



30th AUSTRALIAN
LATVIAN ARTS FESTIVAL
PERTH 1980

MASSED CHOIR
CONCERT



The Massed Choir consists of singers from the following choirs:

Perth Latvian Choir
Melbourne Latvian Association Choir "Rota"
Adelaide Latvian Association Choir
Sydney Latvian Choir
Melbourne Choir "Dziesmuvara"
Brisbane Latvian Association Choir
Ballarat Latvian Choir
and individual singers from Canberra

PROGRAMME

1. DIEVA, SVĒTĪ LATVIJU K. Baumanis Latvian National Anthem K.
Bless Latvia, Oh God, the land of our fathers,
Oh, bless her, God.
Where the Latvian maidens bloom, and the Latvian sons sing,
May happiness and good fortune smile on us,
In our dear Latvia.
2. LAUZTĀS PRIEDES. E. Dārzins The Broken Pine Trees.
The tallest pines which grew on the beach, could not hide nor bend in the
north wind — they broke!
It is similar with a strong nation:
"You broke us — thou foe of our nation. Our battle against you is not yet over!"
Our fight for freedom will go on.
Just as ships' masts are made from broken pines and battle against the sea
storms, we shall fight against the wrongs done to us. We will reach happiness;
we will reach for the light and the freedom.
The battle may be long and hard. We will not yield and will reach our dream of
free sunrise.

Conductor: Vilma Roga (Perth)
3. SAPŅU ZEME Br. Skulte The Land of Our Dreams
We have but one paradise, we dream of but one land.
As we stray along unknown paths engulfed by icy darkness,
We are warmed by a light from this land in our hearts
from our homeland Latvia.

Conductor: Ēriks Ozoliņš (Brisbane)
4. AUGSTĀKĀ DZIMTENE T. Kenins The Soul of My Country
My country is more than meadows, mountains, rivers and valleys, skies and
forests. The soul of my country is the pain and suffering of its peoples. I
pray for you my country, my people.
5. PAVASARS H. Pavasars The Spring
Spring! It's here with the gentle breezes and beautiful dreams.
All that was depressing in winter has left us now.
Our hearts are full of happiness and anticipation of spring.
This beauty is so great that even death could not destroy its memory and joy.

Conductor: Viktors Bendrups (Melbourne "Rota")
6. BĒRZI H. Pavasars The Birch Trees
The tall white birch is reaching to the sky, thus giving its blessing to the new
green grass and together with the green pastures they send a prayer up to heaven.
An ageing plowman is moving along the meadow and the field talks to him.
He looks at the clouds above and the birches bless his grey head.
In his soul he sees his ancestral meadows in bloom, and yet, it is still far, distant.
7. KARĻMEITA J. Vītols The Daughter of The King
A simile about our oppressed nation — the daughter of the king.
One dark day, that spurted blood, the castle of the daughter of the king sank
to the very depths of the earth.
For 600 years the beautiful daughter sat there weaving. She sat on a chair of
gold, and her eyes sadly glowing; a black dog lay at her feet.
One dark day that showers blood, this castle will rise again,
and this maiden will weave the webs of a new light which will enfold and warm
the children of pain.

Conductor: Lillija Zobena (England)

INTERMISSION

1. ES TĒVU ZEMEI NOLIECOS. V. Ozoliņš I Kneel Before Thee, Oh
Land of My Fathers

I kneel before thee, for all thine anguished pain, for all thine Mothers' healing
hands, for all my brothers for thee slain.
Across the land there swells the sound, the new idea, the sounds of new forged
bells. They ring in the sound of freedom for our country this nation that we
bear deep in our hearts.
2. SĒJU JAUKU ROŽU DĀRZU. J. Kalmiņš I Planted a Garden of Roses
I planted a rose garden. This would enable me to weave a pretty crown of roses
to put on my head. I'll weed the garden and tend it, thus it will produce more
beautiful roses and my neighbours shan't think me lazy.

Sung by the women's section of the choir.
Conductor: L. Zobena
3. AIZ UPĪTES MEITAS DZIEDI. I. Mežaraups Over the River I Heard the
Maidens Sing

Over the river I heard the dark haired maidens sing. There's only one fair haired
maiden amongst them; she will be my bride, she shall tend my house and I'll
have the pleasure to take her riding on my steed.
4. AI ZAĻĀJA LĪDACIŅA. T. Kēpiņš A Game with a Green Pike
(fish)

Come pike, come play with me — I'll be in my boat and you in the deep blue
sea. When the wind blows, my sails will unfurl and the fish nets will come
through the waters curl.
Come green pike, come play this game with me.

Conductor: Ē. Ozoliņš
5. NORIET SAULE VAKARĀ. J. Norvilis Sunset
This song tells of the beauty of a Latvian countryside sunset.
As the sun sets it bathes all the trees in a variety of beautiful colours;
the linden tree is dressed in gold, the oak is bathed in silver and the osier is given
a golden ring.
6. PĒRKOŅS VEDA VEDEKLIŅU. A. Salaks Thunder Brought His
Daughter-in-Law

A song about the beauty of nature and the good that rain and the sun brings it.
Thunder brings his daughter-in-law (rain) and the sun paints the forest trees in
beautiful colours: it coats the oak in golden wax and the linden in violet shawl
it covers.
The daughter of the sun is covered in silver and her dowry is of pure gold.
The sun put much wealth into her daughter's dowry.

Conductor: V. Bendrups

INTERMISSION

1. DAUGAVIŅA MELNACĪTE. Br. Skulte The River Daugava
Daugava flows almost throughout the length of Latvia and is considered, in
Latvian folklore as the carrier of our fate.
The water in the river Daugava appear foul and dark at dusk — they hear the
souls of the slain. A young warrior rides off to war, but on crossing Daugava he
meets his foe and in a clash of swords is slain.
"Mother, sister don't await his return — you'll wait in vain!"
2. PIE BAITIJAS JŪRAS. J. Straume On the Shores of the Baltic
In the north, on the shores of the wild Baltic, where the weather is harsh and
bleak, is the homeland of the Latvian people. Their men are strong, valiant and
readily face any battle for the defence of their homeland. May God, give us

4
strength to fight for the freedom and well being of Latvia. THEN, shall Latvia flourish in happiness for ever and no power shall ever harm it. Latvian sons shall raise her honour by doing good deeds and singing her glorious songs.

Sung by the male section of the choir.
Conductor: V. Bendrups

3. ES KARĀ AIZIEDAMS. J. Cimze On Going to War
When I left for the wars, I left my baby sister in a cradle.
On my return I found a beautiful maiden, a needleworker.
"Dear sister, needleworker, of mine make me a battle flag.
Make it green and red colours for I'll not return again."
4. RĪGA, RĪGA J. Norvilis Riga (Capital of Latvia)
A song about that much heard of, far away city of Riga.
I've heard it said that she is beautiful, and now at last, I see her beauty.
Riga appears to me like a dream: all around it there are great sand dunes but the city appears to float on a huge lake.
5. TĪRU RUDZU UPE TEK. J. Graubiņš The River of Flowing Rye.
A folk song with a particularly old melody. It tells the story of a specially rich harvest: there was so much grain that it flowed through the farm yard like a flooded rover.
After the granary was full, the grain flowed out through the doors.
6. JĀNUVAKARS. E. Melngailis The Eve of John's Day
John's day is one of the oldest Latvian traditional feasts.
It is the midsummer's day and has the longest time of sunshine.
The sun does not completely set but throughout the night there is a twilight.
This song describes the preparations done for this feast. The song sung on John's day is LIGO. All year long we await the arrival of Janis (John) and now — here he is. Janis has arrived with a great din: the ground shook from his horses' hooves, he brought presents with him for the young and the maidens. This night nobody sleeps, we all must sing Ligo.

Conductor: Ē. Ozoloņš

The Chairman of the 30th Festival Committee hands over the Festival Flag to the representative of the 31st Festival Committee to take to Brisbane.

7. VĒL DZĪVOS LATVIJA. E. Maršaus Latvia Shall Live Again!
Wake up, get to work, rebuild thy land from the ruins.
You have the strength and need to do so. Let no one suggest that it is ruined forever. Our foes may put us in cages, imprison us in caves of fire and stone, even so, they'll not stop us. God will give us strength, he will give us a new day.
Go, spread the good news:
"Latvia shall live again, the nation shall flourish yet again".

Conductor: V. Roga

The massed choirs farewell to the audience.
The 30th Australian Latvian Festival is concluded, now we welcome the 31st Festival.