

# 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.



**8/22** Toronto, ON

**St. Peter's Estonian Evangelical  
Lutheran Church of Toronto**

**6:00 PM**

With Toronto Estonian Male Voice Choir



More information: [www.tam.eu](http://www.tam.eu)

**Richard Ritsing** Motto of the Tartu Academic Male Choir

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**Arvo Pärt** Seven Magnificat Antiphons: II O Adonai

**Veljo Tormis** Bulgaaria triptühhon: II Ratas  
(Bulgarian Triptych: II The Wheel)

**Tõnu Kõrvits** Laulud Dolorese lauluvihikust: 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** Astuße ette! (Step Out Front!)

**Ester Mägi** Üks hetk (A Moment)

**Valter Soosalu** Me peame looma sillad  
(We Must Build the Bridges)

**Miina Härma** Kojuiğatsus  
(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

with Toronto Estonian Male Voice Choir

**Gustav Ernesaks** Hakkame, mehed, minema  
(Men, Let's Get Going)

# 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  
advendilitungiast)

## Bulgarian Triptych: II The Wheel

Върти се, върти се,  
Ту гладко и плавно,  
Ту викхрено лудо,  
стремглаво,  
От север на юг и от изток но  
запад,  
През бури и слънтсе, през  
нощи и дни,  
През наши и чужди съртса и  
сърдби,  
През радост и скърби, през  
смякх 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 lauluvihikest: III Kuu**

Songs from Dolores's  
Songbook: III The Moon

Kuu kumab kullane,  
sääl taeva serva pääl.  
Nii üks, üks -  
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 lauluvihikest 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 jağu:  
Kukil' leibõ,  
Kuolm kannõ voltõ,  
-se um ni, se um ni  
Käkanika jağu.

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  
sõlmiugu meid nüüd:  
Isamaa, kuid sinu kasu olgu  
meie elu püüd!  
Ärgu iial kehitaugu vale meie  
lipulla!  
Puhtad pihud ehitaugu sinu  
altart, isamaa!

Teid ma teretan, Eestimaa  
pojad,  
Kellel kulmud kuumavad töös,  
Kellel südamed rindades  
sojad,  
Selgitud 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 saevendum.  
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.

Meiesapalve, 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.

Conductor of the Toronto Estonian Male Voice Choir:  
**Avo Kittask**

### **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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CULTURAL ENDOWMENT OF ESTONIA



UNIVERSITY  
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of Life Sciences



**Tartu  
Academic  
Male Choir**