

# SELECTED REPERTOIRE OF THE CHOIR

BACH            *Passion of St. Mark*  
                   *Christmas Oratorio*  
                   *Mass in G*

MAHLER        *Third Symphony*  
                   *Eighth Symphony*

BRITTEN        *War Requiem*

CHARPENTIER *Requiem*

BERNSTEIN    *Chichester Psalms*

BRUCKNER     *Mass in E*

SZIMANOWSKI *Stabat Mater*

HONEGGER    *Joan of Arc*

*Latvian folk songs*

*Works of contemporary Latvian composers*

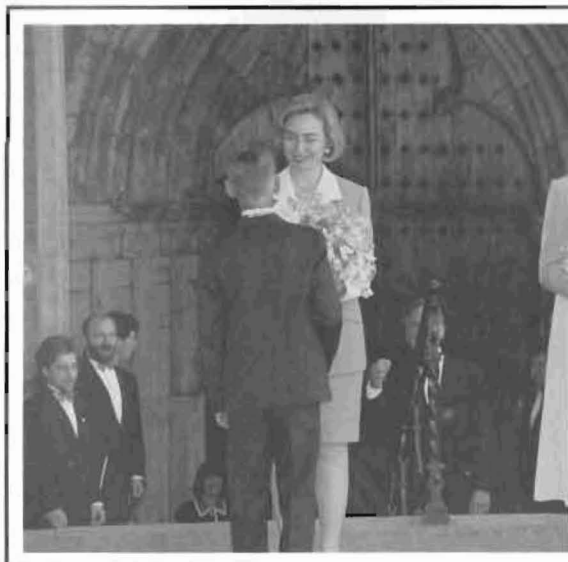
*Traditional music for boys' voices.*

\*\*\*



"It is a challenge to direct a boys' choir. What a boy's trained voice achieves, no instrument can duplicate. But to attain the clear voice requires many years of arduous training."

*Janis Erenstreits, Music Director*



*First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton received flowers following a special concert arranged in the Dome by the Choir, during President Clinton's historic visit to Riga, Latvia on July 6, 1994.*

\*\*\*



## BOOKING AND TOUR INFORMATION

*Latvian Cultural Assoc. TILTS, Inc.*

*Ilze Petersons, Director of Public Affairs/Tour director*

*Tel: (914) 428-7128*

*FAX: (914) 428-2915*

*Astra Zemzars, Assistant Director of Public Affairs*

*Tel: (216) 228-4029*

*FAX: (216) 521-8511*

*Girts Zeidenbergs, Chairperson*  
*65 Cedar Rd.*

*Katonah, NY 10535, USA*

*Tel: (914) 232-7438*

*FAX: (914) 232-7775*

*Credits: Photographs by Andris Tone and Janis Buls; Text by Astra Zemzars; Printed by Mezabele, 117 Northview Road, Ithaca, NY, 14850*



## *THE RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR*

*"National Treasure of Latvia"*

## THE RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR

*The Riga Dome Boys Choir, the premier boys choir of Latvia, tours the world bringing Latvian music and culture to the forefront of the international music scene.*

*The Choir was formed in 1990 as freedom began to stir in Latvia and Soviet rule was crumbling. The Dome, Riga's majestic cathedral, was changed from a concert hall back to a house of worship and became the home of the Choir.*

*The Choir began to master the vast repertoire of music which had historically been performed in churches, but had been unavailable under Soviet rule. Its repertoire today ranges from early church music to Monteverdi, Bach, Mozart to favorite 20th century composer, Benjamin Britten. The Choir excels in singing Latvian folk songs and many contemporary Latvian composers have dedicated their works to it.*

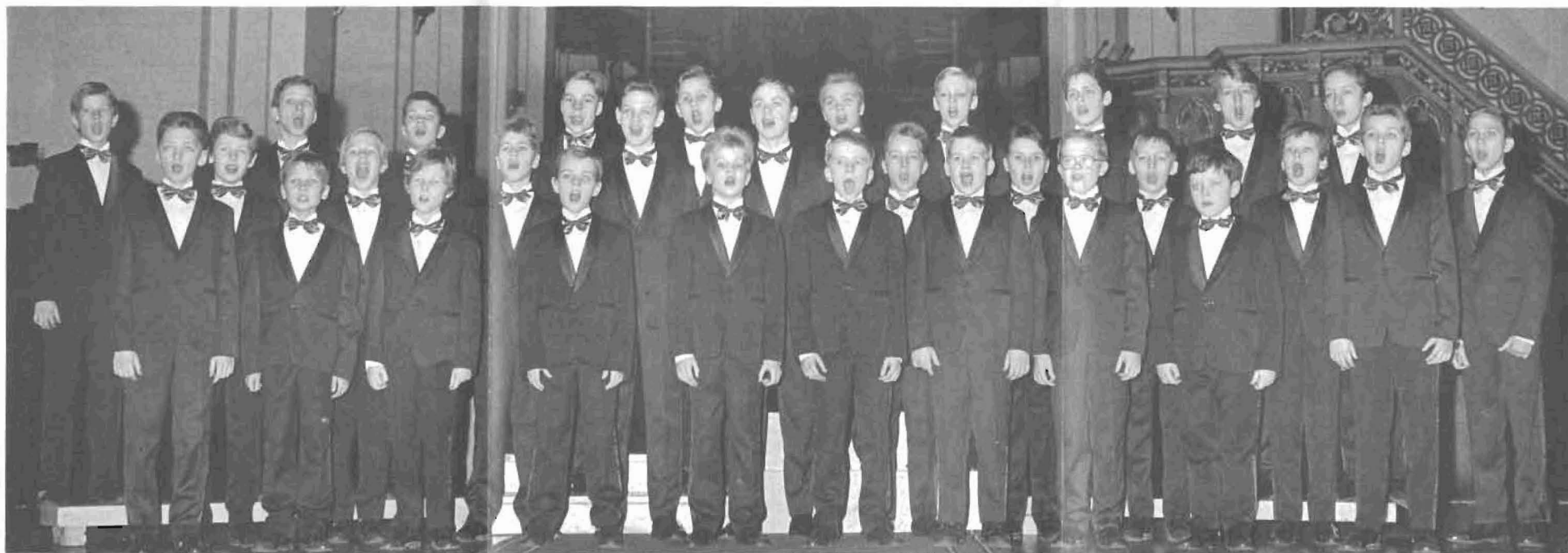


*The accomplished singers of the Choir come from the Darzins Boys Choir, which has thrilled audiences since 1950. From 1963 - 87 the Darzins Boys toured extensively throughout the Soviet Union and brought Latvian culture to the other republics. Since 1988, the Choir has performed in many European countries. The Choir's 1995 tour*

*of North America represents its second appearance in the US and Canada (the first tour was in 1992).*

*The members of the Choir attend the prestigious Emils Darzins Music School of Riga, where they receive a comprehensive education with emphasis on music. After many years of voice training the young singers audition for a place in the Choir. Each boy is a professional who can sing before any audience. Many graduates are leading professional musicians in Latvia as well as other countries.*

*At home in Riga, the Choir performs at many services in the Dome and presents Easter and Christmas concerts. Yearly subscription concerts take place with the Philharmonic Orchestra. It also performs at benefit concerts, regularly tours Latvia and hosts visiting choirs. The Choir will host the Second International Boys Choir Festival in Riga in April, 1995.*



THE RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR

### **RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR**

The Riga Dome Boys Choir was founded in 1950 and over the years became renowned throughout the former Soviet Union. Since 1987 the Choir has had an enthusiastic following in Europe. In 1990, the Choir became affiliated with the Riga Dome Cathedral, where it sings liturgy at worship services. The young choristers attend the newly established Riga Dome Choir School, where they receive an intensive music, as well as academic education. The Choir performs with the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, taking part in opera productions and concerts. Every five years, the Choir hosts an International Boys Choir Festival in Riga. The Riga Dome Boys Choir has performed in Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland and the United States. Following its 1995 U.S. concert tour, the Choir will be performing in Japan.

### **JĀNIS ERENŠTREITS**

Jānis Erenštreits recently celebrated 25 years as the director of the Riga Dome Boys Choir. He has toured extensively with the Choir through the former republics of the Soviet Union, Europe and the United States and Canada. He has organized choral conferences and festivals in Latvia attracting choirs from around the world. Presently, he is the director of the Riga Dome Choir School.

### **AIVARS KALĒJS**

Aivars Kalējs is organist at both Riga New St. Gertrude's Church and at the Riga Dome Cathedral. He has performed in the Baltic countries, Russia, Europe and the U.S. and participated in many organ festivals, including the International Organ Festival in Methuen near Boston and the Jean Alain Organ Music Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He has made six solo records of organ music.

### **MAJOR SPONSORS OF 1995 TOUR OF NORTH AMERICA:**

Ministry of Culture, Republic of Latvia  
Latvian Foundation, Inc.



\*

MEŽĀBELE: 117 Northview Road, Ithaca, NY 14850

Latvian Cultural Association TILTS  
presents

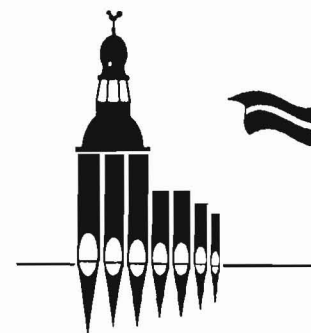
## **RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR**

From the Republic of Latvia

IN CONCERT

Conductor Jānis Erenštreits  
Organist Aivars Kalējs

ON  
THEIR SECOND NORTH AMERICAN TOUR  
September 30 - October 29  
1995



# I

## RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR

<i>TU ES PETRUS</i>	Gabriel Fauré (1845 - 1924)
<i>GLORIA</i>	Johann Christof Friedrich Bach (1732 - 1795)
<i>KYRIE</i>	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791)
<i>BATTAGLIA</i>	Andrea Gabrieli (c. 1510 - 1586)
<i>CANTATA: LOBET CHRISTEN EUREN HEILAND</i>	Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637 - 1707)
<i>TE DEUM</i>	Benjamin Britten (1913 - 1976)
<i>DEXTERA DOMINI</i>	Joseph Rheinberger (1839 - 1901)
<i>BOSSA BUFFA</i>	Arne Mellnas (1933)
<i>MESSIAH HALLELUJAH</i>	Georg Friedrich Handel (1685 - 1759)

# II

## RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR

<i>GARAIŠ SAUCIENS: THE LONG CALL</i>	Velja Tormiss (1930)
---	-------------------------

*LĒNI, LĒNI DIEVIŅŠ BRAUCA:  
SLOWLY DIEVS\* COMES* Selga Mence  
(1953)

*CIRCENĪŠA ZIEMASSVĒTKI:  
CRICKET'S CHRISTMAS* Jānis Mediņš  
(1890 - 1966)

*MADRIGAL* Pēteris Vasks  
(1946)

## MALE CHOIR

*SNIGA SNIEGI, PUTINĀJA:  
THE SNOW BLIZZARD* arranged by P. Barisons

## RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR

### BOY'S SOLO

*KALADO* arranged by Juris Vaivods

*KUR TAD TU NU BIJI:  
MY LITTLE BILLY-GOAT* arranged by Raimonds Pauls

*MANA LŪGŠANU GRĀMATA:  
MY PRAYER BOOK* Egils Straume

*THE ORCHESTRA SONG\*\** arranged by William  
Schumann

*AMEN* traditional

*ATZIEDI DVĒSELE:  
REAWAKEN MY SOUL* Raimonds Pauls

\*a mythological song about Dievs, the Latvian name for the ancient Indo-European god of the luminous sky

\*\* traditional Austrian song

## PROGRAM NOTES

**GABRIEL FAURÉ**, the French composer, was also a teacher, organist and pianist. Assistant organist at Notre Dame, Paris and close friend of Saint-Saens, he began to gain fame after the age of 50. While living in Rennes, he wrote his first church music, including the motet *TU ES PETRUS*.

**JOHANN CHRISTOF FRIEDRICH BACH** was the eldest son of Johann Sebastian Bach. On many occasions he collaborated with Johann Herder setting his poetry to music and creating cantatas, oratorios and other dramatic works. His choral compositions, including *GLORIA* from *WACHET AUF, RUFT UNS DIE STIMME*, are lyrical and imaginative in style.

**WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART**, composed many complete masses, yet some of his compositions, such as *KYRIE IN D (KV 90)*, remained as only part of a mass.

**BENJAMIN BRITTEN**, composed a wide range of modern vocal music. *TE DEUM IN C MAJOR* is one of his few sacred compositions.

**JOSEPH RHEINBERGER**, born in Vaduz, Lichtenstein, was a composer, organist, teacher, and pianist who made a significant contribution to sacred music. *DEXTERA DOMINI, GOTTES GEWALTGER ARM* is from *FIVE HYMNS, OPUS 140, NO. 2*.

**ARNE MELLNAS** is a Swedish composer who studied in Berlin, Paris and Vienna. He is known for experimenting with new sounds, and introducing theatrical elements in his compositions.

## RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR



### ITINERARY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN TOUR

Date	Time	Concert address	Ticket information
September 30	2:00 p.m.	Atlanta, GA - St. Luke's Episcopal Church	404-876-7216
October 1	2:00 p.m.	Winter Park, FL - Rollins College/Knowles Chapel	407-629-6954 (e)
October 2, 3	1:30 - 5:00 pm	Orlando, FL - EPCOT Center, Rotunda	407-397-3895
October 6	7:30 p.m.	Washington, DC - Washington National Cathedral	703-631-2928 (e)
October 8	4:00 p.m.	Oakland, CA - Mormon Temple	510-935-9769
October 10	5:30 p.m.	Dallas, TX - Dallas Museum of Art	214-867-6689
October 12	7:30 p.m.	Lincoln, NE - First Plymouth Church	402-476-9933
October 15	9:30 a.m.	Salt Lake City, UT - Radio broadcast "Music and the Spoken Word"	
October 16	7:30 p.m.	Salt Lake City, UT - Assembly Hall/Temple Square	801-240-3221
October 18	7:30 p.m.	Indianapolis, IN - Christ Church Cathedral	317-636-4577
October 19	7:30 p.m.	St. Louis, MO - First Baptist Church	618-344-7625
October 21	4:00 p.m.	Grand Rapids, MI - Trinity Lutheran Church	616-364-9723
October 24	7:30 p.m.	Cleveland, OH - Trinity Cathedral	216-579-9745
October 26	7:30 p.m.	Winstead, CT - The Church of Christ	203-379-2791
October 29	4:30 p.m.	Toronto, Ont. - St. Andrew's Latvian Luth. Church	416-755-8008

Tickets sold at the door. Contact each city for additional information.

*"In America, when we think of international boys choirs, we think of Vienna Choir boys or Kings College Boys Choir, Cambridge. We can now add the Riga Dome Boys Choir, which also has its beginnings in medieval times. ...It is one of the great boys choirs of the world. It is a choir of international stature. "*

James Litton, Director American Boychoir

*"... comparable to the Vienna Choir Boys "*

Wendell Hall, Bad Kissingen

*"... well balanced sound, precise articulation..."*

Badische Neueste Nachrichten, Karlsruhe

*"Whether singing a cappella or with the support of organ or piano, whether the material be modern arrangements of folk-songs or gems from the 17th and 18th century, the Riga Dome Boys Choir is an ensemble of remarkable refinement. "*

St. Louis Post Dispatch



Latvian Cultural Association, TILTS, Inc.  
65 Cedar Road,  
Katonah, NY 10536

## RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR

"National Treasure of Latvia"

On tour of North America, October 1995.....The Riga Dome Boys Choir tours with 24 boys and 12 tenors and basses....Director Janis Erenstreits....Organist Aivars Kalejs....Repertoire of selected works of Bach, Mozart, Buxtehude, Handel, Purcell, Latvian folk songs and music of contemporary Latvian composers.

The Choir participates actively in the cultural life of Riga....presents concerts with the Latvian Philharmonic Orchestra....participates in opera productions....performs in music festivals... sings liturgy at Lutheran worship services as the official choir of the Dome, the 13th century cathedral located in Old Riga.

Every five years the Riga Dome Boys Choir hosts an International Boys Choir Festival in Riga. In April, 1995, the Festival attracted choirs from America, Germany, France, Lithuania, Russia and Latvia.

*"The Festival was an international event of the highest order, and I was impressed with the complete and expert organization and with the high artistic level. The Riga Dome Boys Choir is especially fine.."*

James Litton, Director American Boychoir

## MAJOR SPONSORS OF THE 1995 U.S. TOUR

DELTA AIRLINES

LATVIAN FOUNDATION 

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, LATVIA

TOUR DIRECTOR: Ilze Petersons, 914-428-7128

TOUR MANAGEMENT: Latvian Cultural Association, TILTS, Inc.

Chairperson: Girts Zeidenbergs

65 Cedar Road, Katonah, NY 10536

DALLAS - OCT 10 ♦ LINCOLN - OCT 12 ♦ SALT LAKE CITY - OCT 15,16

# RIGA DOME BOYS CHOIR

JANIS ERENSTREITS, DIRECTOR



Photographer: V. Stipnieks

## IN CONCERT

ANTA - SEPT 30 ♦ ORLANDO - OCT 1,2,3 ♦ WASHINGTON, D.C. - OCT 6 ♦ SAN FRANCISCO - OCT 8

INDIANAPOLIS - OCT 16 ♦ ST. LOUIS - OCT 19 ♦ GRAND RAPIDS - OCT 21 ♦ CLEVELAND -

**TOUR MANAGEMENT:**

Latvian Cultural  
Association TILTS

**PROGRAM**

Bach, Mozart, Buxtehude,  
Handel, Latvian folk songs,  
and contemporary music.

**SPONSORED BY:**

DELTA AIRLINES  
LATVIAN FOUNDATION   
MINISTRY OF CULTURE, LATVIA

© 1995

WINSTEAD - OCT 26 ♦ TORONTO - OCT 29