



Latvijas Nacionālais kultūras centrs

Information for the media
03.06.2016.

World Dance Concert in Dzintari Concert Hall will open the International Folk Dance Festival 'Sudmaliņas'

On July 2, 2016, at 19.30 the World Dance Concert in Dzintari Concert Hall, Jūrmala will open the VIII International Folk Dance Festival 'Sudmaliņas'. Dance patterns of different countries and cultures will be presented by groups from Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, China, Latvia, Poland and Turkey. Tickets for the opening concert of the VIII International Folk Dance Festival 'Sudmaliņas' are already available in all box offices of SIA *Bīlešu paradīze* and on the Internet www.bilesuparadize.lv/events/perf/11657

Participants of the World Dance Concert will be dance group 'Mush' and dance ensemble of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and AGBU (The Armenian General Benevolent Union) 'Amberd' from Armenia, Republic of Belarus Honoured Group, Culture Centre 'Vitebsk' dance ensemble 'Ljavoniha', China's ethnic art troupe of Northwest University for Nationalities and Honghe Huayao Yi art troupe from China, folk dance ensemble 'Poligrodzianie' from Poland, Turkish folk dance ensemble of Çorlu Municipality and IDEMM Folklore Centre dance group from Turkey.

Folk dance ensembles *Dancis*, *Gatve*, *Līgo*, *Rotaļa* and *Teiksmā* in their dance will tell the story of Latvia and themselves. The dances created by the Latvian choreographers - Aija Baumanē, Uldis Žagata, Jānis Ērglis, Jānis Purviņš - many of which already belong to the golden classics, will tell about the values which we are proud of in our land.

'If winds make the mill wings turn and, discarding unnecessary chaff from grain, flour is ground in the mill, then dancers in the dance mills have transformed and have stepped across the threshold of Time where the ancient wisdom of the nation, today's energy pulse and the dance power meet each other!', says concert director Dace Micāne-Zālīte.

The procession of the festival 'Sudmaliņas' participants will take place on July 2, in Jūrmala, starting at 18.00 from Horna garden along Jomas iela up to Turaidas iela.

VIII International Folk Dance Festival - Contest 'Sudmaliņas' will be held from July 2 to July 7 in Riga, Jūrmala, Jelgava and Pilsrundāle. The festival programme includes concerts in outdoor and indoor concert venues, charity concerts in nursing homes and rehabilitation centres, festive procession of the participants, as well as dance evenings. For the first time in the history of the festival there is planned a dance ensemble contest that will be judged by an international jury.

The International Folk Dance Festival 'Sudmaliņas' is the most ambitious festival in the field of scenic dance in Latvia. It aims at bringing together dancers from Latvia and from different countries of the world, who get to know, creatively explore and inherit folk dance traditions. The Latvian National Centre for Culture has been organising festivals 'Sudmaliņas' since 1992. The author of the idea of this festival is the Honorary Artistic Director of the Dance festivals, choreographer Ingrīda Edīte Saulīte. During the years of its existence (1992, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2009), the festival has become a stable tradition and has gained high

praise from our foreign guests, Latvian dancers, the audience and critics. In the seven previous festivals, 114 Latvian dance groups and 93 dance groups from 43 other countries have taken part.

Home page of the VIII International Folk Dance Festival 'Sudmalīņas': www.sudmalinas.lv

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