



Baltic Regional funds is a nongovernmental organization. It was born
in Riga, but Europe is its home. BRF's
energetic team organises activities all
around Latvia and participates in many
projects on European level. The
organisation works with people from
different age, education, social status
and cultural background. BaMbuss
Youth Studio is an initiative of BRF. It is a
special place for youngsters, where they
can develop social, artistic and
professional skills.

www.brfonds.lv



Youth studio BaMbuss was created by BRF in 2014 as a private initiative that brought from the very beginning young people together to design activities and events of their own interest. Youngsters have the chance to bring into reality their wildest ideas and projects, gain new experiences, learn useful skills and abilities, participate in creative workshops, and increase their opportunities by volunteering. Different skills are encouraged; from photo and video editing, to language learning, leadership, and intercultural communication.

www.jsbambuss.lv



Agency for International Programs for Youth Republic of Latvia

Agency for International Programs for Youth is subordinated to the Minister of Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia. The objective of the Agency is to promote youth voluntary service, activities and mobility (e.g. with EU, Eastern Partnership, MEDA countries, etc.). The Agency implements non-formal learning and information programmes and projects targeted at youth and those working with youth, and supports the link between non-formal learning and lifelong education.

www.jaunatne.gov.lv



The aim of Erasmus+ is to contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy for growth, jobs, social equity and inclusion, as well as the aims of ET2020, the EU's strategic framework for education and training.

Erasmus+ also aims to promote the sustainable development of its partners in the field of higher education, and contribute to achieving the objectives of the EU Youth Strategy.

Starting from 2019, find volunteering and other opportunities towards

European Solidarity Corps.

www.europa.eu

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## **Khristina Santos**

Born in Spain and reborn in Norway, Khristina is a writer, blogger and poet who loves travelling the world in search of adventures. After graduating in Journalism, she came to Latvia to get out of her comfort zone and expand her love for cold countries.

Currently studying Nutrition and Humanitarianism, you will find her cooking delicious plant-based recipes, diving her nose in a thousand books, and trying to pet the closest dog whilst daydreaming about her next expedition.

www.lavidauve.com

## **Laure Matillon**

Although she was born in France,
Laure grew up in Romania and
has been travelling the world
ever since she can remember.
Passionate about arts and
photography, she studied
Audiovisuals in Paris and came
to Latvia in search of the perfect
landscapes to capture.

If you don't see her laughing at cat memes, then you'll probably see her in nature on her mission to document beauty.

Determined to keep exploring and focused on her own pursuit of self-discovery, don't be surprised to find her among airports.

www.laurematillon.com

The book was created within the project "BaMbuss Volunteers".

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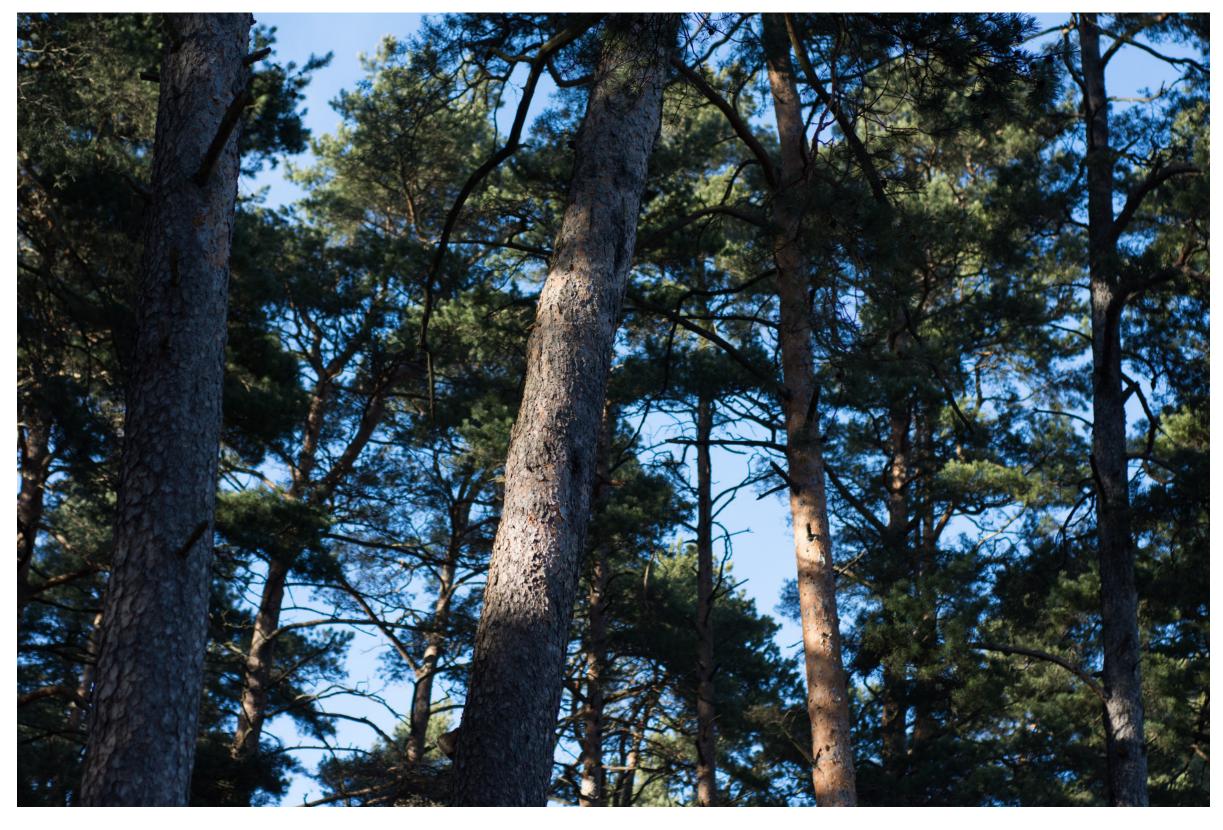
I found that words coming out of my mouth lifted the veil uncovered the hidden beauty of the new place we had learnt to call home.





I have never seen this Sun
I have never drunk these waters
nor embraced this coldness
from the Baltic forests and seas
Yet I have found a place where
songs have meaning
where sunlight is soft as it
wakes me up from the deep sleep
I've been holding onto the last years.





My mind, full of poems.

My heart, drowning with the tide.

My body, a cage

in search of a bird.

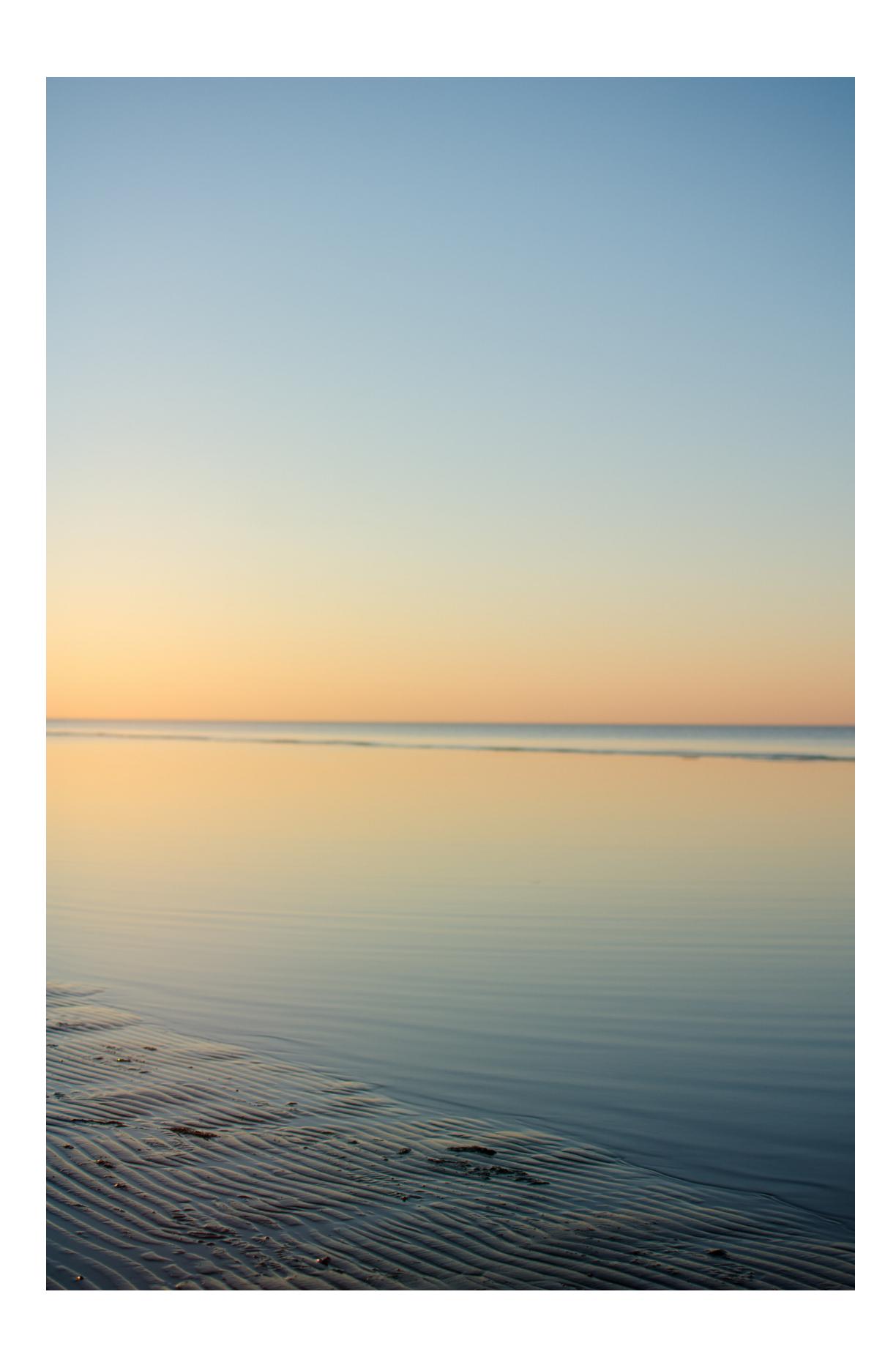


I keep running in circles and my battle always comes to choosing time after time to be soft again.





She raised from the ashes of the storm caressing clouds and waves. Feather-like touch, a drop of honey on her lips, petals on her breasts and galaxies painted in the space between her teeth. She was spring. But in solitude, she was the trembling hand opening Pandora's box.



There is a waltz playing in Jurmala. It starts quietly, you can barely hear anything above the sounds of the train. The trees, tall and proud, whisper in your ear in the language of birds. The seagulls guard the sky as dancers start to turn and spin, slowly raising their voices. I can hear their steps. The ancient turtle cries a long accompanying song, and the salt of tears and sea melt in the sand. Just by the coast, the wind lifts a couple of notes. The water is frozen, desert of snow and peace. Pink, black, purple and gray all collapse together at the horizon. There are no waves, so the waltz takes up its place. Both Sun and Moon want to dance, holding hands by the sea, turning and spinning as the train comes back again.



She crossed the world only to find she wasn't looking for a knight. She was looking for a sword.





I am not yet where
I want to be
but I thank the gods
that I am not where
I used to be.



I am the daughter of three different lands the fire the cold and the unknown.



What is home but the land beyond the sea? the wave that drowns you tender and carefully? the howling trees at night creeping through your window yet guarding your dreams?



I looked straight into the fire and heard my father calling up, up, up. What option do I have but to rise and head towards the storm?

I'm terrified to my bones but I am stepping up, up, up in a room of dirt and cold and full of ghosts.





I saw the jump in the air
from the cheery dance
the colours from the oak leaves and flowers
that made them all kings and queens
- crowns of hope and joy with their red lips praying with the rhythm
to both death and earth
to the gods that live in the cracks
under our skin.



First time the music played, I just listened with my ears, unravelling foreign words with my brain.

I saw the child cry and the three sisters hold hands and the blood on his chest, shown proudly lest they forget.

I swallowed my fear for the deep And asked for the song to be played One more time.

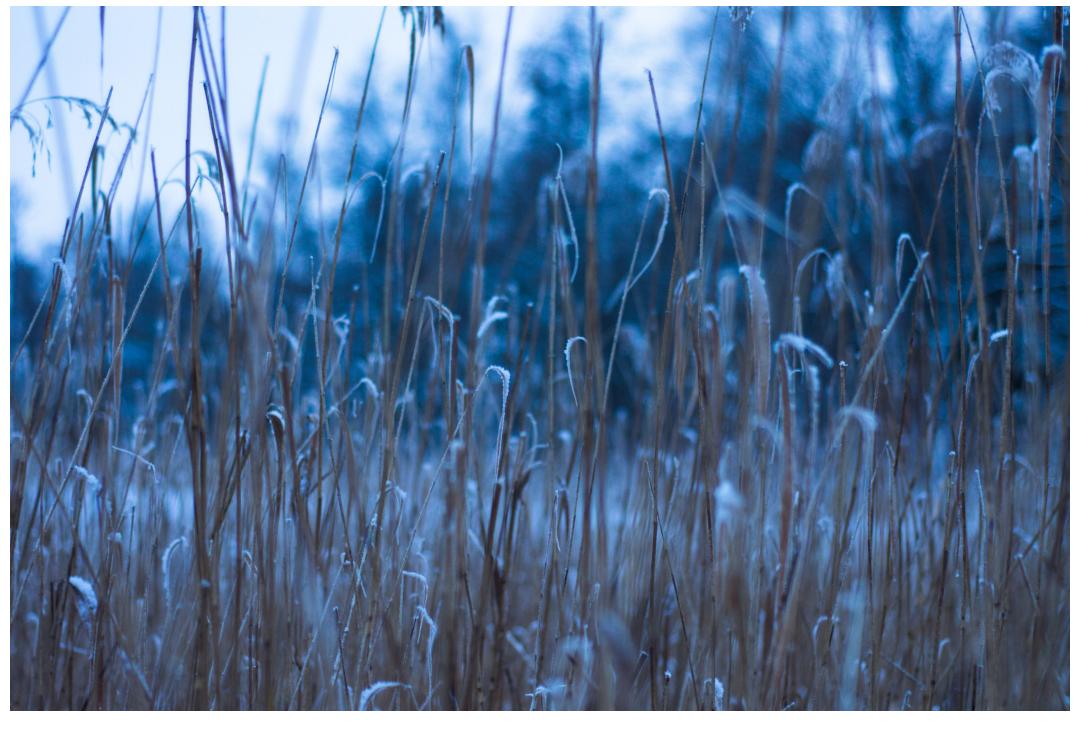
Second time the music played
the army of senses came to be, flavouring
the sweetness of a free nation,
touching the beam of light
only words can bring,
hearing the battle cries from the past
smelling the salty tears
still shed for the dead
seeing yet what lies ahead.





Labirints – no saulrietiem un velosipēdiem Absolūtā bijībā pret koka čukstēšanu mācās Turēt rokas, apskaidrot manu prātu, stāvēt pie sevis, runāt par jaunu Valodu – smaida un maiguma – drosmes un draudzības pilnu Ikdiena, nezināmais liek justies kā mājās, kur Absurdie sapņi piepildās.

## **BETWEEN WOLF & DOG**



"There is no real ending. It's just the place where you stop the story." -Frank Herbert