



30th AUSTRALIAN  
LATVIAN ARTS FESTIVAL  
PERTH 1980

# FOLK DANCES

## THE OAK AND THE LINDEN

The theme of this performance, linking traditional and choreographed dances is based on the Latvian daina:

Beyond the river on the hillock  
In rows grew the young oaks.  
Facing them grew a row of lindens,  
Which teased the oaks.

The Latvian peasants had a profound feeling of harmony and oneness with nature. Nature as both inspiration and form of expression is very prominent in the dainas.

The oak tree often symbolizes the male persona, the linden tree the female and many dainas tell us about their respective characteristics, aspirations and relationships.

The oak is also a symbol of national strength and will endure any oppressing force. The acorn, being the seed of the oak, symbolizes the strength of the future which lies in the Latvian youth.



"Beautiful is my brother's farmstead"  
A folksong sung by L. Zobens.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE GROUPS

#### NARRATOR

The oak dancing did go,  
Leading the linden by the hand.  
The oak has colourful mittens,  
The linden a woven shawl.

#### JAUTRĀ VIJA

A traditional dance for 4 couples.

All groups

#### RITENĪTIS

The little wheel — a traditional circle dance.

Auseklītis,  
Sprīdītis,  
Sprigulītis

#### UPE NESA OZOLIŅU

The river carried the oak with its beehive downstream.

Senatne

#### CIMDU PĀRIS

A pair of mittens.

Auseklītis

#### NARRATORS

Thank you God for giving us summer. The birds, the young girls and the tree tops are all singing joyfully.

The daughters of the Sun a dance did lead  
In the shade of a green grove.  
The sons of God were peering  
Through the oak leaves.

#### VECPUIŠU DEJA

Bachelors' dance

Daugavieši/Sakta  
Senatne

#### TUKUMA KADRĪĻA

A dance in 2 rows for 8 couples  
depicting meeting, greeting and,  
the boys stealing their friend's partners

Jautrais Pāris,  
Pērkonītis,  
Ritenītis,  
Rota.

#### AIZPURVES DEJA

Beyond the marshes.

Sprīdītis

#### BĒRĪTIS

The ribauld pony.

Ritenītis

"Two days in the forest"  
A folksong sung by L. Zobens.

#### MŪRAVIETIS

A dance for young men.

Jautrais Pāris  
Sprigulītis

#### VAIŅAGU DEJA

The garland dance — a dance for girls.

Jautrais Pāris,  
Sprigulītis.

#### KRAUKLĪTS SĒŽ OZOLĀ

A crow's sitting in the oak tree.

A traditional dance — game.

Perth Latvian

#### KAS DĀRZĀ?

Who's in the garden?

A traditional dance — game.

Primary School children  
and all groups.

## II

"An oak tree growing on the hilltop"

A folksong sung by A. Rudaks.

#### NARRATORS

Make way! Make way!

The oak and the linden a dancing will go.

#### PĀRU DEJAS

A selection of traditional dances for couples.

All groups

#### KAMOLIŅDEJA

A traditional dance depicting the  
winding of wool into a ball from skeins.

All groups

#### OZOLĪTI, ZEMZARĪTI

Oak tree, why did you grow in the valley?

Rota

"I walked through the ash grove looking for  
an oak"

A folksong sung by A. Rudaks.

#### ES IZGĀJU OŠU BIRZI

I walked through the ash grove  
looking for an oak.

Daugavieši/Sakta

#### LANCETS

A regional dance for 8 couples.

Auseklītis,  
Perkonītis,  
Rota.

#### NARRATOR

Girls, what shall we talk about

Gathered together in a group?

About ashes, about maples,

About handsome oaks.

#### JAUTRAIS PĀRIS

The happy couple

Auseklītis,  
Jautrais Pāris,  
Ritenītis,  
Sprīdītis,  
Sprigulītis,

#### MAĢAIS DANCIS

A traditional dance for 3 couples.

Daugavieši/Sakta,  
Senatne



## NARRATOR

Thunder has four sons,  
All four artisans.  
Two beat brass drums,  
Two strike flints.

## PĒRKONĪTIS

The thunder dance.

Pērkonītis

## RINDĀM AUGA OZOLIŅI

In rows grew the young oaks

All groups

## NARRATORS

Try to find wise men.  
Try to find big bushy oaks.  
Rare are wise men,  
Rare are big bushy oaks.

Oh, big bushy oak,  
How very old you are.  
I came into the world and discovered you.  
I will die but you will live on.

The groups participating in this festival (in alphabetical order) are:

AUSEKLĪTIS from Adelaide  
DAUGAVIEŠI/SAKTA from Melbourne  
JAUTRAIS PĀRIS from Sydney  
PERKONĪTIS from Perth  
RITENĪTIS from Melbourne  
ROTA from Sydney  
SENATNE from Brisbane  
SPRĪDĪTIS from Melbourne  
SPRIGULĪTIS from Canberra

Directors: Andra Kīns and Jānis Vucēns  
Musical Director: Anita Rudaks  
Piano: Gita Balodis, Lauma Cīrculis, Inese Matisons  
Flute: Anne Cahill  
Clarinet: Zaiga Rumbēns  
Guitar: Anita Rudaks  
Base Guitar: Andris Vārpiņš  
Mixing: Geoff Cahill  
Vocals: Anita Rudaks, Lilija Zobens, Ivars Birze, Andris Jaunbērziņš.  
Narrators: Rita Rasiņš and Andris Vārpiņš.  
Stage Manager: Ilmars Rudaks.  
Set Created By: Alfreds Gulāns and Ilmārs Rudaks.