



# INTERNATIONAL BALTIC SEA CHOIR COMPETITION

22-24 September, 2017  
Jūrmala, Latvia



Chamber choir *Audite*, Finland  
Opening Concert at Dubulti Church



## Jānis Ozols

Artistic Director of the  
International Baltic Sea Choir Competition

Jānis Ozols (1980) is one of the well-recognized and promising new conductors in Latvia and is also known as one of the former vocal group “Cosmos” singers. Taking active role in the field of academic music in Latvia, he is the head conductor of Riga region choirs and conductor and artistic director of mixed choirs “Maska” and “Pa Saulei” with whom he has reached notable achievements and won many prizes at internationally.

Jānis has gained his Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in choir conducting at Jazeps Vitols Latvian Academy of Music and has also studied symphony orchestra conducting in the Royal College of Music in Stockholm.

While singing in the vocal group “Cosmos”, Jānis has worked along with world known musicians - Bobby McFerrin, “The Real Group”, “Take 6”, “The Manhattan Transfer”, “The Hilliard Ensemble”, “The New York Voices” and the Icelandic music icon Björk. They attained several prestige prizes and awards through different contests and events including the Great Latvian Music Award in 2009.

His dream of having a high quality international choir competition in Latvia has come true and this is a new tradition that has been built to take an important place in world’s choral music.



**International Baltic Sea Choir Competition** is hosted by the city of **Jūrmala** - one of the most beautiful resort cities at the gulf of the Baltic Sea. The city is proud of its white sand beaches, cultural heritage and wooden architecture, including **Dzintari Concert Hall** – the most significant concert venue in Jūrmala since the end of 19th century. The Small Hall of the concert hall has an outstanding acoustics and it is highly suited for chamber and choir music. Dzintari Concert Hall is a pearl of wooden architecture, celebrating its 80th Anniversary Year in 2016.





# INTERNATIONAL BALTIC SEA CHOIR COMPETITION

22-24 September, 2017

*You are warmly invited to participate at the  
2nd International Baltic Sea Choir Competition.*

*We are proud to call Latvia a state of choir music and this  
competition is a unique place for the world's best choirs to  
meet in a land that sings!*

## APPLICATION

The competition welcomes mixed, male and female amateur choirs (16-49 singers). Applications for the 2nd International Baltic Sea Choir Competition are open from **15 November, 2016 till March, 2017**.

## COMPETITION SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER, 2017

Evening – non-competitive **Opening concert** of the competition at Dubulti Church.

### SATURDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER, 2017

Morning: **Compulsory Program** competition.

Evening: **Free Program** competition.

### SUNDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER, 2017

**Grand Prix final competition and closing concert.**

Performance of concert special guests.

Announcement of results and award ceremony.

## ACCOMMODATION

Special 4\* hotel offers (including SPA) at the best prices are provided to participants in a walking distance from the main competition venue - Dzintari Concert Hall.





Pēteris Vasks, Chairman of the Jury

## COMPETITION PROGRAMS

All choirs are required to participate at the Compulsory and Free program. At least 5 choirs scoring the best average results are selected for the Grand Prix final.

### COMPULSORY PROGRAM (12-15 minutes)

- Compulsory composition – **a composition composed by Latvian composer commissioned to the 2nd International Baltic Sea Choir Competition (in 3 redactions - for mixed, male and female choir).**
- Composition from the Romantic period.
- Composition written after 2000 at choir's own choice.
- Folk song from choir's country performed *a cappella* in unison.

### FREE PROGRAM (8-10 minutes)

- Choirs perform free program of their own choice.
- Free Program must comprise at least 2 compositions.
- Compositions of the compulsory program are not allowed to be repeated in the Free Program.

### GRAND PRIX (10-15 minutes)

- Grand Prix program must comprise 3 compositions.
- Only one composition may be repeated from compulsory or free program.
- Only one composition can have instrumental accompaniment.





Female choir *Balta*, Latvia

## PRIZES & AWARDS

**GRAND PRIX** – monetary award 3500 EUR and the winners' cup

2nd place - monetary award 2000 EUR

3rd place - monetary award 1000 EUR

For the best performance of the compulsory composition - monetary award 250 EUR

For the best conductor - monetary award 500 EUR



Youth choir *Ondrašek*, Czech Republic



Kaspars Ādamsons  
Latvian Culture Academy mixed choir *SŪLA*, Latvia



Female choir *Timotei*, Finland



Mixed choir *Noorus*, Estonia



Youth choir *Balsis*, Latvia



Male choir *Världklass*, Sweden





Latvian Culture Academy mixed choir SÕLA, Latvia

## COMPETITION 2016 - 11 choirs from 8 countries!

**GRAND PRIX** winner: Latvian Culture Academy mixed choir SÕLA, conductor Kaspars Ādamsons, Latvia

Youth Choir BALSIS, conductor Ints Teterovskis, Latvia

Female choir BALTA, conductor, conductor Māra Marnauza, Latvia

Female choir TIMOTEI, conductor Anneli Julén, Finland

Czech youth choir ONDRAŠEK, conductor Josef Zajíček, Czech Republic

Mixed Choir NOORUS, conductors Maarja Helstein, Markus Leppoja, Estonia

Kaunas Academic Youth Choir, conductor Adelė Mikalkėnienė, Lithuania

Female Choir GRUDNOVE ŠMIKLE, conductor Marjeta Naglič, Slovenia

Male Choir VÄRLDSKLASS, conductor Christoffer Nobin, Sweden

Chamber Choir AUDITE, conductor Jani Sivén, Finland

Vocal ensemble SEQUANA VOCE, conductor Laurent Brack, France

*Live broadcasting online, on TV and national radio  
commented by music professionals  
that can be followed worldwide!*





Grand Prix Competition at the Dzintars Concert Hall

## JURY of the 1st International Baltic Sea Choir Competition

Pēteris Vasks, Chairman of the Jury (Latvia)

Toomas Voll (Estonia)

Vytautas Miškinis (Lithuania)

John Galea (Malta)

Alexandre Beneteau (France)

## AWARDS

**For the best conductor:** Kaspars Ādamsons, Mixed Choir of the Latvian Academy of Culture SĪLA

**For the best performance of the compulsory composition by Rihards Dubra "Hail, O Star of the Ocean":** Czech Youth Choir ONDRAŠEK, conductor Josef Zajíček

## SPECIAL GUESTS OF THE AWARD CEREMONY

Vocal group *Latvian Voices*, Latvia



Vocal group *Latvian Voices*, Latvia



Chamber choir *Audite*, conductor Jani Sivén, Finland



Award ceremony, Dzintari Concert Hall




Female choir *Grudnove Šmikle*, Slovenia



Award ceremony, Dzintari Concert Hall



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