



Eva Liina Asu-Garcia, Ph.D.

Estonian and General Linguistics

University of Tartu

Born in 1971 in Tartu, Estonia;
Studied English and Swedish at the University of Tartu and
Linguistics at the University of Cambridge

FELLOWSHIP

Andrew W. Mellon-Fellow

PROJECT

Aspects of Estonian Intonation

My research falls in the field of experimental phonetics and concerns above all such prosodic features of Estonian as intonation, rhythm and quantity. In my project, I plan to explore some aspects of Estonian intonation that have not been analyzed in depth previously. Very little research has targeted aspects of Estonian prosody in spontaneous speech and intonational variation. Also, virtually no work has explicitly investigated the interaction between word and utterance level prosodies. My project aims to combine these relatively neglected aspects of Estonian prosodic research focussing on the study of word and sentence prosody in spontaneous language usage, while taking into account variation and various interactions at work between different prosodic features. More specifically, I plan to carry out an analysis of the prosodic characteristics of varieties spoken on the islands of Estonia. The islands are prosodically one of the most interesting areas in Estonia. They have been considered the transition area between the Scandinavian tone languages and Finnic languages lacking word tone. Using recordings of spontaneous speech, I plan to investigate more closely the variety of Estonian spoken on the Island of Kihnu, comparing its intonation to that of the Island of Saaremaa and Standard Estonian.

Recommended Reading

Asu, Eva Liina. 2005. "Intonational Contour Alignment in Saaremaa and Standard Estonian." *Linguistica Uralica* 2, 107-112.

Asu, Eva Liina and Francis Nolan. 2007. "The Analysis of Low Accentuation in Estonian." *Language and Speech* 50 (4), 567-588.

Nolan, Francis and Eva Liina Asu. 2009. "The Pairwise Variability Index and Coexisting Rhythms in Language." *Phonetica* 66 (1-2), 64-77.

PUBLICATIONS FROM THE FELLOWS' LIBRARY

Asu-Garcia, Eva Liina (2010)

Comparison of rhythm in musical scores and performances as measured with the Pairwise Variability Index

<https://kxp.k10plus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=896014045>

Asu-Garcia, Eva Liina (2009)

The pairwise variability index and coexisting rhythms in language

<https://kxp.k10plus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=757528201>

Asu-Garcia, Eva Liina (2009)

Illustration of the IPA : Estonian

<https://kxp.k10plus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=757527590>

Asu-Garcia, Eva Liina (2007)

The analysis of low accentuation in Estonian

<https://kxp.k10plus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=757527337>

Asu-Garcia, Eva Liina (2005)

Intonational contour alignment in Saaremaa and standard Estonian

<https://kxp.k10plus.de/DB=9.663/PPNSET?PPN=757527884>