



- Veljo Tormis was born in northern Estonia.
 - His father was a choral director, organist, and music teacher. The local church choir practiced at their home, giving Tormis early experience with choirs.
 - He attended music school in Estonia and in Moscow.
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- Tormis wrote over 500 choral songs. A majority of his music is based on traditional, ancient folksongs from Estonia and other parts of Eastern Europe.
 - His choral works are mostly 'a capella', meaning there are no instruments.
 - Tormis encouraged people to translate his music into their own language, as he believed that "singers and audiences should understand what the song is about."
 - While most of his music was for choirs, he did write some instrumental pieces.

Read more at veljotormis.com/en