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KOPKOĀ KONCERTS

FESTIVAL CHOIR CONCERT

*Pirmdien, 3. jūlijā, 15:00
Meyerhoff simfoniskajā zālē
Baltimorā, Merilandē*

*Monday, July 3, 3 pm
Meyerhoff Symphony Hall
Baltimore, Maryland*

Latvia 100 

78

49067

- The Star-Spangled Banner** (Francis Scott Key) John Stafford Smith
Diriģente | Conductor: Laura Padega Zamura
- Dievs, svētī Latviju | God, Bless Latvia** Baumaņu Kārlis
Diriģents | Conductor: Andrejs Jansons
- Tev mūžam dzīvot, Latvija | May You Live Forever, Latvia** (Vilis Plūdons) Jānis Mediņš
Diriģents | Conductor: Pauls Berkolds
- Stūru stūriem tēvu zeme**
All Corners of My Fatherland latviešu t.dz. Andra Sējāna apdarē
Diriģente | Conductor: Krisīte Skare
- Lokatiesi, mežu gali | Bend, Treetops** latviešu t.dz. Emiļa Melngaiļa apdarē
Diriģents | Conductor: Ernests Brusubārdis III
- Lūgšana | Prayer** (Knuts Skujenieks) Imants Kalniņš
Diriģente | Conductor: Vizma Makšiņa
- Kuņš putniņš dzied tik koši | Which Bird Sings So Gaily** latviešu t.dz. Jāņa Kalniņa apdarē
Diriģente | Conductor: Gunta Plostniece
- Ik rudeni valodiņa | Autumn Language** (Inese Zandere) Valts Pūce
Diriģente | Conductor: Anita Kupriņš
Madara Bernharda-Ādamsons, Valda Grinberga, Laura Štoma,
Sarma Dindzāne Van Sant, *solistes / soloists*
- Neba maize pate nāca | Bread Doesn't Make Itself**
(latviešu t.dz. vārdi) Selga Mence
Diriģente | Conductor: Vizma Makšiņa
- Dziedot dzimu, dziedot augu**
Born Singing, Raised Singing latviešu t.dz. Alfrēda Kalniņa apdarē
Diriģents | Conductor: Pauls Berkolds
- Saule, pērkons, Daugava | Sun, Thunder, Daugava** (Rainis) Mārtiņš Brauns
Diriģents | Conductor: Kaspars Ādamsons
- Jāņu dziesma | Midsummer's Song** (latviešu t.dz. vārdi) Arturs Maskats
Diriģente | Conductor: Laura Padega Zamura
- Tēvijai | For Our Fatherland** Jurjānu Andrejs
Diriģents | Conductor: Kaspars Ādamsons
Laila Saliņa, *mecosoprāns / mezzo-soprano*
- Lec, saulīte | Arise, Sun** (Rasa Bugavičute) Raimonds Tīguls
Diriģente | Conductor: Krisīte Skare

STARPBRĪDIS | INTERMISSION

LATVIJAS NACIONĀ
BIBLIOTĒKA

- Kalējs kala debesīs | The Blacksmith Forged in the Heavens**
(latviešu t.dz. vārdi) Andris Kontauts
Diriģente | Conductor: Krisīte Skare
- Gaismeņa ausa | Daybreak** latgaliešu t.dz. Ilonas Rupaines apdarē
Diriģente | Conductor: Anita Kupriņš

ASV AUSTRUMKRASTA KOMPONISTU DAUDZINĀJUMS | CELEBRATION OF EAST
COAST LATVIAN COMPOSERS

- Dainu zeme | Land of Songs** (Lidija Auza) Bruno Skulte
Diriģents | Conductor: Andrejs Jansons
- Še dziedāju, gavilēju | Here I Sing and Cheer**
(latviešu t.dz. vārdi) Richards Skulte
Diriģents | Conductor: Ernests Brusubārdis III
- Ai, nama māmiņa | Ah, Dear Hostess** .. latviešu t.dz. Andreja Jansona apdarē
Diriģents | Conductor: Andrejs Jansons
- Rāmi, rāmi es dziedāju**
I Sang Gently latviešu t.dz. Mārtiņa Aldiņa apdarē
Diriģents | Conductor: Ernests Brusubārdis III
- Suntažu ligotne**
Midsummer Song from Suntaži latviešu t.dz. Pētera Aldiņa apdarē
Diriģente | Conductor: Gunta Plostniece
Kokļu ansamblis Lauras Padegas Zamuras vadībā | Latvian Psaltery
Ensemble under the direction of Laura Padega Zamura
- Reitā agri saule lēce**
The Sun Rises Early latgaliešu t.dz. Ilzes Akerbergas apdarē
Diriģents | Conductor: Pauls Berkolds
Kokļu ansamblis Lauras Padegas Zamuras vadībā | Latvian Psaltery
Ensemble under the direction of Laura Padega Zamura
- Ziedi, ziedi, rudzu vārpa**
Bloom, Rye Stalk latviešu t.dz. Daces Aperānes apdarē
Diriģente | Conductor: Gunta Plostniece
Kokļu ansamblis Lauras Padegas Zamuras vadībā | Latvian Psaltery
Ensemble under the direction of Laura Padega Zamura
- Dod, dieviņi, kalnā kāpt**
God, Grant Us latviešu t.dz. Imanta Mežaraupa apdarē
Diriģente | Conductor: Vizma Makšiņa
- Pērkonītis ducināja**
Thunder Rumbled (latviešu t.dz. vārdi) Anita Kupriņš
Diriģente | Conductor: Anita Kupriņš

(turpinājums nākamajā lapā / continued on next page)

Gaismas pils | Castle of Light (Auseklis) Jāzeps Vītols
Diriģents | Conductor: Kaspars Ādamsons

Šķind zemīte, rīb zemīte
The Earth Jingles and Quakes (latviešu t.dz. vārdi) Ēriks Ešenvalds
Diriģente | Conductor: Krisīte Skare

Pūt, vējiņi | Blow, Wind Jurjānu Andrejs
Diriģente | Conductor: Laura Padega Zamura



KOPKOĶA SVĒTKU ORKESTRIS | FESTIVAL CHOIR CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Benjamiņš Aļģe, <i>trompete / trumpet</i>	Nate MacMillen, <i>perkusijas / percussion</i>
Agita Arista, <i>flauta, pikolo / flute, piccolo</i>	Linda Aļģe Murphy, <i>čells / cello</i>
Andra Voldiņa Dix, <i>alta vijole / viola</i>	Dainis Roman, <i>klarnete / clarinet</i>
Richard Glashow, <i>perkusijas / percussion</i>	Aija Tighe, <i>vijole / violin</i>
Silvija Padega Grendze, <i>vijole / violin</i>	Augustins Tighe, <i>vijole / violin</i>
Kristīne Griffin, <i>klavieres / piano</i>	Kirils Tighe, <i>vijole / violin</i>
Juris Ķeniņš, <i>čells / cello</i>	Una Tone, <i>vijole, koncertmeistare / violin, concertmaster</i>
Annija Kerno, <i>alta vijole / viola</i>	Kārlis Vilciņš, <i>fagots / bassoon</i>
Silvija Kristapsons, <i>alta vijole / viola</i>	Andris Zvārgulis, <i>kontrabass / double bass</i>
Iļona Kudiņa, <i>flauta / flute</i>	
Rasa Kumsāre, <i>vijole / violin</i>	

KOKĻU ANSAMBLIS | LATVIAN PSALTERY ENSEMBLE

Silvija Padega Grendze	Aija Zamura
Māra Ģīga	Krista Zamura
Andrejs Jansons	Laura Padega Zamura
Marisa Liziņa	Māra Zālīte
Kristaps Liziņš	Sarma Dindzāne Van Sant

Kopkoļa mākslinieciskā vadītāja | Concert Artistic Director Krisīte Skare
Padomdevējas | Advisors Laura Padega Zamura, Dace Apeirāne
Orķestrācijas | Orchestration Andrejs Jansons, Juris Ķeniņš, Krisīte Skare
Puķes Kaija Petrovska
Dziesmu svētku mūzikas nozare | Festival Music Committee Krisīte Skare (vadītāja),
Dace Apeirāne, Agita Arista, Iveta Grava, Laura Padega Zamura
Īpašs paldies *Inesei Gravai-Gubiņai, Michael Glashow, Jurim Ķeniņam, Ilzei Skarei, Jānim Skrebelim,
Ariānai Ūlei un Mārtiņam Veidim*

KOPKOĶA DALĪBNIEKI | SINGERS OF THE FESTIVAL CHOIR

Aija Ābele	Ingrīda Bērziņa	Sarma Ejupe
Lija Ābele	Dzintars Bērziņš	Cheryl Erins
Sandors Abens	Guntis Bērziņš	Jānis Erins
Daiga Akmene	Nils Bērziņš	Edwards Evans
Krista Albertiņa	Tālvāldis Bērziņš	Ilze Fārte
Brigita Alks	Ingrīda Birznieks	Tālis Frouge
Zaiga Alksnīte	Zane Bitmane	Amanda Gaide
Maija Alksnīte	Māra Blackwell	Pauls Galiņš
Dzintra Alversone	Dace Blaumane	Magnolija Garbarino
Krista Amoliņa	Uldis Bluķis	Simona Gaudet
Lāra Amoliņa	Grants Blumbergs	Irēne Geisler
Jana Anča-Tetere	Emilija Blumbergs	Laila Ģermane
Ally Anderson	Māra Bolis	Rasma Gertners
Mārtiņš Andersons	Andra Bowditch	Māra Ģīga
Filips Andersons	Antra Brammane	Miķelis Ģīga
Arnīs Ansons	Linda Breidaka	Magnuss Gislasons
Jūlija Ape	Izabella Brencis	Michael Glashow
Sandis Ape	Kaija Briedis	Māra Goba
Kaspars Ast	Kāris Briedis	Lūkas Goetz
Maruta Auģe	Lilija Briedis	Līga Gonzalez
Laura Avena	Ksenija Broka	Jānis Grāmatiņš
Silvija Aveniņa	Indulis Brošs	Iveta Grants
Anna Baer	Aija Vintere Brugman	Larisa Grants
Dārius Baginskis	Miķelis Brunovskis	Kārlis Grava
Dārija Baginskis	Indra Brusubārde	Silvija Grava
Signe Bahšteina	Ernests Brusubārdis II	Zinta Grava
Ēriks Baiņš	Zane Bukša	Inese Grava-Gubiņa
Irēne Balks	Andrejs Buņķis	Dāvids Grendze
Līga Balode	Bonnie Buņķis	Kārlis Grendze
Egils Bambers	Amanda Byron	Silvija Padega Grendze
Laine Banks	Kyle Byron	Lilīta Gretton
Maruta Barbīns	Vizma Carver	Silvija Griffin
Pauls Barbīns	Nora Ceriņš	Ian Griffin
Timothy Barrett	Andis Cers	Ieva Griffin
Kristīne Ģīga Bauer	Annelī Cers	Silvija Griffin
Sandra Gendrikovs Bayer	Ieva Ceruka	Kristiāna Grimberga
Thomas Bayer	Justs Cielēns	Valda Grimberga
Meta Bāze	Sophie Circene	Gints Grimbergs
Vilnis Bāze	Margaret Crowley	Ulvis Grīnvalds
Dace Beckstein	Linda Cukurs	Lūkas Grīviņš
Maksis Beķeris	Vita Cukurs	Roberts Grots
Zīle Bemis	Aleksandra D'Aoust	Edīte Gudrā
Markus Berg	Tomas D'Aoust	Laila Gudrā
Nils Berg	Inese Daiga	Pēteris Gudrais
Dace Bergmane	Linda Dindzāns	Aldona Gudrīte
Liāna Berkolda	Vincent Dindzāns	Madara Gulbe
Dāvis Berkolds	Katrīna Dingley	Līva Gulēna
Madara Bernharda-Ādamsonē	Laima Zoltnere Dingley	Māra Gulēna
Monta Bērtiņa	Gunta Dreifelde	Dārija Gulēna-Taube
Iveta Bertovska	Jānis Dreimanis	Marika Gulēna-Taube
	Zīle Dzenīte	Izabelle Gundrum

Iveta Hāgele
Indra Halvorson
Jēkabs Hayes
Zenta Bataraga Hayes
Vītauts Hāznars
Ērika Heinze
Uve Hodgins
Daina Holmberg
Aija Holohan
Annavija Hoy
Anna Inveiss
Roberts Inveiss
Teri Inveiss
Pēteris Irbe
Marissa Jakubonis
Jēkabs Jančevskis
Nīls Jansons
Roberts Jansons
Eduards Jaunbērziņš
Līga Jēkabson
Edīte Jordan
Ēriks Kākulis
Sigurds Kākulis
Ieva Kaļiņa
Egils Kaljo
Marija Luīze Kalniņa
Roberts Kalniņš
Laima Kalvāne
Sandra Kalve
Janusz Kaminski
Trīnīte Kānberga
Ilze Kancāns
Kārlis Kancāns
Linda Kaņepe
Solvita Kārklīņa
Māra Ķeniņa
Juris Ķeniņš
Valdis Ķeris
Kristīne Ķilpe
Jānis Kincis
Dace Kīns
Julia Kiusāla
Indris Klīmanis
Māra Knochs
Aija Koehler
Māra Koerner
Sibilla Korulis
Melita Kravis
Diāna Kreišmane
Melisa Kreišmane
Viktorija Krievs
Maigonis Krūmiņš
Karīna Kubuliņa

Tija Kubuliņa
Viktorija Kuļešova
Kārlis Kumsārs
Rosemarie Kursiete
Andris Kursietis
Stella Kuškēvica
Kārlis Kuškēvics
Amelija Lāčplēse
Indulis Lapiņš
Kristīne Lapsa
Lars Larsen
Aija Lazda
Nīle Lederman
Gita Leitlande
Skaidrīte Leja
Jānis Lejnīeks
Anita Lemeshuk
Žanis Lemeshuk
Nikolajs Līcis
Zigurds Līcis
Laila Liepiņa
Agnese Linarte
Ģirts Linde
Ilmars Linde
Māra Linde
Mārtiņš Linde
Isabella Līpaci
Emīlija Liziņa
Liāna D. Alksnīte Lloyd
Andris Lūsis
Stefans Lūsis
Liene Lūsis-Zondo
Dina Macs
Ella Magone
Sandrija Magrics
Agate Māgurs
Steve McCord
Maija McManus
Ivars Medenīeks
Māra Medenīeks
Matīss Mednis
Jānis Melngailis
Anita Melnupa
Ieva Mēness
Juris Mežinskis
Inga Mieme-Garbarino
Aija Moellere
Dina Mohseni
Imants Mohseni
Juris Mohseni
Inga Mollere
Ned Newcomer
Dagmara Nīvse

Laura Nutter
Linda Nutter
Līga Nutter
Eva O'Donnell
Madara Onera
Agnese Osīte
Aivars Osvalds
Skarleta Osvalds
Baiba Ozola
Alberts Ozols
Knuts Ozols
Andris Padegs
Gita Padegs
Gunta Pakalne
Maiga Palkauniece
Liene Palkavniece
Guna Pantele
Džoanna Pāvuliņa
Mita Pelēce
Jānis Pēlmanis
Aija Peļše
Arianna Apelgren Perra
Anastāsija Perri
Andris Perri
Anna Pētersīle
Olivers Phillips
Lilija Piwowarczyk
Egons Pļavnieks
Ēriks Plekons
Jāna Plēsuma
Ieva Preisa
Markus Priede
Tom Prosser
Imants Pulkstenis
Andrew Puntel
Anna Pūre
Ēriks Puriņš
Vīlnis Pūris
Mārtiņš Pūtelis
Kristīna Putene
Mārtiņš Putenis
Inese Raistere
Ēriks Raisters
Lāra Ramanis
Miķis Ramanis
Annelī Ramoliņa
Zane Rāta
Annija Reinberga
Gunta Reynolds
Laila Rība
Karīna Roze
Sabīne Rubene
Sintra Rumpētere

Kristofs Ruszczuk
Anna Rūtiņa
Daiga Rūtiņa
Ilga Rūtiņa
Andris Rūtiņš
Sabīne Ryan
Edžus Salgrāvis
Mīkus Salgrāvis
Anita Samtabiuse
Kevin Schmidt
Vizbulīte Schulmeisters
Elīza Scoggin
Gundega Seng
Ingrīda Scraphim
Karīna Siegel
Tīa Sīka
Sigurds Siliņš
Vīlis Simanis
Māra Simons
Annele Sīpols
Maruta Sīpols
Kristaps Šķēls
Jānis Skrebels
Larisa Šlesers
Valdis Slokenbergs
Cameron Smith
Martis Sprenne
Rūdis Sprenne
Līga Staņa
Aīda Staša
Kāra Steele
Krista Steele
Inese Šteinbaha
Samanta Šteinbaha
Renārs Šteinbahs
Visvaldis Šteinbahs
Anita Šterns
Diāna Stirna
Laura Štoma
Ralph Story
Jasmīne Strautiņa
Rita Strautiņa
Anna Strautmane
Uve Strautmane
Anna Strok
Marta Strok
Jēkabs Šulcs
Larisa Šulcs
Kristīne Sūrīte
Roberts Šverns
Jurgis Tālants
Rasma Taumanis
Rolands Teivāns
Annija Dziesma Tetera
Dziesma Tetera
Gustavs Teteris
Gunta Tighe
Ilze Tormane
Saiva Treide
Astrīda Turkopuls
Marc Tuttle
Dzintra Tuttle
Ariāna Ūle
Krišjānis Ūle
Lolita Ūle
Mārtiņš Upmacis
Sarma Dindzāne Van Sant
Reinis Vazdīks
Laima Veide
Katrīna Veiđiņa
Mārtiņš Veidis
Vilhelms Veidis

Maija Veinberga
Ruta Veitmanis
Māra Vēliņa
Emma Velkme
Liene Vidze
Lauris Vidzis
Lūkas Vigants
Helēna Vīksniņa
Krista Vīksniņa
Laura Vīksniņa
Laila Vilks
Valdis Vinķelis
Ieva Vītola
Inga Vītola
Lūkas Werbelow
Emma Willems
Ilze Willems
Ludmila Stivrīna Yamrone
Kathrine Young
Velta Zadiņa
Aleksandrs Zadiņš
Roberts Zaķis
Māra Zālīte
Dace Zālmane
Marisa Zālmane
Aija Zamura
Krista Zamura
Ēriks Zamurs
Ariadne Zārds
Kristaps Zariņš
Ieva Zilauce
Didzis Znuitiņš
Antra Zuks
arch. Lauma Zušēvica

BĒRNU KOĶA DALĪBNIEKI | CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Ingmārs Ast
Kaiva Atkinsons
Madara Bungs
Kārlis Burchard
Pēteris Burchard
Marisa Byron
Michael Byron
Anna Damratoski
Ella Damratoski
Madison Gaudet
Elizabete Grīgalinoviča-Leja
Anika Grinberga
Shannen Holohan
Kristīne Jātņiece
Austra Kārklīņa

Kaija Lazda
Kristers Leja
Pēteris Līpaci
Laila Lūsis
Lilija Lūsis
Katrīna Meixner
Elizabete Mitenberga
Roberts Mitenbergs
Artūrs Nuters
Gabriela Pantele
Matīss Pantelis
Elīza Paura
Kristaps Priede
Laila Priede
Lilija Puriņa

Zīle Puriņa
Emīlija Putenis
Monika Rītiņa
Sofija Ryan
Aina Sēja
Līvija Sēja
Kristof Spellen
Lotte Torstere
Dāvids Vega
Jēkabs Vidzis
Nora Voldiņa
Kīra Walker
Alisa Zeltiņa
Alma Zielinski

TEKSTI DZIESMU SVĒTKU KOPKORĀ KONCERTAM
SONG LYRICS

DIEVS, SVĒTĪ LATVIJU! | GOD, BLESS LATVIA

Dievs, svētī Latviju,
Mūs' dārgo tēviju,
Svētī jel Latviju,
Ak, svētī jel to!

God, bless Latvia
Our beloved fatherland
Bless Latvia,
Oh bless it, yet again!

Kur latvju meitas zied,
Kur latvju dēli dzied,
Laid mums tur laimē diēt,
Mūs' Latvijā!

Where Latvian daughters bloom,
Where Latvian sons sing,
May this always be,
Our Latvia!

TEV MŪŽAM DZĪVOT, LATVIJA | MAY YOU LIVE FOREVER, LATVIA

Tev mūžam dzīvot, Latvija, kā saulei, kas
mirdz debess klajā!
Tu jauna zvaigzne zvaigznājā, kas uzlēkusi
nule tajā!

May you live forever, Latvia, like the sun in
the field of the sky!
You new star in the heavens that has just
sprung up!

Tev mūžam dzīvot, Latvija, kā jūrai, kas
tev šalc pie kājām!
Pats Dievs sen senis svētīja še tavas āres
mums par mājām!

May you live forever, Latvia, like the sea
that crashes at your feet!
Our ancient God himself blessed these
lands as our home!

Tev mūžam dzīvot, Latvija, kā jūrai —
lepni, saulei — cēli.
Tu mūsu māte dārgajā, mēs tavas meitas,
tavi dēli.

May you live forever, Latvia, like the sea
— proud, like the sun — noble.
You are our dear mother, we're your
daughters and sons.

Tev mūžam dzīvot, Latvija. Tu — tēvzeme
mums Dieva dotā!
Lai latvju tauta vienotā aug spēkā, slavā,
daiļumā!

May you live forever, Latvia. You are the
Fatherland God gave us!
May the united Latvian people grow in
strength, glory, and beauty!

STŪRU STŪRIEM TĒVU ZEME | ALL CORNERS OF MY FATHERLAND

Stūru stūriem tēvu zeme, apkārt balta
vilainīt',
Cik stūrīšu, tik bāliņu, cik rakstiņu, tik
māšiņ'.

A white shawl around all corners of my
fatherland.
As many corners as lads, as many
ornaments as lasses.

No tālienes es pazinu, kura bija man' māšiņ',
Nozib balta vilainīte, nomirdz zelta
vainadziņš.

I recognized my sister from afar,
Her white shawl and golden crown shine
in the sun.

Vilksim košu zelta jostu apkārt savu tēvu
zem',
Lai mirdz mūsu tēvu zeme kā actiņa
gredzenā.

We'll wind a bright golden belt around our
fatherland,
So it will glimmer like a shiny ring.

LOKATIESI MEŽU GALI | BEND, TREETOPS

Lokatiesi, mežu gali,
Lai balstiņis pāri skan!

Bend, treetops,
So my voice carries over you!

Ko gaidati, jauni puīši,
Ka jūs sievas neņemat?

What are you waiting for, young men,
That you don't take wives?

Ak tu, ciema cīrulīti,
Tavu greznu dziedāšan'!

Oh, you village lark,
And your magnificent singing!

Man vajaga līgaviņas,
Ka es tevi neņāņem'!

I need a betrothed,
Maybe I'll take you!

Šitie puīši tā domāja,
Ka es dziedu viņu dēļ.

These boys think
I sing for them.

Man māmiņa atvedīs
Pār Daugavu arājiņ'.

My mother will bring me a plowman
From across the river Daugava.

Koši, koši, jauki, jauki,
Kad Dievs deva vasariņ'!

How beautiful, how bright,
That God gives us summertime!

Dzied putniņi, dzied meitiņas,
Mežu gali gaviļē.

Birds sing, girls sing,
The treetops are exulting!

Lokatiesi, mežu gali,
Lai balstiņis pāri skan.

Bend, treetops,
So my voice carries over you!

LŪGŠANA | PRAYER

Kamēr vēl dreb mana roka,
Kamēr dreb rokas ēna,
Paliec, joprojām paliec
Mulstoša, karsta un lēna.
Kamēr vēl esmu pie prāta,
Paliec tu manā prātā,
Paliec, joprojām paliec
Balta un pasargāta.

While my hand still quakes,
While its shadow quakes,
Remain, always remain
Mystifying, smoldering, and languid.
While I still have my wits,
Stay in in my memories,
Remain, always remain
Pure and protected.

KURŠ PUTNIŅIS DZIED TIK KOŠI | WHICH BIRD SINGS SO GAILEY

Kurš putniņis dzied tik koši,
Kā dzied koši lakstīgal'.

Which bird sings so gaily
As sings the nightingale.

Kurš brālītis tā mīl māsu,
Kā mīl mani tautu dēls.

Which brother loves his sister
As my brother loves me.

Ar svārkiemi man' apsedze,
Kājas tina kažokā.

He swathed me in coats,
Wrapped my feet in fur.

Uz celiņa roku sniedze,
Krogū siera gabaliņ'.

He offered his hand along the road,
And a slice of cheese at the pub.

IK RUDENI VALODIŅA | AUTUMN LANGUAGE

Melna gaiļa asinīm rījas krāsni aizkrustīju,
Rinkī kūla mani ļaudis, es tai kūlī vidū biju,
Lai man sita, lai man lauzā, graudi bira,
vārdi bira,
Ik rudeni miltos mala, valodiņa nenomira.

Rakstāl Rakstāl Ar mēli kuldami, uz kula
guldami,
Maldami, muldami, rakstā mani runājiet!

Saber sābri kambarī, es ar tevi kopā bērū,
Melna alus padarīju, rūgtin rūga, spertin
spēra,
Pa vārpai salasīju, ra mēram ļaudīm lēju,
Vienu vārdu nodzēros, visas krūtīs
nodimdēja.

Pērkons granda ducināja visu garu
vasariņu,
Duciniet, danciniet savu dzīvu valodiņu!

Atskrien balts kumeliņš, cietu zemi
kapādams,
Atjāj balts kara kungs, zobentiņu
vēzēdams,
Uzkar baltu mētelīti manu ļaužu istabā,
Neļauj tukšu izrunāti, glabā mani klusumā!

NEBA MAIZE PATE NĀCA | BREAD DOESN'T MAKE ITSELF

Neba maize pate nāca, bagātājā viciņājē.
Nav saulīte uzlēkuse, jau sirmīši nosviduši.

Kumeliņi, bālēliņi, tie bij' miežu arājiņi.
Tautu meita, zeltenīte, tā vārpiņu lasītāja.

Prieki bija arājami, prieks arāja līgavai.
Redzēj' savu rudzu lauku kā ūdeni līgojami.

Ziedi balta, ābelīte, papuvītes maliņāi.
Jauni puīši art iedami appuškoja cepurīti.

“Symbolically in Latvian folklore, an endless development of language can be described as a grain. It is harvested each autumn, ground up like flour and used to produce beer and festive song. In this harvest festival worshipping *Pērkons* (Thunder, who is the god of prosperity), the language is kept alive by dancing it, speaking it and rejuvenating.”

—*Musica Baltica*

This text is made up of *buramvārdi* — incantations meant to conjure up a particular set of imagery and emotions. The refrain can be loosely translated as:

Into the ancient symbol!
We thresh [language] with our tongues,
we lay on the grain sheaths.
Grinding grain, muttering words, we
incant ourselves into the ancient
symbols.

Bread doesn't make itself in such a
plentiful place.
The sun hasn't risen and our gray mares
are sweaty.

The steeds and boys, those are the barley
plowmen.
The young lovely lass gathers the fallen
ears of grain.

The plowman and his bride are full of joy
and pride
Looking upon their rye field, swaying like
the sea.

The apple blossoms white by a fallow field.
Young boys decorate their hats as they go
to work.

DZIEDOT DZIMU, DZIEDOT AUGU | BORN SINGING, RAISED SINGING

Dziedot dzimu, dziedot augu,
Dziedot mūžu nodzīvoj'.

Kas var mani aizrunāti,
Kas var mani aizdziedāt?

Trīcēj' kalni, skanēj' meži,
Kad tik vien es dziedāj'.

Saka ļaudis dzirdēdami,
Lakstīgala skaisti dzied.

Auni kājas, lakstīgala,
Dzīsim govis paganīt.

Tu dziedāsi ievainēi,
Es gotiņas ganīdam'.

SAULE, PĒRKONS, DAUGAVA | SUN, THUNDER, DAUGAVA

Saule Latvi sēdināja tur, kur gali satiekas,
Balta jūra, zaļa zeme, Latvei vārtu
atslēdziņa.

Latvei vārtu atslēdziņa, Daugaviņa
sargātāja.
Sveši ļaudis vārtus lauzā, jūrā krita
atslēdziņa.

Zilziņēņu pērkons spēra, velniem nēma
atslēdziņa.
Nāvi, dzīvi Latve slēdza, baltu jūru, zaļu
zemi.

Saule Latvi sēdināja baltas jūras maliņā,
Vēji smiltis putināja, ko lai dzēra latvju
bērni?

Dzīves ūdens, nāves ūdens Daugavā
satecēja,
Es pamērcu pirksta galu, abus jūtu dvēselē.
Nāves ūdens, dzīves ūdens, abus jūtam
dvēselē.

Saule mūsu māte, Daugav' sāpju aukle,
Pērkons velnu spērējs, tas mūsu tēvs.

I was born singing, I was raised singing,
I spent my life singing.

Who can outwit me,
Who can outsing me?

The hills shook, the forests rang
Whenever I sang.

When villagefolk heard me sing
They thought it was a nightingale.

Get dressed, nightingale,
Let's go herd the cows.

You sing in the bird-cherries,
I'll sing in the field.

The sun placed Latvia where the ends of
the earth meet.
White sea, green earth — Latvia had the
key to the gate.

Latvia had the key to the gate and Daugava
was the guardian.
Strangers broke the gate, the key fell into
the sea.

Thunder hurled blue lightning and took
the key from the devils.
Latvia locked up death, life, the white sea,
the green earth.

The sun placed Latvia by the edge of the
white sea.
The wind raised a sandstorm, what can
Latvian children drink?

Waters of life and death flowed into the
Daugava.
I dip my fingertip into it and feel both in
my soul.
Water of death and life — we feel both in
our soul.

The sun is our mother, the Daugava —
nursemaid of our pain.
Thunder, who strikes devils, is our father.

JĀŅU DZIESMA | MIDSUMMER'S SONG

Pūt, Jānīti, vara tauri, ja!
Kalniņāi stāvēdamis, ja!
Lai ceļāsi Jāņa bērni, ja!
No maliņu maliņāmi, ja!

Iesim, bērni, apraudzīti, ja!
Kāda Jāņa istabiņa, ja!
Šūtīn šūta, pītin pīta, ja!
Kā rakstīti izrakstīta, ja!

Kopā, kopā, kaimiņu meitas,
Iesim Jānīti padaudzināti!

Kauniņš bija Jānišami, ja!
Mazi nāca Jāņa bērni, ja!
Cits penteris, cits tenteris, ja!
Cits likāmi kājiņāmi, ja!

Eima, eima, nestāvami,
Nava gara Jāņu nakts!

Te satumsa, te uzausa
Tīrumiņa galiņā.

Līgo!

Blow your copper horn, John,
As you stand on the hilltop.
Gather the children of John
From every corner!

Let's go see, children,
What John's room looks like.
Adorned, decorated,
Dressed up as can be!

Village girls, let's all go together
To chant and sing to John!

John was ashamed,
So few folk came to visit him,
Some were lame, some slow,
Some came bow-legged.

Let's go, let's not stand around,
Midsummer's night is not long!

Here at the edges of the field
Both dusk and dawn break.

Līgo!

TĒVIJAI | FOR THE FATHERLAND

TeV, dārgā tēvija, tev dziesmas, lai spēcīgi
skan!
Tu sentēvu dusas vieta, tu mātes šūpulis,
TeV, dārgā tēvija, tev dziesmas, lai spēcīgi
skan!

Lai lēni un lieģi, lai lēni un lieģi tās skan,
Un augšup, lai ceļas, lai augšup uz debesīm
ceļas,
Lai žēlīgais Debesu Valdnieks to izdzird
tur augstumos,
Viņš tēvijai sargs ir un palīgs, ir sargs un
palīgs grūtumos.

Lai lēni un lieģi, lai lēni un lieģi tās skan,
Lai Debesu Valdnieks to izdzird tur
augstumos.
TeV, dārgā tēvija, lai mūsu dziesmas skan!
TeV, dārgā tēvija, tev dziesmas lai spēcīgi
skan!

Kungs Dievs, Tevi lūdzam, Kungs Dievs,
mūs klausī!

May songs ring out for you, dear
fatherland!
Our ancestors' resting place, our mother's
cradle,
May songs ring out for you, dear
fatherland!

May they slowly and gently resound,
And rise up toward the heavens,
So that our merciful Heavenly Father hears
them on high,
He is our fatherland's protector and helper
in hard times.

May they slowly and gently resound,
So that our merciful Heavenly Father hears
them on high.
May our songs ring out for you, dear
fatherland!

Lord God, we pray to you, hear us, Lord
God!

Kungs Dievs, klausī mūs!
Ar savu visspēcīgo roku novērsi tēvijai
ļāunu,
Dod piedzīvot laimīgus laikus, lai tēvija
uzplaukt mums var.

Kungs Dievs, tevi lūdzam, Kungs Dievs,
mūs klausī.
Un piešķir Tu baltas dienas Latvijai, tēvijai.
Ak, Kungs un Dievs, piešķir tai, ko lūdzam
TeV no sirds.

TeV, dārgā tēvija, tev dziesmas, lai spēcīgi
skan!
Tu sentēvu dusas vieta, tu mātes šūpulis,
TeV, dārgā tēvija, tev dziesmas, lai spēcīgi
skan!
TeV, dārgā tēvija, tev slavu dziedāsim,
kamēr mums pukstēs sirds,
TeV slavu dziedāsim, kamēr mums pukstēs
sirds.
Lai skan, lai skan tev skaļa slava lai skan!
Lai skan, lai skan tev skaļa slava lai skan!
TeV, dārgā tēvija lai skaļa slava skan!

LEC, SAULĪTE | ARISE, SUN

Es esmu zemes klēpis, tu mana saule,
Tā pats Pērkons lēmis, Likteņupes
straume.
Māci man skaidru prātu, māci zemes
spēku,
Kā pati Laima lika, tinot mūža rakstu.

Lec, saulīte, spīdi spoži, rotā druvu, rotā
sētu,
Lec, saulīte, tumsu šķel, dari mūsu zemi
svētu.

Es esmu debess velve, tu mana saule,
Tā pats Pērkons lēmis, Likteņupes
straume.
Māci man dvēšles mieru, māci debess
spēku,
Kā pati Laima lika, tinot mūža rakstu.

Lec, saulīte, spīdi spoži, rotā puisī, rotā
meitu,
Lec, saulīte, tumsu šķel, vieno visu Latvju
tautu.

Lord God, hear us!
Avert evil from our fatherland with your
almighty hand,
Let us experience joyful times, so our
fatherland may blossom.

Lord God, we pray to you, hear us, Lord
God!
Grant Latvia, our fatherland, blessed days.
Oh, Lord and God, grant us what we pray
for with our hearts.

May songs ring out for you, dear
fatherland!
Our ancestors' resting place, our mother's
cradle,
May songs ring out for you, dear
fatherland!
We will sing songs of praise for you while
our hearts beat,
We will praise you as long as our hearts
beat.
May your praise ring out and resound!
May your praise ring out and resound!
May your praise ring out and resound, dear
fatherland!

I am the earth's cradle, you are my sun,
So decreed Thunder himself, in the stream
of the River of Fate.
Teach me clarity of mind, teach me earth's
power,
As Fate foretold, weaving our lives' design.

Arise, sun, and shine bright — adorn the
fields, adorn the farms,
Arise, sun, and cleave the darkness —
make our land sacred.

I am the dome of heaven, you are my sun,
So decreed Thunder himself, in the stream
of the River of Fate.
Teach me peace of mind, teach me celestial
power,
As Fate foretold, weaving our lives' design.

Arise, sun, and shine bright — adorn the
son, adorn the daughter,
Arise, sun, and cleave the darkness —
unite the Latvian nation.

KALĒJS KALA DEBESĪS | THE BLACKSMITH FORGED IN THE HEAVENS

Kalējs kala debesīs, ogles bira Daugavā.
Dieva dēlam piešus kaļ, Saules meitai
gredzentiņ'.

Kalējs kala debesīs, ogles bira Daugavā.
Gaisā lēca dzirkstelīt', kalējs kala debesīs.

Saule lika meitiņai pūra vāku zeltā kalt,
Dieva dēlam zobentiņ', kalējs kala debesīs.
Kam tie tādi kumeliņ', sudrabiņa
podziņām?
Dieva dēlu kumeliņ', Saules meita vedamā.

Kalējs kala, ko nekala? Kalējs kaļ debesīs.

The blacksmith forged in the heavens,
embers rained into the Daugava.
Spurs for God's son, a ring for the Sun's
daughter.

The blacksmith forged in the heavens,
embers rained into the Daugava.
Sparks jumped into the sky, the blacksmith
forged in the heavens.

The Sun commanded a gold lid for her
daughter's dowry chest
And a sword for God's son.
Whose colts were those, laden with silver
buttons?
They were God's sons' horses, ferrying the
Sun's daughter.

The blacksmith forged in the heavens, what
can't he make?

GAISMEŅA AUSA | DAYBREAK

Gaismeņa ausa, sauleite liece.
Jaunais puiškinis zygru sadluoja.
Zyrgu sadluoja, tuoli dūmoja.
Tev, jaunais puiškin, treis duorzi prikšā.
Pyrmajā duorzā kiukuoj' dzagiuze,
Ūtrajā duorzā syt laksteigola.
Trešajā duorzā sēd jauna meita.
Jaunais puiškinis rūceņu snīdze.
Rūceņu snīdze, par meilū sauce.

Dawn arose, the sun bounded up early.
A young lad saddled his horse.
He saddled his horse, with faraway
thoughts.
Young lad, three gardens lay ahead.
A cuckoo sings in the first garden,
A nightingale in the second.
A young maiden sits in the third garden.
The young lad offers his hand.
He offers his hand and calls her his love.

DAINU ZEME | LAND OF SONGS

Zaļa zeme, balta saule
Agrā rītā skūpstījās,
Modās lejas, modās kalni,
Gaismā dziesma šūpojās.

Lai tā senā darba tauta
Lielus darbus padarij',
Lai tā ara, lai tā sēja,
Lai tā dziesmas skandināj'.

Lai tā cēla gaismas pili
Simtu sauļu mirdzumā,
Lai dziesmiņas, lai darbiņi,
Visi mīļi saderēj'!

The green earth and white sun
Kiss at dawn.
The hills and valleys awaken,
Song is cradled in the light.

May that ancient toiling tribe
Achieve great feats,
May it plow, may it sow,
May it resound in song.

May it build a castle of light
Bright as a hundred suns,
May song and toil
Join together lovingly.

ŠE DZIEDĀJU, GAVILĒJU | HERE I SING AND CHEER

Še dziedāju, gavilēju,
Tālu tautās atskanēja.
Tālu tautās atskanēja
Kuplajosi ozolosi.

Dziedi, dziedi, māmuliť,
Tev dziesmiņu kamoliņš,
Ik vakaru rītināj'
Pa vienami celiņam.

Tautu meita, zelteniť,
Dzied upītes maliņā,
Viņpus upes kalniņā
Dzieda manis bāleliņš.

Es dziedāju, man skanēja,
Mežu gali gavilēja,
Lai dzird mana tautu meita
Viņpus upes maliņā.

Here I sing and cheer,
It resounds throughout my people.
It resounds throughout my people,
Into the leafy oaks.

Sing, mother,
You have a yarnball of songs,
Each night you unwind one
A line at a time.

A golden-haired girl
Sings at the edge of the river,
On the other side of the hill
My brother sings.

I sang and it resounded,
The treetops cheered along,
Let the lovely girl hear
From the other side of the river.

AI, NAMA MĀMIŅA | AH, DEAR HOSTESS

Ai, nama māmiņa, laid mani iekšāja.
Ķekatas atbrauca ar vezumiņise.
Kavājat īlenus, kavājat susekļus.
Ķekatu pulkaja rāvēji ļautiņi.
Nezagšu īlenu, nezagšu adatu.
Susekli, to zagšu, tā mana vajaga.
Kalada bērnieme galviņu sukāte.

Ah, dear hostess, let us in!
Mummers have arrived with a cartful.
Hide your awls, hide your hairbrushes.
There are thieves among the Mummer
folk.
We won't steal your awl, nor your needle.
We'll steal your hairbrush, which we need.
We'll use it to brush the Mummers'
children's heads.

RĀMI, RĀMI ES DZIEDĀJU | I SANG GENTLY

Rāmi, rāmi es dziedāju
Vēl jo rāmi gavilēju.

Locīdama es dziedāju,
Locīdama gavilēju.

Locīdama māmuliť
Meitām pūru pielocīja.

Gently, softly I sang,
Even softer I exulted.

I bent [folded] my notes as I sang
And as I exulted.

Mother folded treasures
For her daughters' dowries.

SUNTAŽU LIGOTNE | MIDSUMMER SONG FROM SUNTĀŽI

Pavasari ievas zieda, līgā,
Pa visiemi krūmiņiem, līgā.

Jāņu nakti gunis dega, līgā,
Pa visāmi sētiņāmi, līgā.

In the summer the bird-cherries blossom
In all the bushes.

On midsummer's nights bonfires burned
In all the homesteads.

Ai, Jāniša vakariņis, līgā,
Ozoliņa tērētājis, līgā.

Oh, John's night,
You waster of oak branches.

Grib dārziņi, tīrumiņi, līgā,
Grib meitiņas vainadziņa, līgā.

You want gardens, fields,
You want girls' flower crowns.

REITĀ AGRI SAULE LĒCE | THE SUN RISES EARLY

Reitā agri saule lēce soltu rosu
nūtraukdam'.

The sun rises early, dispersing all the dew.
Laima [goddess of fate] went out early to
decide people's fates.

Agri goja Laimes mote ļaudim laimes
vālādam'.

She gave possessions and fame to one,
wisdom to another.

Vīnam lyka montu, slavu, ūtram gudru
padūmeņ'.

What will you give me, Laima, in all your
wisdom?

Kū, Laimēņa, maņtu liksi sovā gudrā
padūmā'.

Laima sighed and dug down to the bottom
of her dowry.

Laima gryuši nūsapyute, snīdzēs pyura
dybynā.

She pulled out a golden *kokle* and a
yarnball of songs.

Izvalk skaņu zalta kūkli, izvalk dzīsmu
komuleit'.

Here's a golden *kokle* for you, child, and a
yarnball of songs.

Še tev, bērņeņ, zalta kūkle, še tev dzīsmu
komuleits.

ZIEDI, ZIEDI, RUDZU VĀRPA | BLOOM, RYE STALK

Ziedi, ziedi, rudzu vārpa, deviņāmi ailiņām.
Mani brāļi klēti cirta deviņiem arodiem.
Cērtiet, brāļi, ko cirzdam, uzcērtiet
istabiņu.

Bloom with nine ears, rye stalk.
My brothers built a barn with nine axes.
As you hew and fell, build me a room.
Build me a room with three doors.

Uzcērtiet istabiņu ar trejāmi duravām.
Pa vienāmi saule lēca, pa otrāmi norietēja.
Pa trešāmi es izgāju, galvā ziļu vainadziņš.

Through one the sun rises, through
another it sets.
I'll exit through the third wearing my
beaded crown.

DOD, DIEVIŅI, KALNĀ KĀPT! | GOD, GRANT US

Pie Dieviņa gari galdi, gari galdi
Tur sēd pati mīļā Māra, mīļā Mār'.

In God's house are many long tables
There sits beloved Māra [God's female
counterpart]

Tur sēd pati mīļā Māra, mīļā Māra
Villainītes rakstīdama, rakstīdam'.

There sits beloved Māra
Embroidering her shawls

Izrakstīja, saskaitīja, saskaitīja,
Atdod Dieva rociņā(i), rociņā.

Having embroidered and counted them
She places them in God's hands

Nu, Dieviņi, Tava vaļa, tava vaļa,
Nu tavās(i) rociņās(i), rociņās.

Now it's your will,
God It's all in your hands

Nu tavās(i) rociņās(i), rociņās(i)
Pašas Laimas atslēdziņa, atslēdziņ'.

In your hands Rests the key of Laima [the
goddess of Fortune]

Dod, Dieviņi, kalnā kāpt(i), kalnā kāpt(i),

God, grant me the will to climb up the hill,

Ne no kalna lejiņā(i), lejiņā.

Rather than come down the hill;

Dod, Dieviņi, otram dot(i), otram dot(i),
Ne no otra mīļi lūgt(i), mīļi lūgt.

God, grant me the will to give to others
Rather than to kindly beg from others.

PĒRKONĪTIS DUCINĀJA | THUNDER RUMBLED

Pērkonītis ducināja
Šādu garu vasariņu.
Lai rīb tautu istabiņu
Jele šādu vasariņu.

Thunder rumbled
All summer long.
May our folk's room
Rumble just the same.

GAISMAS PILS | CASTLE OF LIGHT

Kurzemīte, Dievzemīte,
Brīvas tautas auklētāj'!
Kur palika sirmie dievi,
Brīvie tautas dēliņi?

Kurzeme, God's land,
Mother of a free people!
What happened to the graying gods
The sons of a free nation?

Tie ligoja vecos laikos
Gaismas kalna galotnē.
Visapkārt egļu meži,
Vidū gaiša tautas pils.

They sang "Līgo" in the Midsummer days
At the top of the mountain of light.
All around were spruce forests
In the middle, the people's bright castle.

Asiņainas dienas ausa
Tēvuzemes ieļejā;
Vergu valgā tauta nāca,
Nāvē krita varoņi.

Bloody days dawned
In the Fatherland's valleys.
The people were snared in slavery,
The heroes fell, dead.

Ātri grīma, ātri zuda
Gaismas kalna staltā pils.
Tur guļ mūsu tēvu dievi,
Tautas gara greznumil

Quickly it sank, quickly disappeared
The shining mountain's stately castle.
There lie the gods of our fathers!
And the people's spirit.

Sirmajami ozolami
Pēdīgājo ziedu dod.
Tas slēpj svētu pīles vārdu
Dziļās siržu rētiņās.

The wise old oak
Gives a final flower.
The sacred secret of the castle is hiding
In the deep scars of the heart.

Ja kas vārdu uzminētu,
Augšāmceltos vecā pils,
Tālu laistu tautas slavu,
Gaismas starus margodam'!

If the word is guessed [spoken]
The old castle would rise up again!
It would spread far the people's glory
Reflecting with bright rays.

Tautas dēli uzminēja
Sen aizmirstu svētumu:
Gaismu sauca, Gaisma ausal
Augšām ceļas Gaismas pils!

The sons of the nation remembered
This forgotten blessing;
They called the light, and the light dawned.
Again rises the Castle of Light!

ŠKIND ZEMĪTE, RĪB ZEMĪTE | THE EARTH JINGLES AND QUAKES

Škind zemīte, rīb zemīte, man vienai staigājot: Bij' manā vaiņagā duj' dimant' gabaliņ'.	The earth jingles and quakes as I walk alone: I have two diamond pieces in my crown.
Saule, saule, zeme, zeme, bez arāja nevarēj'; Arājiņš nevarēj' bez labā kumeliņ'.	Sun and earth; the earth needs plowing, The plowman couldn't work without his good steed.
Tēva, tēva es meitiņa, kamēr ziemu maizi deva; Kad nāks jauna vasariņa, būšu tēva vai nebūšu?	I am my father's daughter while he provides winter bread, When summer comes, will I still be in his home?
Šuj, māmiņa, manim kreklu deviņāmi vīlītēmi; Devitajā vīlītēi iešuj gudru padomiņu.	Sew me a shirt with nine seams, mother; Sew your good advice into the ninth seam.
Tek saulīte vakarā, iet māmiņa vecumā; Steidziet, bērni, jautājiet no māmiņas padomiņu! Vecam tēvam sirmā bārdā daudzi gudra padomiņa; Jauni puīši salasās, padomiņa meklēdam'.	The sun sets in the evening, mother is growing old; Hurry, children, ask for mother's advice! There's a lot of wisdom in old father's silver beard, Young men gather to seek his guidance.
Velku tēva kažociņ', nav manāi mēriņā; Sēžu tēva krēsliņā, trūkst man tēva padomiņ'. Iziedama tu, māsiņ', sakur tēva uguntiņ', Lai spīdēja tavs mūžiņš tā kā tēva uguntiņ'!	I wear my father's overcoat but it is too big, I sit in my father's chair, but I lack his wisdom. As you go out, dear sister, light father's hearth, So your life may shine like the flames!
Labā biju tēva meita, labi sevi turējos: Tēva biju labā rokā, māmiņai audējiņ'.	I was a good daughter, I held my head high: My father's right hand, my mother's weaver.
Tēvam jāju pieguļai, mātei govu paganīt; Tēvs man deva sirmu zirgu, māte govi raibaliņ'.	For many nights I herded the cows; My father gave me a grey mare, mother a spotted cow.
Klausī tēva, bāleliņ', es klausīšu māmuliņ'. Tevim tēva zemīte, man māmiņas villainīt's.	Listen to father, good brother, I will listen to mother, You will get father's land, I'll get mother's shawls.

PŪT, VĒJIŅI | BLOW WIND

Pūt, vējiņi, dzen laiviņu, aizdzen mani Kurzemē. Kurzemiece man solīja sav' meitiņu malējiņ'. Solīt sola, bet nedeva, teic man lielu dzērājiņ', Teic man lielu dzērājiņu, kumeliņa skrējējiņ'. Kuru krogu es izdzēru, kam noskrēju kumeliņ'?	Blow wind, push my boat, sail me to Courland. A Courland woman promised me her daughter, a mill worker. She promised, but did not do it, saying I am a heavy drinker. Saying I am a heavy drinker, and a reckless horse racer. Which tavern did I drink dry, whose horse did I race into the ground?
Pats par savu naudu dzēru, pats skrēj' savu kumeliņ'. Pūt, vējiņi, dzen laiviņu, aizdzen mani Kurzemē.	I drank with my own money, and raced with my own horse. Blow wind, push my boat, sail me to Courland.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF LATVIAN MUSIC

by Aija Engelmane (with additions by Agita Arista)

For centuries, Latvia's political and economic dependence on the various countries that occupied it prevented Latvians from being included in European culture. Latvia's isolation kept it from attaining the success of musical powers such as Italy, France and Germany, and its cultural awakening only began during the middle of the 19th century.

When talking about Latvian music, we should keep in mind the country's very rich folk-song heritage. Latvia has a folk-song repository that contains about ten thousand folk melodies — a treasury not every nation has.

A particularly Latvian phenomenon is the song festival, begun in 1873 and held every four or five years. Song and singing are important tools that have helped Latvians overcome their difficulties, raise their self-confidence and gain independence as a nation. The proudest moments in many Latvian composers' lives are when their songs are chosen for a national song festival and performed in the great outdoor amphitheater in Rīga's *Mežaparks* (Forest Park). It means they have the entire nation's appreciation and love.

A song festival of note occurred in 1990, when, after 50 years of occupation by the Soviets, the Latvian national flag was once again displayed on the *Mežaparks* stage. Participating for the first time were Latvian choirs from all around the world — the United States, Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Germany and Sweden — which organically blended with the great *Mežaparks* choir. The concert culminated with the singing of Lūcija Garūta's song "The Lord's Prayer," at which time every singer (19,000 in all) held a candle. Then, after the last *pianissimo* "Amen," a spontaneous silence occurred that lasted several minutes, as everyone felt profoundly moved and grateful for at last having the freedom to reunite. At this song festival several Latvian choral conductors — such as Leonīds Vīgners, Haralds Mednis and others — were joined by colleagues from other countries, including Andrejs Jansons from the United States, Vizma Makšiņa from Canada and Lilija Zobens from Great Britain.

The father of Latvian classical music is Andrejs Jurjāns. Educated at the St. Petersburg Conservatory, he became a founder of many musical styles in Latvia. Of particular importance are his first symphonic works and cantatas. And true to his roots, Jurjāns weaves Latvian folk tunes like a colorful thread through the fabric of his music.

Another very important figure in Latvian musical history is Jāzeps Vītols, professor of composition, conductor, music critic and founder of the Latvian Music Conservatory (1919). He taught numerous Latvian classical music composers, including Jānis Ivanovs, Ādolfs Skulte and Lūcija Garūta. His own compositions elevated the standard of Latvian classical musical compositions. Today we can't imagine Latvian song festivals without his great choral ballads *Gaismas pils* (Castle of Light) and *Beverīnas dziedonis* (The Singer of Beverīna). He also started the genre of Latvian piano music.

At the beginning of the 19th century, three new stars appeared in the sky of Latvian music — Emīls Dārziņš, Emīlis Melngailis and Alfrēds Kalniņš. Every one of them left indelible legacies: fragile and soulful Dārziņš with his choral and solo songs, strong and vital folklorist Melngailis with his choral songs and Kalniņš with his founding of Latvian opera.

Latvian music developed a rich, diverse and versatile tradition. Of note are four Latvian composers born in 1936: Pauls Dambis, with his new discoveries in choral music; Romualds Kalsons, with his colorful orchestral music; Agris Engelmanis, who, with his choral and symphonic music, was an important figure in the city of Liepāja's musical life; and Raimonds Pauls, pianist, composer and celebrated king of Latvian pop music.

Composer Imants Kalniņš (1941) is an unusual personality in Latvian music. His music successfully combines elements of classical and rock music. Particularly noteworthy is his Symphony No. 4, in which rock music instruments organically supplement classical orchestral instruments. Kalniņš was also a leader of several rock bands. Fans can enjoy his songs in an outdoor setting at the annual festival *Days of Imants* in the town of Cēsis.

Latvian music history is rich with music dynasties — the four brothers Jurjāns, and the father-and-son duos of Alfrēds and Jānis Kalniņš and Emīls and Volfgangs Dārziņš. Then there are the three Mediņš brothers. The oldest was Jāzeps, who composed symphonic music. The middle brother, Jēkabs, was a master of choral music, while the youngest, Jānis, authored the first Latvian ballet and also wrote four operas, several orchestral works, numerous solo songs and 23 miniatures for piano. Jānis's successful life in independent Latvia was cut short by war and Soviet occupation. Like the majority of the Latvian intelligentsia, he fled the country in 1944, spending the rest of his life in Sweden. His music is known for its romantic character.

Today, the most popular Latvian composer is Pēteris Vasks (1946), whose music is played by some of the best musicians in the world. He has received many awards, including a Grammy Award for his violin concerto, and has recorded 20 CDs. Vasks was the recipient of the Alfred Toepfer Foundation's Vienna Herder Prize in 1996 and the Latvian Grand Music Award in 1997, the latter for his violin concerto *Tālā gaisma* (Distant Light) (1996–97). He has also received the Cannes Classical Award (2004); the highest civilian award in Latvia, the Three-Star Order; and several Latvian Grand Music Awards.

One of the most talented and well-known Latvian composers of this generation is Ēriks Ešenvalds. He has said: "When composing a work, I give myself over to the temptation of the creative process — a journey whose twisting roads persistently, but convincingly, bring me to the final sounds of the score. And only then do I exhale." Ešenvalds casts a wide net, embracing several genres, but accolades of his recent choral and symphonic works have propelled him to stardom.

A whole second article would be necessary to document the history of Latvian performers who have achieved fame on the world stage: conductors Mariss Jansons and Andris Nelsons, violinist Gidon Kremer, and opera singers Kristīne Opolais, Elīna Garanča, Inese Galante and Egils Siliņš, to name a few.

Countless other talented and respected Latvian composers continue to develop the shape and future of Latvian music, in line with the wish Emīls Dārziņš expressed in a letter on December 14, 1901:

"Our tiny culture's artistic field is still unkempt. There's still much to do, many nooks to explore. My motto will henceforth be to work for my people and their arts, and may God grant that each servant of the arts embroiders this motto on his banner!"

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