



blue star
Blástjarnan
jazz ensemble úngút



01

Einsetumaður (A hermit)

Music: Traditional
Poem: Traditional

Once-upon a time a hermit left his shed
It is said that he found a grove
A "feather flapper" sat in that grove
Beautifully called that bird
It sang sweetly on the birch in this grove
The artist lingered there a long time

That one said to the bird
"Soon it is time to return
The gentle day will be over
That is why I long for home"
Beautifully called that bird
"I remain most especially
Because of your call in this grove"
The artist lingered there a long time

Thousand years of your presence
Feel no longer than a day
The angels' singing sublime
Lord let us reach that place
Beautifully called that bird
Up to the haven, a poor verse
Carried by ocean waves
The artist lingered there a long time

02

Veröld fláa sýnir sig
(Deceitful world
shows itself)

Deceitful world shows itself
Foretelling hard times
Most of the straws on this earth,
big and small
Sting me

Music: Traditional

Poem: Rósa Guðmundsdóttir

03

Blástjarnan
(Blue star)

Even though the blue star sparkles brightly
It will never again dazzle my eyes.
There are two which are more beautiful
And shine much closer to me
Under Svava's brows

Music: Traditional

Poem: Bjarni Thorarensen



04

Sumarið þegar
setur blítt
(When the
gentle summer)

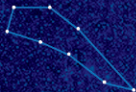
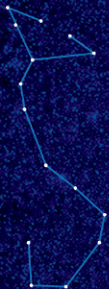
During the sweetness of summer
Do not forget the cold breath of winter

Twilight hides the beautiful light
Frost replaces warmth
The splendid Rose turns to dust
Stillness begins to howl

When the mild wind of good fortune smiles
Remember loss and sorrow.

Music: Traditional

Poem: Traditional



05

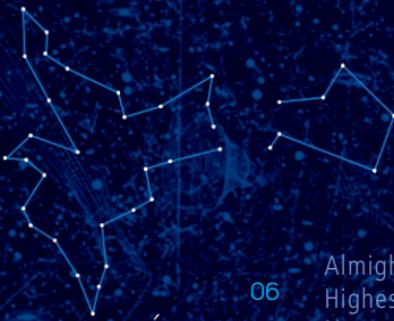
Blítt er undir
björkunum
(It is gentle under
the birches)

Music: Páll Ísólfsson
Poem: Davíð Stefánsson

I waited long for you
My fair lily
My strings tuned
Against storms and icy rain
Waiting for you under the birch
In the blue-forest at the hill rise

I led you into a grove,
My fair lily
The sun shining on the ocean
All summer long
The breeze singing in the birch tree
On the blue-forest hill rise

Bright flames,
My fair lily,
Leaped from heart to heart
In the universe
And it was sweet under the birch
On the blue-forest hill rise.



06
Úr Lilju
(Almighty God
of all men)

Almighty God of all men
Highest commander of angels and nations
Not needing place or time
Holding places with calm power
Being both out and in,
Up, down and in between.
Praised be You in all eternity
A true unity in three branches

(This poem has a hundred verses altogether
and is the most famous poem of the catholic
middle ages in Iceland)

Music: Traditional
Poem: Eysteinn Ásgrímsson



07




Fagurt er í
Fjörðum
(It is beautiful
in Fjords)

Beautiful it is in Fjörður
When the Savior lends sweet weather
The green hay in stacks,
Herbs and fresh halibut

But when winter turns towards us
I know no worse place on earth,
Man and animals die

Music: Traditional
Poem: Látra-Björg

08



Stóðum tvö
í túni
(Stood two in
a meadow)

We stood in a meadow
Her arms around me
My hawk-like woman with fair hair
Weeping bitterly,
Falling tears
Mind reflecting will
Wiping her eyes with a snow-white cloth

(A Viking's farewell to his wife in a meadow)

Music: Traditional
Poem: from Víglundarsaga



09

Móðir mín í kví kví
(Mother mine
in a sheep-pen)

Mother mine in a sheep-pen, sheep-pen
Do not fear that, that
I will lend you my rags
For dancing in, for dancing in.

(The story tells of a young unmarried girl who became pregnant. Rather than bringing up her child she carried it out to die in the cold. Later, she wants to go to a dance gathering but finds that she has nothing to wear. Then the ghost of her child appears offering her its rags to dance in; whereupon she went mad, never to recover)

Music: Traditional
Poem: Traditional



Hættu að gráta
hringaná
(Stop crying girl)

10

Stop crying girl!
Listen to what I say
I will give you gold in a toe
Even though Grímur takes yours

Stop crying girl!
Greater is the comfort
I will give you gold in a toe
Even though Grímur takes more

Stop crying girl!
It is true comfort
I shall give you gold in a toe
Even though Grímur takes all of them.

Music: Traditional
Poem: Jónas Hallgrímsson



11

Nú vil ég enn í nafni þínu (Evening Prayer)

Merciful God in your name
I want to lay my head towards
my place of rest again
And honor You
For all Your kindness.

Received from You today,
It is my duty not to forget
But I, humble man plagued with worries
May confess, regret and cry

I have offended in many ways
Your divine grace.
Wipe out my black sins,
Heal my crushed heart.

Music: Traditional
Poem: Hallgrímur Pétursson





12


Vöggukvæði (Cradle Song)

Beautiful complexion, blond, smiling
Tiny hands and pretty eyes
Her name is Sigrún

May growth and wisdom remain with you
May the deceit of the world never harm you

Weak is the will and weak are the children
May the Almighty protect you.

Slumber my Sigrún
Now sleep peacefully
May God, the father
Grant you a good night



Music: Emil Thoroddsen
Poem: Jón Thoroddsen



BLÁSTJARNAN/BLUE STAR

This is Vega. The brightest star in the constellation Lyra, the fifth brightest star in the night sky and the second brightest star in the northern celestial hemisphere.

THE SONGS

This is the sound of Iceland: cool and fresh, warm and lovely, dramatic and mysterious; absolutely exciting.

"úngút" is an Icelandic expression which means "to brood, to hatch (out); hence a new life". Ensemble úngút opens new musical doors with the traditions of Icelandic folk music.

The archaic and powerful sound of the music seems to be directly inspired by the eruptive Icelandic landscape.

THE ARTISTS

At the core of jazz ensemble úngút Rósa Kristín Baldursdóttir together with Peter Arnesen continue to enchant audiences with Blástjarnan/Blue Star

Rósa Kristín Baldursdóttir_vocals

Peter Arnesen_piano and arrangements

Bene Halus_bass

Einar Sigurðsson_bass on tracks 4 and 11



Rósa Kristín Baldursdóttir



Peter Arnesen

visit the artists
www.ensemble-ungut.com

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- ★ mixed by _Michael Wacht and Peter Arnesen
- ★ Mastered by _Michele Gaggia/DNS Studios
(www.DigitalNaturalSound.com)
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and Peter Arnesen

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06. Úr Lilju (Almighty God of all men)
07. Fagurt er í Fjörðum (It is beautiful in Fjords)
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09. Móðir mín í kví kví (Mother mine in a sheep-pen)
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