

THE AUSTRALIAN LATVIAN 15th ARTS & CULTURE FESTIVAL

CONCERT OF MASED CHOIRS

MELBOURNE TOWN HALL, THURSDAY, 30th DECEMBER, 1965 AT 8.00 P.M.

God Save the Queen.

Latvian National Anthem.

I - COMBINED MIXED CHOIRS

96th Psalm

H. Pavasars

Organist: J. Mallinson
Conductor: V. Bendrups

To the Muses (text by Ziemelnieks)

P. Barisons

This song invokes the muses to visit and bless the author.

Days of Childhood (I. donis)

V. Ozolins

Remembering the effect of nature on the pure, receptive mind of a child gives the man new joy in his later years.

Conductor: V. Rullis

In the Silver of Night (K. Jekabsons)

H. Pavasars

A man alone in the fields in the silence of night finds that the light of the moon causes pain to cease and the soul to expand.

Conductor: E. Ozolins

To the Latvian (I. Kalnare)

J. Norvilis

Only in the homeland can a man, cleansed from the dust of his travels, receive God's blessing.

The Shield of Song (J. Veselis and Andrejs Eglitis)

B. Skulte

Songs are the shield of a nation as they defend it against disintegration, even when its peoples are scattered all over the world.

Baritone solo: Dz. Veide

Organist: J. Mallinson

Conductor: K. Svenne

INTERVAL

II -- COMBINED MALE CHOIRS

Ever Blue are the Hills of Latvia (K. Skalbe) .. E. Darzins

This song describes the eternal beauty of Latvia's hills, forests and fields, saying that the indomitable spirit of the Latvians is just as lasting.

Come with Me (K. Jekabsons) .. E. Darzins

A man beckons to his beloved to accompany him to a beautiful, peaceful place in the country.

Oh, Those Lads ! (Folksong) .. J. Kalnins

Everybody knows these lads ! They travel around Latvia, committing new larks in every town.

Conductor: J. Puisens

Roses, Oh Roses (Pludonis) .. J. Vitols

The author sees in roses sensual qualities which excite him and make him think of love.

Dies Iral (Pludonis) .. J. Vitols

Enemies are in our land, but the spirit of our ancestral heroes will rise and help us brandish swords against them to drive them from this country which is ours.

Conductor: E. Marsaus

COMBINED WOMEN'S CHOIRS

Lake Burtnieki (J. Akuraters) .. J. Norvilis

Here in this lake is the palace of the nation - a palace blessed with songs, battles and tears.

In a White Birch Cradle (A. Brigadere) .. J. Vitols/J. Puisens

This is a lyric song on a new-born baby girl, now lying in a cradle made of birch.

Summer (V. Toma) .. V. Ozolins

The author rejoices in nature in full bloom.

Conductor: J. Puisens

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III - COMBINED MIXED CHOIRS

In Praise of the Orphan Girl (Folksong) .. E. Melngailis

The orphan girl, a symbol of goodness, does not crave for wealth, but because of her beauty and naturalness she is blessed with worldly goods also.

Song of Spring (Folksong) .. Jekabs Poruks

With the disappearance of snow, nature and the more tender feelings of young people awaken.

Conductor: E. Ozolins

The Miller's Daughter (Folksong) .. B. Skulte

The miller's daughter greets her lover, who has come back from war and can now claim his bride.

Conductor: K. Svenne

By Staburags (I. Kaln) .. I. Sakss

A boatman stops near the rock Staburags and finds there the girl who will become his bride.

Conductor: V. Rullis

My Country Speaks (I. Kalnare) .. T. Ilstere

This song is directed to the Latvian in exile, always hopeful of return to the land which is so close to him that even its soil, trees and fields seem to speak to him.

Aurora of the North (Cantata) .. J. Vitols

An aurora in the northern skies promises in the approach of dawn a day of toil to liberate our country.