

“Saare leib” (Bread from Saaremaa) – Veljo Tormis;
 “Kuu” (Moon) – Tudor Vettik; “Meeste laul” (Men’s
 Song) – Veljo Tormis.

Kontserdi teine osa sisaldas järgmised laulukoo-
 ride ettekanded: “Sääl kord kasvab kaunis kodu”
 (One Day There Will Grow a Beautiful Home) –
 Mihkel Lüdigi; “Su Põhjamaa päikese kullast” (Radi-
 ance of the Nordic Sun) – Tudor Vettik; “Sind surma-
 ni” (To you, until Death) – A. Kunileid; “Laul Põhja-
 maast” (The Song about Northern Land) – Ülo
 Vinter. See laul oli koreografeeritud Liina Teose ja
 Portlandi eesti rahvatantsijate poolt. “Ärkamise aeg”
 (Awakening) – Rene Eespere, pianist Scott Mangle.

Ka Portlandi eestlaspere austas tunnustatud
 helilooja Veljo Tormise külaskäiku, korraldades
 temale sõbraliku vastuvõtu kohaliku koorijuhi Kati
 Tamm’e kodus ligi paarikümne osavõtjaga.

Teise kontserdina esines Clackamas Community
 College auditoriumis 25. märtsil CCC “Unistus”
 Kammerkoor Lonnie Cline’i juhatusel. Kontserdi
 kavas domineerisid eesti koorilaulud. Kontserdile
 pakkus teretulnud elavust Portlandi eesti rahvatantsu-
 rühma “Tulehoidjad” ettekanded kontserdi alguses ja
 koreograafia mõningate laulude esitamisel.

Teretulemast!



Tuntud eesti helilooja, Veljo Tormis, võtab vastu
 kingituse CCC Kammerkoorilt nende kauaaegse
 sõprusvahekorra kinnitamiseks.

Puhake paremad pojad!



Vabaduse eest langenute mälestamine Eesti Vabariigi 88. aastapäeva
 tähistamisel Portlandis. Mälestuspalvuse peab Mati Sõöt.



Clackamas Community Kammerkoorid esinemas kontserdiga Veljo Tormise austamiseks.



Clackamas Community College "Unistus" Kammerkoor esinemas eestikeelse programmiga



Helilooja Veljo Tormise vastuvõtt Portlandi eestlaspere poolt koorijuhi Kati Tamm'e kodus.

PLAYFUL GUEST CONDUCTOR SOARS WITH SYMPHONY

The Oregonian, Portland, Feb. 8, 2006.
Music Review by James McQuillen.

Eri Klas / The Estonian leads a mostly Northern European program, with stunning results.

Frequent commitments on music director Carlos Kalmar's schedule leave plenty of opportunities for the Oregon Symphony to work with guest conductors and in many cases the results have been felicitous.

Visitors such as Michael Stern and Yakov Kreizberg have led memorable performances despite their relative unfamiliarity with the players – and perhaps, to a point, because of it.

Kalmar, who has a reputation for being strict and uncompromising, has done much to refine the orchestra's sound, but a sense of tension has lately crept into their performances together and gotten in the way of freely expressive playing.

If Kalmar is the disciplinarian dad, the best of his replacements are the affable uncles, and when they come to visit, it's time to have fun.

Eri Klas, who came last weekend for the latest set of concerts, also displayed the avuncular touch, to brilliant effect. A sturdy, graying Estonian with a wry expression and an understated style on the podium, he led the players through a mostly North-

ern European program Monday night at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in a concert noteworthy for its vividness and unflagging energy.

Between Eduard Tubin's charming, sprightly "Estonian Dance Suite" and Jean Sibelius' "Valse Triste" – played with breathtakingly hushed lyricism – was the biggest piece on the program, Dmitri Shostakovich's "First Symphony", and the alert performance was among the symphony's finest this season. Klas navigated through the mercurial transitions effortlessly, taking hairpin turns of dynamics and rhythm with a swift but wholly natural-sounding sense of ebb and flow.

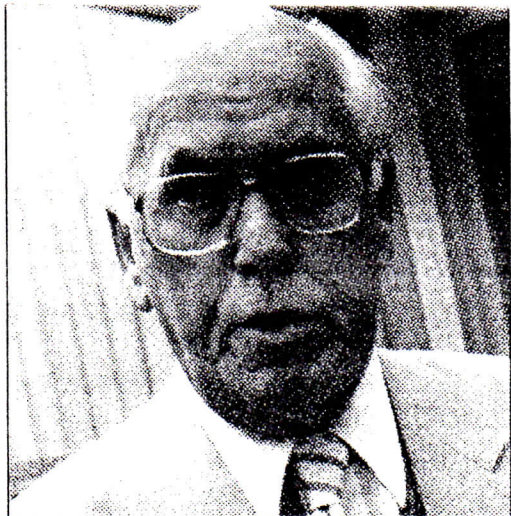
The piece has much of the wit, fury and feeling of the rest of the composer's work, and Klas and the players struck just the right balance of sass and soul; percussion and trumpet sections put in especially noteworthy contributions. The dazzling finale, Edvard Grieg's popular "Piano Concerto", was the concert's second high point. The soloist was the exceptionally fine pianist Benedetto Lupo, who has remarkably fine touch and beautiful tone control.

In smooth sophistication and flawless technique, he was reminiscent of his famed fellow Italian Maurizio Pollini, and he also summoned huge power in quicksilver passages without breaking a sweat. He and Klas proved an excellent pair, with timing and temperaments in perfect sync. Such was the energy of their collaboration that, in its final moments, the entire program seemed to have passed in mere minutes.



Maestro Eri Klas has a discussion with a former acquaintance Helmuth Kalmann in Portland

**“True European”
Lennart Meri passes away.**



Former President Lennart Georg Meri, one of the Baltic states' most admired statesmen and cultural figures, passed away on March 14. He was 76.

Meri died at 3:40 a.m. at Tallinn's Magdalene Hospital following a prolonged battle with brain cancer. Last summer, the leader's health took a turn for the worse, and in August he underwent brain surgery. Meri was hospitalized for a blood clot in November and spent the last weeks of his life on a hospital bed.

“The Estonian nation will remember Lennart Meri as a great personality,” President Arnold Rüütel told the nation in a televised address. “His work helped to secure and strengthen Estonian identity in times when a hostile, totalitarian regime ruled.”

At an emergency meeting on March 14, the government declared March 15 a national day of mourning.

Born on March 29, 1929 in Tallinn, Meri was the son of a diplomat. His life mirrored Estonia's struggle from a young boy enjoying the freedoms of an independent nation, to a Siberian exile after Estonia was occupied by the Soviet Union. By the time he was a young adult Meri had studied in nine European schools.

Gifted with a ear for languages, Meri became a leading translator and intellectual. He travelled extensively in the Soviet Union and Finland, and his books and documentaries on his journeys were widely regarded. Later, he became an active member in the nation's struggle for re-independence, finally reorienting his country back toward the West. Meri served as Estonia's president from 1992-2001 and was one of the most prominent leaders in all three Baltic states.

By The Baltic Times – Tallinn.

- A committee investigating allegations that military hardware was being transported when the Estonia ferry sank has completed its report. The government was likely to discuss the report – drawn up by representatives of the Prosecutor's Office, the security police and the information board – no sooner than March 16 and would then decide any further action.

- The Justice Ministry intends to increase the number of convicts released on parole and use an electronic surveillance system to monitor their activities. The head of the ministry's probation supervision service, Rait Kuuse, explained that convicts currently considered as an excessive flight risk would have to wear an electronic monitoring device. Joining the program will be voluntary for prisoners. Initially, first-generation equipment would be used for monitoring, which allows the authorities to track the person's movement within a radius of about 50 meters.

- Former Prime Minister Mart Laar has written a critical response in *The Wall Street Journal* to Russian President Vladimir Putin's earlier editorial in the same paper. In his article, Putin had identified the establishment of a reliable and comprehensive system of energy security as one of the strategic goals for the G-8, which Russia is presently chairing. Laar trounced on the opinion piece: “Somehow Mr. Putin's article reminded me of speeches of former Soviet leaders, when peace was praised, but in reality preparations for war were made,” Laar said “Russia's recent actions against Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia have made absolutely clear that Moscow has decided to use energy deliveries as a political weapon,” he wrote. “Putin's intentions became obvious when Russia unilaterally withheld Ukraine's gas supply following their price dispute, and in Moscow's actions against Moldova and Georgia,” the former prime minister said.

- Irish customs officers captured a 26-year-old Estonian at the Dublin Airport who had more than half a kilo of cocaine on him. The man was carrying 60 small packages of the drug, which weighed 600 grams in all, the Irish newspaper *Evening Echo* reported. The street value of such a quantity of cocaine is around 42,000 euros.

- Center Party Chairman Edgar Savisaar said the party would win next year's parliamentary elections by a wide margin. “It is clear to any dimwit that we're going to win the elections also this time,” he said.

Mother's Day

The earliest celebrations can be traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in honor of Rea, the Mother of the gods. During the 1600's, England celebrated a day called "Mothering Sunday". It was celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent. During this time, many of England's poor worked as servants for the wealthy. As most jobs were located far from their homes, the servants lived at the houses of their employers. On Mothering Sunday, the servants had the day off and were encouraged to return home and spend the day with their mothers. Special cakes called "mothering cakes" were often served.

In the United States, Mother's Day was first suggested in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe (who wrote the words to the Battle Hymn of the Republic) as the day dedicated to peace. In 1908, Anna Jarvis, from Philadelphia, began a nationwide campaign by writing letters and persuading influential people to establish a national Mother's Day. She chose the anniversary of her mother's death, which in that year fell on the second Sunday of May. President Woodrow Wilson made it an official holiday in 1914. The wearing of a colored carnation indicates that your mother is living; a white carnation indicates that she is not.

In Estonia the Mother's Day idea was developed and advocated particularly by the leaders of the "Women's Temperance Society". The first Mother's Day celebration was organized 1922 in Uderna Schoolhouse which was the birthplace of Helmi Mäelo, the future leader of the Women's Temperance Society. The first attempt was a success and in 1923 Mother's Day was celebrated on June 3 in 20 different places in Estonia. This continued until 1940, when Mother's Day was last celebrated with a concert in "Estonia Concert Hall" in Tallinn. During the following lengthy Soviet Union occupation period, Mother's Day was officially forgotten in Estonia. This event has been celebrated by the Portland's emigré Estonian community every year with various festivities.

Memorial Day

This year, Memorial Day will be observed on Monday, May 24. This federal holiday, (also known as "Decoration Day"), has traditionally been a day to honor those who have died in battle by decorating their graves. The observance originated during

the Civil War years. The first documented observance was at Waterloo, NY on May 5th 1865.

Memorial Day has become a day to remember all loved ones who have passed away by placing flowers on their graves. Let us especially remember our brave men and women who are defending our freedom in far away places this year.

June 14, Day of Remembrance and Mourning in Estonia

Whom do we remember and mourn on this day?

On this day we honor all the people who perished as a result of Communist terror in Estonia. We commemorate this day because it was precisely on June 14, 1941 that the first mass deportation took place in the Soviet occupied Baltic States, Western Belarus, Western Ukraine and Moldavia.

From the first days of the occupation until Stalin's death Estonians were imprisoned in great numbers. About 70,000 men and women were arrested. Some were summarily executed, most died in slave labor camps as a result of the inhuman conditions there. Five waves of deportations crossed over Estonia. As a result about 35,000 people were shipped to remote and undeveloped areas in the Soviet Union. Few ever returned to their homeland, their graves are spread over the vast areas of Siberian Northeast.

About 10,000 unmarked graves are in the Estonian forests and marshes. There rest men and women who lost their lives fighting the hopeless but determined partisan war against the occupiers after World War II had ended. The last of the "Forest Brothers" was captured and shot by communists in 1973.

Who were deported? The mass deportations stand out because the people – mostly women, children and elderly were punished not for what they had done, but who they were.

How were deportations carried out? Overall plans and orders were issued and came from Moscow. Local Communist Party Central Committee established the number of families to be deported from each region. The security apparatus, with the help of local collaborators, drew up the lists, which were approved by the party committees. The families were given one to two hours to pack their belongings, only as much they could carry. People were packed like cows into cattle cars.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

2. April	2006	Estonian Luth. Church Palm Sunday Worship Service & Sunday School	11:00 a.m.
9. April		Folk dance & kannel ensemble practice at the Latvian Center	4:30 p.m.
14. April		Estonian Luth. Church Good Friday Worship Service at the Latvian Church	4:30 p.m.
16. April		Estonian Luth. Church Easter Worship Service & Sunday School	11:00 a.m.
23. April		Folk dance & kannel ensemble practice at the Latvian Center	4:30 p.m.
27. April		Portland folkdancers perform at Holladay Park Plaza (50 min.)	7:15 p.m.
30. April		Folk dance practice at the Latvian Center	4:30 p.m.
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7. May		Estonian Luth. Church Mother's Day Worship Service w/performances	11:00 a.m.
7. May		Folk dance practice at Gethsemane Luth. Church	4:30 p.m.
7. May		Kannel ensemble performs in Mother's Day Church Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
13. May		Annual Yard Clean-up at the Latvian Center. Everybody is welcome.	9:00 a.m.
21. May		Folk dance practice at Gethsemane Luth. Church	4:30 p.m.
29. May		Portland folkdancers perform at "Folklife Festival" in Seattle. Int'l Dance Stage	1:40 p.m.
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4. June		Estonian Luth. Church Worship Service & Sunday School	11:00 a.m.
4. June		Folk dance practice at the Latvian Center	4:30 p.m.
11. June		Folk dance practice at the Latvian Center	4:30 p.m.
16.-18. June		Portland folkdancers perform at "Midsummer Festival" in Astoria	
24. June		Portland folkdancers perform at "Midsummer Festival" – German Am. Cult. Center	

"PORTLANDI TEATED" is the Newsletter of the Estonian Lutheran Church of Portland.

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Note: Please notify the editor of any address changes.

Estonians increasingly "euro-skeptic"

Less than 40 percent of Estonian residents are in favor of introducing the euro, while more than half are against it, a survey conducted in February indicates. Thirty-nine percent of respondents, conducted by the TNS Emor pollster and commissioned by the State Chancellery, were in favor of the euro, while those against comprised 51 percent.

Support for the euro has fluctuated considerably in recent months, with 45 percent of residents for and 48 percent against the common currency in a similar survey in January. Last November, the respective ratios were 41 percent and 54 percent.

The survey reveals that people are well informed about the procedure of the planned switch to the common currency. Just 8 percent chose the assumption that people would be entitled to exchange only a limited amount of kroons for euros when the switch takes place, while 82 percent named the correct option. The government had planned to adopt the euro by 2007, though this now seems unlikely since Estonia's inflation rate is too high.

From wire reports, Tallinn.

Eesti Iseseisvuspäeva palve

**Eestit, meie isamaad,
hoia, kaitse, Jumal.
Kuivata ta pisarad
Oma valgus kumal.**

**Näita meile õiget teed,
tarkust meile anna,
hoia puhtad Eesti veed,
nurmed, laaned, rannad.**

**Ja kui homme tundub must,
kui on tuuled vinged,
kalla oma armastust
igaühe hinge.**

**Ja kui väsib mõni meist
keset teed nii pikka,
õpeta meid teineteist
avitama ikka.**

**Hoia Eestimaad ja meid
ajatuules vinges,
et ei lõpeks laualt leib
ega rahu hingest.**

Katrin Keso-Vares.