

NORTH- AMERICAN TOUR

PERFORMING ESTONIAN AND
EUROPEAN CHORAL WORKS –
INCLUDING MUSIC BY ARVO PÄRT,
VELJO TORMIS, AND MORE!

Tartu Academic Male Choir,

Estonia's oldest male choir, is coming to North America to share the spirit of the Estonian Song and Dance Celebration and the richness of Estonian musical heritage.



8/20 Frederick, MD
Jack B. Kussmaul Theater
at Frederick Community College
7:30 PM

Richard Ritsing

Motto of the Tartu Academic Male Choir

Arvo Pärt

Seven Magnificat Antiphons: II O Adonai

Veljo Tormis

Bulgaaria triptühhon: II Ratas
(Bulgarian Triptych: II The Wheel)

Tõnu Kõrvits

Laulud Dolorese lauluvihiikust: III Kuu
(Songs from Dolores's Songbook: III The Moon)

Veljo Tormis

Kolm Liivi rahvalaulu: I Karjase päev, II Vastlad
(Three Livonian Folk Tunes: I The Herdboy's Day,
II Shrovetide)

Pärt Uusberg

Mis on inimene? (What Is the Human?)

Veljo Tormis

Astuġe ette! (Step Out Front!)

Ester Mägi

Üks hetk (A Moment)

Valter Soosalu

Me peame looma sillad
(We Must Build the Bridges)

Miina Härma

Kojuigatsus
(Homesickness)

Villem Kapp

Eesti muld ja Eesti süda
(Estonian Soil and Estonian Heart)

Rein Rannap

Rahu (Peace), **Meelis Jõesaar**, piano

Arvo Pärt

Für Alina, **Meelis Jõesaar**, piano

Veljo Tormis

Incantatio maris aestuosi
(Incantation for a Stormy Sea)

Arvo Pärt

Vater unser, **Meelis Jõesaar**, piano

Lyrics

Sieben Magnificat-Antiphonen: II O Adonai

O Adonai, der Herr und Führer
des Hauses Israel,
im flammenden Dornbusch
bist du den Mose erschienen,
und hast ihn auf dem Berge
das Gesetz gegeben:
O komm und befreie uns mit
deinem starken Arm.

(Magnificat-antifonid ehk oo-
antifonid roomakatoliku kiriku
advendiluturgiast)

Bulgarian Triptych: II The Wheel

Върти се, върти се,
Ту гладко и плавно,
Ту викхрено лудо,
стремглаво,
От север на юг и от изток на
запад,
През бури и слънтсе, през
нощи и дни,
През наши и чужди съдби,
През радост и съдби, през
смях и сълзи,

Seven Magnificat-Antiphons: II O Adonai

O Adonai, Lord and leader of
the house of Israel,
in the flaming thorn bush
were you revealed to Moses,
and on the mountain did you
give him your law:
O come and free us with your
strong arms.

(Magnificat-antiphons or O-
antiphons from the Roman
Catholic Advent Liturgy)

Bulgarian Triptych: II The Wheel

Spin, oh spin,
Sometimes smooth and
flowing,
Sometimes a whirlwind, madly,
headlong,
From north to south and from
east to west,
Through storms and sun,
through nights and days,
Through our own and others'
hearts and fates,
Through joy and sorrow,
through laughter and tears.

Върти се, върти се,
Колело на живота,
животът е устрем и вечно
движение,

Spin, oh spin,
O Wheel of Life,
Life is a striving and an eternal
motion.

Върти се, върти се,
Колело на живота,
животът е устрем и вечно
движение

Spin, oh spin,
O Wheel of Life,
Life is a striving and an eternal
motion.

А още сме млади ний,
Още сме жадни,
И още сме тука,
И още сме твои,
Да няма застои,
Че застоят е смърт.

And we are still young,
We are still thirsty,
And we are still here,
And we are still yours.
Let there be no standstill,
For stagnation is death.

А дълго ще бъдем ний
мъртви!

And we will be dead for such a
long time!

Elisaveta Bagryana (1893 - 1991)

translated by R. Viilukas

Laulud Dolorese lauluvihiikust: III Kuu

Songs from Dolores's Songbook: III The Moon

Kuu kumab kullane,
sääl taeva serva pääl.
Nii üksi, üksi -
Nagu sinagi.
Kuu, kumab kullane kuu.

The moon glimmers golden,
there on the edge of the sky.
So alone, all alone -
Just like you.
The moon, the golden moon
glimmers.

(Dolorese lauluvihiikust leitud
vanad tekstid)

(Old texts from Dolores's
songbook)

translated by R. Viilukas

Kolm Liivi rahvalaulu: I Karjase päev, II Vastlad

I Karjase päev

Jooda, jooda, pääva, juuoksõ
Siin, kus õva vežki juuoksõb!
Kuliz minnõn viizõz jara,
Lopiz minnõn nuka jara.

Seel' t' a, seel' t' a, aarmaz
pääva,
Neme vaalda guuogõmuna.
Se ju äb uuo guuogõmuna,
Se um aarmaz päävalikki.

II Vastlad

Zingī, pringī, vastalova, ee,
vastalova!
Zingī, pringī, vastalova, ee,
vastalova!

Aarmazõ jema,
Laz lapstõ tubbõ,
Aarmazõ jema,
Laz lapstõ tubbõ!
Käkanika lapstõn
Kiilmabõd jaalgad,
Kuziz käängad täaduks,
Kiilmist jaalgad jära

Zingī, pringī, vastalova, ee,
vastalova!
Zingī, pringī, vastalova, ee,
vastalova!

Kil tiiedub, Kil tiiedub,
Käkanika jaḡu:
Kukil' leibõ,
Kuolm kannõ voltõ,
-se um ni, se um ni
Käkanika jaḡu.

Zingī, pringī, vastalova, ee,
vastalova!
Zingī, pringī, vastalova, ee,
vastalova!

(sõnad rahvaluulest)

Three Livonian Folk Tunes: I The Herdboy's Day, II Shrovetide

I Shepherd's Day

Make haste Sun, make haste,
Run to where the river flows!
I've worn out my best shoes,
I've eaten my last crumb of bread.

Clear up sky, clear up.
The Sun looks like a white egg of a
goose.
It's really the egg of a goose,
It's our dear sun.

II Shrovetide

Sing, mummer, dance, mummer,
Sing and dance, Shrove
mummer!

Mother dear,
Let the children in!
Mother dear,
Let the Shrove mummers in!
The children's feet
Are cold:
They peed their shoes wet,
Now their feet are freezing.

Sing, mummer, dance, mummer,
Sing and dance, Shrove
mummer!

I know, I well know
What's a Shrove mummer's
share:
A small loaf of bread,
Three mugs of beer,
That's what it is, that's what it is
The Shrove mummer's share.

Sing, mummer, dance, mummer,
Sing and dance, Shrove
mummer!

(Livonian folklore)

translated by Ellen Sillamägi

Mis on inimene?

Mis on inimene?
Kas ingli vari?
Või igatsushüüd
Hingeühtsuse poole?

Igaüks meist on pill,
Läbi mille võrratuid viise vilistab
Jumala tuul:
Hoia, küll siis hoitakse sind.

Doris Kareva (b. 1958)

Astuge ette!

Mitte meie oma tasu ärgu
sõlmigu meid nüüd:
Isamaa, kuid sinu kasu olgu
meie elu püüd!
Ärgu iial kehitaгу vale meie
lipulla!
Puhtad pihud ehitaгу sinu
altart, isamaa!

Teid ma teretan, Eestimaa
pojad,
Kellel kulmud kuumavad töös,
Kellel südamed rindades
soojad,
Selginud sihid silmade ees!

Igavest kaob põline põud,
Ilmub isamaal teie jõud:
Astuge ette! Astuge ette!

Lydia Koidula (1843-1886)

What is the Human?

And what is human?
An angel's shade?
Or a longing cry
for concord of souls?

We are all instruments
of God's will and wind:
cherish
and you will be cherished.

Step Out Front!

Let it not be our own reward
that binds us now:
Fatherland, let your benefit be
our life's true vow!
Let falsehood never be raised
upon our flag!
Let pure hands build your altar,
O Fatherland!

I greet you, sons of Estonia,
Whose brows are hot from
honest toil,
Whose hearts are warm within
your chests,
With cleared horizons before
your eyes!

Forever the age-old drought
now fades,
Your strength appears upon
the Fatherland:
Step forward! Step forward!

translated by R. Viilukas

Üks hetk

Üks hetk, üks viiv, üks silmapilk
On eht ja püsiv kõik.
Ja juba kukub kastetilk
Ja juba langeb leht.

Üks harras hetk, üks vaikne viiv
On vaba jooksuhoost,
Siis murdub oks, siis vajub liiv,
Kõik jälle kukub koost.

Üks ainus sekund oksti puul
Seob habras härmalõng,
Siinsamas rapsab latva tuul
ja hajub õiehõng.

Üks põgus hetk, mis kestma
peaks,
Üks lapsepõlve hõik.
Kuid selle suure hetke heaks
Võib ohverdada kõik.

**Vladimir Beekman (1929 -
2009)**

A Moment

One moment, one instant, one
blink of an eye
Is all that is real and abiding.
And already a dewdrop
descends.

And already a leaf is falling,

One reverent moment, one
quiet instant,
Is free from the rush of the
race,
Then a branch breaks, then the
sand sinks,
And all falls apart once again.

For a single second, the
branches of a tree,
are bound by fragile threads of
frost
Then the wind snaps the
treetop,
And the scent of blossoms
fades away.

One fleeting moment that ought
to endure,
One echoing cry from a
childhood past.
But for the sake of that one
great moment,
Everything else can be
sacrificed.

translated by R. Viilukas

Me peame looma sillad

Me peame looma sillad,
Mis ühendaks me valu.
Me peame looma elu,
Mis ühendaks me valu.

Me peame looma ennast,
Me peame kandma vilja.
On täna viimne päev,
On homme liigä hilja.

Vaid lihtne iğitõde, võib elus
hoida meid
Ja headusega täita me elu
minuteid.

Me peame looma ennast,
Me peame kandma vilja.
On täna viimne päev,
On homme liigä hilja.

Me peame looma sillad,
Mis ühendaks me valu.

Juhan Viiding (1948-1995)

We Must Build the Bridges

We must build the bridges
That connect our hurt.
We must create a life
That connects our hurt.

We must build ourselves,
We must bear fruit.
For today is all we have,
Tomorrow is too late.

Only a simple, ancient truth can
cradle us in life,
And with goodness fill the
minutes of our lives.

We must build ourselves,
We must bear fruit.
For today is all we have,
Tomorrow is too late

We must build the bridges
That connect our hurt.

translated by R. Viilukas

Kojuigatsus

Nüüd õitsvad kodus valged
ristikheinad.
tuul mängib lillelõhnağa –
mu ümber sala laulvad vaiksed
leinad.

Ja sääł, kus tee nii pikk ja
tolmune
viib sinimetsa poole kauęele,
sääł kasekõne loob kui pilvi
teele,
et kanda kojukutset minu
meele.

Ja sala laulvad minu vaiksed
leinad,
et õitsvad kodus valged
ristikheinad

Ernst Enno (1875 - 1934)

Homesickness

Now at home white clovers are
blooming,
through fragrant flowers the
wind playfully blowing –
around me, quiet sorrows
murmur.

And there, where the road, so
long and dusty,
Leads far toward the blue
forest,
The whisper of birches creates
clouds for the path,
To carry a summons home.

And softly my quiet sorrows
murmur,
about the white clovers now
blooming at home.

translated by R. Viilukas

Eesti muld ja Eesti süda

Süda, kuis sa ruttu tõused
Kuumalt rinnas tuksuma
Kui su nime suhu võtan
Püha Eesti isamaa
Head olen näind ja paha,
Mõnda jõudsin kaota,
Mõnda elus jätta maha,
Sind ei iial unusta.

Sinu rinnul olen hingand,
Kui ma vaevalt astusin,
Sinu õhku olen joonud,
Kui ma rõõmust hõiskasin.
Minu pisaraid sa näinud,
Minu muret kuulnud sa,
Eestimaa mu tööd, mu laulud,
Sul neid tulin rääkima.

Oh, ei jõua iial öelda ma,
Kuis täidad südame,
Sinu põue tahan heita ma
Kord viimse unele
Ema kombel kinni kata
Lapse tuksvat rinda sa,
Eesti muld ja Eesti süda -
Kes neid jõuaks lahuta.

Lydia Koidula (1843-1886)

Estonian Soil and Estonian Heart

Oh, heart, how swiftly you arise,
To throb ardently in my breast,
When I take your name upon
my lips,
My sacred homeland, Estonia.
I have seen the good and the
bad,
Some things I managed to lose,
Some I had to leave behind in
life,
But you, I will never forget.

Upon your breast, I have
breathed,
Since I barely took my first
steps,
Your air I have drunk,
When I cried out in joy.
You have seen my falling tears,
You have heard my every woe,
Oh, Estonia, my work and my
songs,
It was to you I came to speak of
them.

Oh, I can never truly say
How you fill my heart to the
brim,
It is in your bosom I wish to lie
For my one and final sleep.
Like a mother, come and cover
Your child's ever-beating
breast.
Estonian soil and Estonian heart,
Who could ever tear them
apart?

translated by R. Viilukas

Rahu

Vaikusse, valgusse, puhtusse
minna
suudan, kui ületan enda.
Sinusse usun kui kindlasse
linna,
ära siis minema lenda.
Kõik, mida tunnen, pean
vaikima maha.
Sina, Sina vaid vaikuses kajad.

Tahan ja tahan nüüd taevaste
taha,
küllap siis seda on vaja.
Tahan ja tahan nüüd taevaste
taha,
selleks mul sindki on,
selleks mul sindki on vaja!

Mul on su ilu vaja,
mul on su elu vaja,
mul on su hinge vaja,
sinu ilu vaja,
sinu rahu vaja, mul on.

Urmas Alender (1953-1994)

Peace

Into silence, into light, into purity
I can go, If I can overcome
myself.
I believe in you as in a steadfast
city,
So please, do not fly away.
All that I feel, I must silence and
suppress.
You, only you, echo in the
silence.

I want to, I want to go beyond
the heavens now,
Surely, then, it must be needed.
I want to, I want to go beyond
the heavens now,
For this I also need you,
For this I also need you!

I need your beauty,
I need your life,
I need your soul,
Your beauty I need,
Your peace I need, I do.

translated by R. Viilukas

Incantatio maris aestuosi

XVIII: 29-34

“Veni, Numen, nunc in navem,
in carinam, Deus clemens,
adiuves ut virum parvum
desque debili virtutem
amplioribus in aquis,
in his fluctibus immensis!”

XLII: 197-202

“Vente, cunula carinam,
aqua, navem agitato,
opem ferto remiganti,
levamentum gubernanti
amplioribus in aquis,
ubi pontus est apertus!”

463-376

Transit temporis momentum,
interest haud longa mora.
Iam supremus deus Ukko,
ipse dominus aurarum,
flatus iussit, ut afflarent
saevos ventos, ut saevirent.
Surgunt flatus ad afflandum,
turbines ad saeviendum.
Zephyrus flat violenter,
Caurus ventus vehementer,
Auster gravius anhelat,
foede stridet Subsolanus,
eurus mugit malo more
acer Aquilo conspirat.

529-540

“Aqua filium vetato,
unda, natum prohibeto,
Ahto, pelagus placato,
aquae, Vellamo, catervas,
ne liquores super latus,
intra costas conspergantur!
Surge, vente, caelum usque,
pete nubila suprema,
tuam stirpem, nationem,
et originem et ortum!
Lintrem ligneam ne vertas,
puppim pineam ne mergas!”

(soome rahvuseepos
"Kalevala" XVIII: 29-34, XLII: 197-
202, 463-467, 529-540 ladina
keeles)

Incantation for a Stormy Sea

XVIII: 29-34

“Come, Deity, now on the boat,
in the vessel, merciful God,
to help the weak man,
to support the insignificant
in these broad waters
in these immense waves”

XLII: 197-202

“Wind, cradle the vessel,
water, drive the boat
lend help to the oars,
lighten the levers
in these broad waters
where a bridge is open”

463-376

Only a moment passed,
no long wait was suffered,
already the supreme God Ukko,
himself the Master of the winds,
ordered the gusts to blow,
savage winds to rage.
The gusts rose to a storm
Whirlwinds to a tempest
Zephyrus blew violently,
Caurus blasted vehemently
Auster panted heavily,
foully snarled Subsolanus
Eurus bellowed in an evil
manner
sharply Aquilo conspired.

529-540

“Water, ban thy sons,
Waves, restrain your offspring
Ahto, calm the seas
Vellamo, gather the water,
so it will not overflow
and amass in the sides!
Rise, winds, towards the sky,
seek the clouds above,
where your birth and your kind,
your origin and source!
Wooden boat do not turn over,
pinewood stern do not engulf”

(Finnish national epic "Kalevala"
XVIII: 29-34, XLII: 197-202, 463-467,
529-540 in Latin)

Vater unser

Vater unser im Himmel,
geheiligt werde Dein Name.
Dein Reich komme.
Dein Wille geschehe,
wie im Himmel so auf Erden.
Unser tägliches Brot gib uns
heute.
Und vergib uns unsere Schuld,
wie auch wir vergeben
unseren Schuldigern.
Und führe uns nicht in
Versuchung,
sondern erlöse uns von dem
Bösen.

Meieisapalve, Matteuse 6:9-13

Our Father

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

**The Lord's Prayer,
Matthew 6:9-13**

Tartu Academic Male Choir (TAM) is currently the oldest active male choir in Estonia. Since being established in 1912 it has been a pillar of culture during the brighter, as well as the darker times of the country's history and has played a major role in developing and preserving male voice choir music. These 113 years have brought joy to thousands of listeners home and away, bringing the choir numerous high awards from different competitions. For the last 10 years TAM has been the highest rated male voice choir in Estonia. The choir's repertoire comprises very diverse music – classical male voice choir, of course, as well as contemporary music, folk music arrangements etc. The choir's most beloved composers are probably maestros Veljo Tormis and Gustav Ernesaks,

Roland Viilukas has been the chief conductor of the Tartu Academic Male Choir since 2024. He has acquired a bachelor's and a master's degree in choral conducting at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre and has also taken part of various master classes, as well as studied orchestral conducting and composing. He has worked with many choirs and is currently a professional singer of the Estonian National Male Choir.

Made Ritsing has been an assistant conductor of TAM since 2011, but has been associated with the choir for much longer. She studied choral conducting at the Heino Eller Music College and music pedagogy at the University of Tartu. She is and has been a conductor of many choirs and, as of now, also teaches music theory and singing in different schools.

The Tour

8/17 Silver Spring, MD - Calvary Lutheran Church

8/18 Salisbury, MD - Asbury United Methodist Church

8/20 Frederick, MD - Frederick Community College

8/22 Toronto - ON, St Peter's Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church

8/26 New York, NY - Immanuel Lutheran Church

Special thanks

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**Tartu
Academic
Male Choir**