

Kazys Daugėla (*1960)



Latvian Folksong Suite arranged for concert band by Lithuanian composer Kazys Daugėla was commissioned by the Latvian State Education Content Center (*Valsts izglītības satura centrs*) for the 12th Latvian Youth Song and Dance Festival in 2020. Event are being canceled and postponed due to the spread of COVID-19 in Latvia. The Latvian School Youth Song and Dance Festival is the largest Latvian children's and youth culture and art festival, which brings together thousands of singers, musicians, dancers and participants from other artistic groups in Latvia and the diaspora. The festival is organized by the Ministry of Education and Science and the State Education Content Center.

Latvian Folksong Suite

In this moderately easy (Grade 2.5) suite, Kazys Daugėla uses three traditional Latvian melodies displaying a wide range of moods and styles from different regions of Latvia. The Latvian song style is unique, wonderful to experience, and is presented here as a tribute to this beautiful and exciting country. Here is a collection of three contrasting movements: *Trīs putniņi i skaisti dzied* (Three Birds Sing so Sweetly), *Es gulu, gulu* (I sleep, sleep) – based on popular choral arrangement by Latvian composer Ārijs Šķēpasts and the final movement is based on Latgallian traditional song “*Malni muni kumeleni*”. The melody regularly goes from one band section to another ensuring that the timbre remains varied and there is no question of monotony. This is an attractive suite which is within the range of the majority of concert bands for younger musicians and is perfect for festival or concert use.