



Press

There's something transcendent about hearing her glide between Latvian lyrics and spontaneous melodic phrasing, bridging the sacred and the contemporary in a way that feels both reverent and daring.

— Iain Johnson, *Odyssey Magazine*

Threading the fine line between folk and jazz sensibility... with a global appeal.

— Gabriel Mazza, *Mesmerized*

This is a compelling example of contemporary global music, in which Latvia's folk heritage, infused with influences from many other cultures, emerges in an especially unexpected and intriguing light.

— Mūzikas Saule, Kaspars Zaviļeiskis

Selected Videos

***Noriet Saule Vakarāi (Solo)**

Dziesmu Kamoliņš
(Music Video)

Caur Sidraba Birzi Gāju
(Chamber Ensemble)

Tumša Nakte, Zaļa (Solo)

Garland of Songs Teaser

Arta Jēkabsons Garland of Songs

**2026 Latvian Music Recording Award (Zelta Mikrofons)
Nominee – Best World Music Album**

A carefully crafted and heartfelt original creation that will resonate not only with Latvian listeners. Its poetic and abstract nature allows it to transcend borders and speak to the world.

— Anna Veismane, Latvian composer & producer of Latvian Radio
"Klasika"

A Contemporary Jazz Vision Rooted in Latvian Folk Tradition

Award-winning Latvian vocalist, composer, and arranger Arta Jēkabsons presents *Dziesmu Kamoliņš* (Garland of Songs), nominated for the 2026 Latvian Music Recording Award (Zelta Mikrofons) in the Best World Album of the Year category – an original project inspired by Latvian folk traditions and reimagined through contemporary jazz, improvisation, and global musical influences.

Created between Latvia and New York, the music weaves centuries-old Latvian dainas (folk poetry) with original compositions, exploring themes of memory, belonging, migration, nature, and identity. Moving from intimate vocal storytelling to expansive improvisation, *Garland of Songs* offers audiences a cinematic and deeply human concert experience.

International Ensemble

Featuring Grammy Award-winning and internationally acclaimed musicians from Latvia, the United States, Japan, Argentina, Morocco, Israel, Italy, and Thailand, including Ike Sturm, Keita Ogawa (*Snarky Puppy*), Leo Genovese (*Esperanza Spalding*), Edo Gur, Samir LanGus, Julie Kim, Zosha Warpeha and many more.

Available As

- Solo
- Duo
- Quartet
- Chamber Ensemble (strings & jazz quartet)

Performing Ensemble

- Arta Jēkabsons (US/LV) – voice, loop station, violin & piano
- Kengchakaj (US/THA) – piano & synths
- Ike Sturm (US) – electric bass & upright bass
- Keita Ogawa (US/JPN) – drums & percussion

Available for jazz festivals, world music festivals, performing arts centers, universities, and cultural residencies.

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