, Nordic and European traditions.

Kardemimmit's music takes the listener to the Finnish Midsummer's magical night when the sun doesn't set at all. The air is filled with the ancient mystery of time standing still, and nature is heartbreakingly beautiful at the peak of its bloom. Midsummer in Finland is traditionally the time for love, heartbreak, spells and bonfires.

Kardemimmit has toured extensively in Europe, United States and Japan. Members of Kardemimmit not only compose, write the lyrics for and arrange their music, but they produce themselves as well as manage their own music business. The band members seek to encourage children around the world, especially girls, through their example of making music and want to make Finland known to the world, as well as promote equality in the field of music.