

EUROPARC Conference  
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Latvia



# Nature on your mind – inspiration of nature in music and the arts

**Silvija Nora Kalniņš**

Nature Concerthall Association Executive director



## ***Nature Concerthall* stemmed from:**

- musicians looking for inspiration
- scientists needing an alternative way to reach the public
- policy-makers understanding need to stimulate changes in human behaviour to drive change, bring higher awareness to sustainable development

## **Evolved into demand-driven event**

- audiences searching for knowledge on how to take concrete action on nature management
- people searching for entertainment, peaceful experiences
- exploration of new territories, new forms of expression





# WHAT IS DABAS KONCERTZĀLE?

- Latvian for *Nature Concerthall*
- Conducted from 2006 in two new locations each year
- Organized in three parts:
  - 3 hours during daylight of more than **20 workstations** providing interactive education
  - 10 minute **discussion** between scientist and audience
  - 50 minutes **interdisciplinary performance** crafted special for one topic





# ALMOST 15 YEARS OF BUILDING UNDERSTANDING OF LATVIA'S VALUES

Nature imprints on the mind through empathy and deepening understanding of one concrete topic.



WATER QUALITY



AIR QUALITY



→ popularization of less-known species and natural treasures

→ protection of specific habitats

→ educating on simple environmental indicators



MEADOWS



BALTIC SEA



MANOR PARKS

AGRICULTURE

GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS





- positive interaction between human activity and nature
- preservation
- confronting pre-conceived misconceptions
- presenting complex concepts



FOSSILS



MANOR PARKS

PLANTS



WATER QUALITY

AGRICULTURE





# PRECONDITIONS FOR SUCCESS IN KEEPING NATURE IN OUR MINDS

- Mutual interest from scientists, educators, artists to cooperate and create
- Commitment to the idea and freedom for experimentation
- Success in building informal platforms among creators for development
- Change of topics holds public's interest, suspense, intrigue year-to-year
- High professionalism and success increases support from volunteers, municipalities





# YOUTH IN NATURE CONCERTHALL

- Relaxed atmosphere
- More than 100 volunteers each year, over 60% people under 30
- Something to be seen, heard and a place 'to be' (photo ops, 'parcels' of knowledge)
- Innovation and experimentation in design, stage, approaches to symbiosis of art and science





# KEEPING NATURE ON THE MIND BY MINDING NATURE

- Need to bring people closer to nature so they mind nature more carefully
- Calculation of risks, compromise of event choice for protected areas
- Key scientist involvement to ensure the 'hero' is not compromised
- Sustainable-thinking across the board (transport, waste, respect to nature, local economy)















**NATURE IS ALWAYS GOOD!**

/P. Brūveris/

**[WWW.NATURECONCERTHALL.COM](http://WWW.NATURECONCERTHALL.COM)**