



**NORDIC NEIGHBOR
LITHUANIA**

Lithuanian Landscapes

Saturday, April 18 at 1 pm
First Lutheran Church, Tacoma

Sunday, April 19 at 2 pm
Ballard First Lutheran Church

Featuring:

Mägi Ensemble, Heather MacLaughlin Garbes, conductor
Maria Männistö & Marjorie Bunday, vocalists
Steven Luksan & Peter Garbes, pianists

Lithuanian Landscapes

Program

Prelude in B flat minor "To Maria Morawska", VL169 Mikalojus Čiurlionis (1875-1911)

Prelude in B minor, VL182a

Prelude in D minor, VL325

Peter Garbes, piano

Dvi Raudos (Two Laments)

Konstancija Brundzaitė (1942–1971)

1. Aš apieškojau visą namą (I searched the whole house)
2. Aš paklausiau upių, kur tu (I asked the rivers where you are)

Saulos Dainos (Saula's Songs)

Raminta Šerkšnytė (b. 1975)

1. Saulos Lopšinė (Saula's Lullaby)
2. Pasaka (Fairy-tale)

Marjorie Bunday, mezzo-soprano & Steven Luksan, piano

Nocturne, VL178

Čiurlionis

Notturmo, Op. 54, No. 4

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

Nocturne, VL183

Čiurlionis

Steven Luksan, piano

Pienė (Dandelion)

Raminta Šerkšnytė (b. 1975)

Alyvos (Lilacs)

Juozas Gruodis (1884-1948)

Tulpės (Tulips)

Kazimieras Viktoras Banaitis (1886-1963)

Maria Mannistö, soprano & Steven Luksan, piano

Intermission

Lek' gervė (The Crane Flew)

Robertas Varnas (1930-2015)

Turėja liepa (The Linden Tree)

Folk sutartinė arr. Linos Kairytės (b. 1983)

Ave Maria

Nijolė Sinkevičiūtė (b. 1956)

Žvaigždėlė (Stars)

Algimantas Bražinskas (b. 1937)

Nuo aukšto kalno (From High Mountains)

Antanas Budriūnas (1902-1966)

Trepute martela (Flax-Picking Song)

Folk Song arr. Antanas Budriūnas

Ne dėl žalio vyno... (Not for the Green Wine...)

Folk Song arr. Vilija Mažintaitė (b. 1984)

Egija Claire, soloist

Tėvyne mūsų (Our Homeland)

Vaclovas Augustinas (b. 1959)

Ir įsoko ožėlis (And the Goat Jumped In)

Folk Song arr. Bangos Balakauskienės

Užaugo liepa (Up Grew the Linden Tree)

Kestutis Daugirdas (b. 1985)

The Māgi Ensemble & Peter Garbes, piano

Texts and Translations

Dvi Raudos Two Laments (music 1968, text 1966)

Text by Janina Degutytė (1928–1990)

1. Aš apieškojau visą namą —
Lova paklota ir skobniai tušti.
Aš apieškojau visą lauką —
Jokios brydės! Kaip siena — kviečiai aukšti.
Aš apieškojau visą girią —
Krūpčiojo papartynai ir eglės dejavo.

Tik čia — smėlio kalnelį
Kūnas tavo.

Kodėl Išėjai taip toli —
Nuo kviečių nušviestų, nuo eglynų?..
Ar nedavė duonos juodos?
Ar nedavė žalio vyno?

2. Aš paklausiau upių, kur tu.
Aš paklausiau debesų, kur tu.

Upės atsakė: žemėj tavęs nėra.
Ir atsakė debesys: nėra danguj.

Kas dabar sušukuos mano ilgus plaukus?
Kas man geltono korio atlaus?

Rytą pievos šaltos ir skaudžios.
Rankos karštos ir tuščios ilgą vakarą.

Pasakyk, koku žolynu išdygsi?
Pasakyk, koku atsibusi vėju?

I searched the whole house —
The bed is made and the shelves are empty.
I searched the whole field —
No paths! Like a wall — the wheat is tall.
I searched the whole forest —
The ferns trembled and the spruces groaned.

Only here — on a sandy hill
Your body.

Why did you go so far —
From the glowing wheat fields, from the spruce groves?..
Did they not give you black bread?
Did they not give you green wine?

I asked the rivers where you are.
I asked the clouds where you are.

The rivers answered: you are not on earth.
And the clouds answered: you are not in heaven.

Who will now comb my long hair?
Who will break the yellow honeycomb for me?

In the morning, the meadows are cold and painful.
Hands are hot and empty through the long night.

Tell me, what kind of grass will you sprout?
Tell me, what kind of wind will you wake up to?

Two songs from Saulos Dainos Saula's Songs (2004)

Text by Albina Žiupsnytė (1958–2024)

Saulos Lopšinė

Žalią Dievo pasaulį neškit sparnais iškėlę,
žalią Dievo pasaulį su rausva boružėle.
Vėjo širdelę baltą jūs palieskit plunksnelėm,
vėjo širdelę baltą pasiimkit į kelią.
Medžio lapelį lengvą ašarą pasiimkit,
medžio lapelį lengvą kaip šventą žodį atminkit.
Jūros erdvės galybę savor krūtinėse jauskit,
jūros erdvės galybę kelkit dangun kaip džiaugsmą.

Pasaka

Debesų šalyje, povėjų karūnom
gyvena paukštis deimantų plunksnom.
Jo akyse žvaigždės užteka iš ryto,
jo sparnuose mėnuo kaip jūroje skęsta.
Po vėjų karūnom, debesynų soduos
žvaigždžių uogas skina tas didysis paukštis.
Ryto aušrinė teka jo širdyje,
rausvi bijūnai į jūrą sukrinta.
Dangaus gėlynuos, debesų pavėsiuos
paukštis žaidžia su saule visą ilgą dieną.
Sparnus augina giedodamas šviesai,
iš jo džiaugsmo ašarų vaivorykštės liejas.
Tas didysis paukštis mumyse gyvena
debesų šalyje, po vėjų karūnom...
Ryto aušrinė teka jo širdyje,
rausvi bijūnai į jurą sukrinta.
Debesų šalyje, po vėju karūnom
gyvena paukštis deimantu plunksnom.

Saula's Lullaby

Carry God's green world with your wings raised,
God's green world with a pink ladybug.
Touch the white heart of the wind with your feathers,
take the white heart of the wind on your journey.
Take a leaf from a tree, a gentle tear,
remember the gentle leaf of a tree as a holy word.
Feel the power of the sea in your chest,
raise the power of the sea to the sky as joy.

Fairytale

In the land of clouds, in peacocks' crowns,
lives a bird with diamond feathers.
In his eyes, the stars of the morning shine,
in his wings the moon sinks like into the sea.
Under the crowns of winds, in the gardens of clouds,
that great bird picks the berries of the stars.
The morning dawn flows in his heart,
pink peonies fall into the sea.
In the flower beds of the sky, in the shade of the clouds,
the bird plays with the sun all day long.
He grows his wings, singing to the light,
from his tears of joy, rainbows flow.
That great bird lives within us in the land of clouds,
under the crowns of winds...
The morning dawn flows in his heart,
pink peonies fall into the sea.
In the land of clouds, under the crown of the wind,
lives a bird with diamond feathers.

Pienė

Text by Salomėja Nėris (1904–1945)

Piene, piene — nuostabi gėlele,
Ko tu rymai vėjų pabarėly?
Kur priglausi baltąją galvelę?
Kur užsnūsi vėlų vakarėlį?

Puia vėjas, plaukelius kedena,
Baltus plaukus nuo galvelės rauna.
Per dirvoną, rudenio laukelį
Neša pienės baltąjį pūkelį.

Piene, piene - mano tu gėlele,
Gaila tavo man baltos galvelės!
Gaila mano vargo jaunystės,
Išblaškytos vėjų pabarėly.

Alyvos

Text by Salomėja Nėris (1904–1945)

Manęs dar nebuvo, —
Alyvos žydėjo,
Manęs nebebus jau,
Jos vėliai žydės.

Ir kris jų lapeliai
Nuo saulės ir vėjo,
Kaip smėlio saujelės,
Ant mano širdies.

Tulpės

Text by Kazys Binkis (1893–1942)

Raudonos, margos, gelsvos, baltos
Pražydo tulpės visos kartu,
Vėliavos iš žolių iškeltos
Raudonos, margos, gelsvos, baltos.

Kad nebegrižtų naktys šaltos
Ir pievų kruša neužbertų,
Raudonos, margos, gelsvos, baltos
Pražydo tulpės visos kartu.

Lek gervė

Lithuanian folk sutartinė

Lekė gerėvele, perė gėrelė.
Nešė gerėvė lėžėdelį.
Dedė gerėvelė kiauėšelius.
Perė gerėvelė vaiėkelius.
Išėvedė gerėvelė vaiėkelius.

Turėja liepa

Lithuanian folk sutartinė

Turėja liepa liaj siudijo, siudija, siudijula tatato.
Devynias šakas liaj siudijo, siudija, siudijula tatato.
Visas devynias liaj siudijo, siudija siudijula tatato.
Vėtrela paluažė liaj siudijo, palik nor vienų liaj siudijo.
Gegulai inskristi liaj siudijo.
Gražiai pakukuoti liaj siudijo, siudija, siudijula tatato.

Dandelion

Dandelion, dandelion — amazing flower,
Why do you rest in the windy field?
Where will you lean your white head?
Where will you doze off late in the evening?

The wind blows, tousling hair,
Pulling out white hair from the head.
Through unbroken soil, through autumnal field,
It carries the dandelion's white fluff.

Dandelion, dandelion — you, my little flower,
I have pity on your white head!
I pity my toiling youth,
Scattered in the windy field.

Lilacs

I was not born yet, —
Lilacs blossomed,
I will not be here for long,
They will bloom again.

And their petals will fall
By the sun and wind,
Just as handfuls of sand,
Upon my heart.

Tulips

Red, speckled, pale yellow, white,
The tulips blossomed all together,
Flags were raised through the grass.
Red, speckled, pale yellow, white.

So that the cold nights would not return
And hail would not cover the meadow,
Red, speckled, pale yellow, white,
The tulips blossomed all together.

The Crane Flew

The crane flew, carrying a cranberry.
She was laying her eggs.
The warbler has hatched its babies;
Brought the gerbera flower into the roads.

The Linden Tree

The tree has limes on it.
It has nine branches, it is a tree, it is a tree.
All nine of its branches,
the wind has broken its branches.

Ave Maria

Catholic prayer based on the Gospel of Luke

Ave Maria. Gratia plena, Dominus tecum,
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui Jesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus.
Nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen.

Žvaigždėlė

Text by Antanas Drilinga

Žvaigždėlė. Smiltele, baltoji dulkele.
Žvaigždėlės kristeli aukštam danguje.
Šviesėle sidabro dulkele erdvės gelmėje naktyje juodoje.
Erdvės gelmėje, naktyje juodoje.
Saulėle auksine akele, kaip gera, kad tu žiuri į mane.
Žiūrėki, žvaigždele saulele.

Nuo aukšto kalno

Text by Alfonsas Maldonis

Nuo aukšto kalno pažiūri, jėvos baltuoja pagirų.
Kur beišeitum, vis vilios, grįžti gimtinėn atgalios.
Suka Šventoji turbinas, šilas kartoja mūsų dainas.
Čia ežerėliai, čia miškai, žaliosios pievos ir laukai.
Amžias giružė mėlynuos, amžias jaunystė čia dainuos.
Nuo aukšto kalno pažiūri, jėvos baltuoja pagirų.

Trepute Martela

Lithuanian folk song

Trepute martela linėlius sėjo,
trepute martela linėlius lankė.
Trepū, treputėla la linagalvytė.
Trepute martela linėlius rovē,
trepute martela linėlius klojo.
Trepute martela linėlius mynė,
trepute martela linėlius verpė.

Ne dėl žalio vyno...

Lithuanian folk song

O mano anskti kėlė ne dėl žalio dėl žolyn.
O jau mano mielas anskti rytą kėlė.
Ne dėl žalio vyno dėl žalio žolyno.
O jau mano mielas baltai burną prausė,
O jau mano mielas marškinėlius vilkos.
O jau mano mielas marškinius vilkos,
O jau mano mielas sėmėgėlę segė.
O jau mano mielas kepurėlę dėjo.
Žirgelį balnojo į karužę jojo,
Vilytėlė kirto galvelę padėjo.
O mielas galvą dėjo ne dėl žalio dėl žolyn.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.

Stars

Sand, white dust.
Stars twinkling high in the sky.
Light silver dust in the depths of space.
In the black night, in the depths of space.
Sun, with golden eyes, how good it is that you look at me.
Look, stars, sun.

From High Mountains

From high mountains, you can see the bird cherries
blooming white by the forest.
It does not matter where you go, they will call you back
to your homeland.
The river Šventoji turns the turbines. Pine wood is
repeating our songs,
Here are the small lakes, here are the small forests,
Green meadows and fields.
For centuries, the little forest will be blue, for centuries,
the youth will sing here.
From high mountains, you can see the bird cherries
blooming white by the forest.

Flax-Picking Song

The hammer has sown the flax with a thud,
the hammer has girded the flax with a thud.
The hammer has trodden the flax with a thud,
the hammer has laid the flax with a thud.
The hammer has trodden the flax with a thud,
the hammer has trodden the flax with a thud.

Not for the Green Wine...

My dear young man, woke up early in the morning.
Not for the green wine, but for the verdant greenery.
My dear young man brushed his teeth.
My dear young man put on his shirt.
My dear young man buttoned his coat.
My dear young man donned his hat.
He saddled his horse and rode off to war.
The arrow struck, he laid down his head.
My dear young man laid down his head.
The young woman laid her head on the cross.
Not for the green wine, but for the verdant greenery.

Tėvyne mūsų

Text by Vladas Braziūnas

Tėvyne mūsų, kur esi danguos,
mes į tave keliaujam didį kelią.
Plazdės žvaigždė maža vilties ugnelė,
kely tolyn lydės, kely paguos.
Tėvyne mūsų, mylinčiuos namuos
neužgesyk mažyčio žiburėlio.
Nakty nesyk, juodoj nakty žėrėjo
kai aš blaškiaus tamsus ir neramus.
Tu šviesa namų ir atminimų,
danguose gimus rytmečio rasa,
nakty šviesa keleiviui man,
tėvyne, tu man viltis, tu man tiesa.
Tėvyne mūsų, kur esi širdy,
ar tu girdi mažyte mano širdį?
Šventai tikėt, šventai mylėt ir mirti,
ir prisikelt tavy, tavoj vilty.
Tėvyne mūsų, kur esi danguos,
maldoj tavęs šaukiuos darbuos tavęs šaukiuos.
Vėl amžinam kely tėvynę regėsiu namų,
vilties, širdies šviesoj...

Ir išoko ožėlis

Lithuanian folk song

Ir išoko ožėlis į kopūstų daržą.
Melinga džiunga, nazaram cam cam cabulai judyt
budyt ožėli mana.
Ir nuėdė ožėlis kopūstėnei lapus.
Ir išėji kopūstėni su ilgu botagu.
Ir užkirta ožėliui parpilvą galą.
Melinga džiunga, nazaram cam cam cabulai judyt
budyt ožėli mana.

Užaugo liepa

Lithuanian folk sutartinė

Užaugo liepa, lioj dautuvo, lygioj vetalaj, lylia ratilio.
Dautuvo, dautuvala dautuvo. Ratilio, ratilali ratilio.
Turėjo liepa, lioj dautuvo, devynias šakas, lylia ratilio.
Visas devynias lioj dautuvo, vatralla laužė lylia ratilio.
Iš tų šakelių kraslalius dirbsiu, tuosi kraslaliuos pati sedėsiu.
Turėjo liepa devynias šakas, visas devynias vatralla laužė,
Iš tų šakelių, dautuvo, kraslalius dirbsium ratilali ratilio.

Our Homeland (Our Father)

Our Homeland, which art in heaven,
we travel over a long road to you.
A little star will flutter like a small flame of hope
that will comfort and lead us far.
Our Homeland, don't extinguish in loving home
that small light
That not just once gleamed.
When I was tearing - dark and anxious.
You are the light of home and of memories,
[You are] The morning dew born in heavens.
[You are] The light for me – the traveler, our Homeland.
You are the hope for me, you are the truth.
Our Homeland, which art in my heart
Do you hear my small heart?
To solemnly believe, to solemnly love and die.
And be reborn in you, in your hope
Our Homeland, which art in heaven.
I beseech you in prayer and in my work.
Again, I will see my Homeland in my eternal road,
In the light of home, of hope and of my heart.

And the Goat Jumped In

And the goat jumped in to the cabbage garden
Lying like in the jungle,
be careful for me.
And the goat at the cabbage leaves
And out into the cabbage garden
came a woman with a long whip
And the goat's belly was covered with a blanket.

Up Grew the Linden Tree

Up grew a linden tree in a flat place,
I had a linden tree with nine branches.
All nine broke in a storm.
From those branches,
I will craft thrones.
In those thrones,
I will seat myself.

About the Artists



The Mägi Ensemble is a professional SA vocal ensemble that presents music from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Their mission is to perform and record music from the Baltic region and to promote new choral works, especially those by women-identifying composers. Their vision is to use the power of music to connect with the community and to celebrate cultural heritage through the arts, empowering cultural understanding, community, quality, and commitment. Their philosophy as both a niche repertoire ensemble and a treble ensemble is to show people how music can empower, both in social responsibility and gender-identity. The Mägi Ensemble collaborates with members of the Baltic community, in Seattle, nationally, and internationally. Maintaining strong relationships with sister organiza-

tions in Latvia they consult with them regularly about repertoire and performance practice. As an ensemble that represents all three countries, the Mägi Ensemble represents not only each country, but the unified region. Each year they take part in the Baltic Deportation Memorial Service, where Baltic communities come together to honor and remember those who were brutally taken from their families in June of 1941. The Mägi Ensemble has also sung for visiting Ambassadors from Latvia and Lithuania as well as past Latvian president, Andris Bērziņš and past Estonian president Toomas Ilves.

Singers

Monica Armstrong
Marjorie Bunday
Egija Claire
Danya Clevenger
Natalie Ingrisano
Shelby Leyland
Maria Männistö

Jessica Martin
Julie Parsons
Michelle Urberg
KT Weld
Eliza Woodyard
Trina Wright
Kathe Yarnell

Ensemble Leadership

Dr. Heather MacLaughlin Garbes, Founder & Artistic Director
Julie Parsons, Associate Director
Peter Garbes, Collaborative Pianist & Managing Director
Ailisa Newhall, Board President



Heather MacLaughlin Garbes is Affiliate Assistant Professor at UW, where she developed the UW Baltic Choral Library. She is Founder and Artistic Director of the Mägi Ensemble, conducts the Everett Chorale, the Finnish Choral Society of Seattle, and the Seattle'i Eesti Koor (Estonian) as well as a conductor for the 2025 ESTO Global Estonian Song Festival in Stockholm, Sweden and is the Artistic Director for the 2026 West Coast Estonian Song Festival in San Francisco. In addition to numerous presentations at professional conferences, she co-authored the chapter "Baltic Languages: Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian" in the book *The Use of the International Phonetic Alphabet in the Choral Rehearsal* (Scarecrow Press).



Peter Garbes has been playing piano since the age of four. He discovered his love of collaborative piano while studying at MIT, where was rehearsal pianist for Jesus Christ Superstar. He has accompanied musical theatre and choral groups, including the Mägi Ensemble, Skagit Valley Chorale, and Youth Theatre Northwest. As a choral tenor, Peter has sung with the St. Mark's Cathedral Choir and the Evensong Choir in Seattle. When he's not behind a keyboard or singing in the back row, you might find him sweeping rocks on the curling sheet as part of the Philippines senior men's national team, biking around the Pacific Northwest, or applying his technical skills in his work as an IT Director.



Marjorie Bunday sings in both the contralto and mezzo-soprano realms. She has sung at the the Kennedy Center and Washington National Cathedral, performing with Washington Bach Consort, Opera Lafayette, Woodley Ensemble, and the National Symphony Orchestra. She founded the Denver Early Music Consort, which she frequently directed and soloed. In Seattle Marjorie has sung with Mägi Ensemble, St. James Cathedral Cantorei, Emerald Ensemble, Epiphany Parish Evensong Choir, Chorosynthesis, and the Byrd Ensemble. She has been a soloist with Seattle Modern Opera Company, City Opera Ballet, and Medieval Women's Choir.

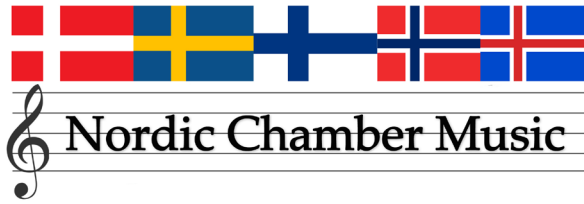


Steven Luksan is a composer, pianist, musicologist, and educator making music in Seattle. He is a pianist at Seattle Opera, the accompanist for the Norwegian Male Chorus of Seattle, and the Artistic Advisor for the Northwest Edvard Grieg Society. Steven's research focuses on Norwegian-American immigrant composers whose works he has performed accros the US and Norway. Steven received a MM in Composition from the University British Columbia and degrees in Music Composition and Norwegian from the University of Washington.



Maria Männistö is a soprano, teacher, and choir director living in Port Orchard. She performs repertoire ranging from early music to contemporary works, with a special affinity for Nordic songs. As a soloist, she has appeared with renowned orchestras including the Seattle Symphony, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Boise Philharmonic. Deeply connected to her Finnish roots, Maria serves as music director at Finnish Lutheran Church in Seattle and co-directs the Finnish International Choir, a vibrant global community of over 220 singers. Outside of music, she keeps bees, grows medicinal herbs, and tends a lively flock of chickens.

Join us for our upcoming concerts!



Norway Oda Voltersvik, piano
Grieg in Dialogue
May 2 & 3

Saturdays at 1 pm at First
Lutheran Church, Tacoma

Sundays at 2 pm at
Ballard First Lutheran Church

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Violin Virtuoso



more info

Tuesday, May 19 at 7 pm
The United Churches of Olympia

Sunday, May 31 at 2 pm
Poulsbo First Lutheran Church

Wednesday, June 10 at 7 pm
The Swedish Club, Seattle



Featuring
Amy Dodds, violin
Jonathan Spatola-Knoll, piano
Luke Fitzpatrick, violin
Laure Struber, piano
Svend Rønning, violin
Lisa Bergman, piano

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