



SWEBLUL



February 15, 2008

CALL FOR NEW SONGS FOR THE FIFTH EDITION OF MINORITY LANGUAGE SONG CONTEST LIET LAVLUT IN Luleå, SWEDEN

On Saturday October the 18th 2008 Luleå municipality will host the fifth edition of the European song contest Liet Lavlut 2008, the one and only songcontest for singers and bands who sing in a European minority language. The organisation therefore calls upon bands, singers and cultural organisations throughout Europe to submit new songs in minority languages for the fifth edition of our songcontest. The song contest will consist of 10 to 12 singers or bands who represent European regions where a minority language is being spoken and sung. The song contest will take place in the brand new Kulturens Hus, the big concert hall in Luleå.

In previous contests, we have had songs in languages such as Basque, Breton, Catalan, Cornish, Friulian, Gaelic, Galician, Manx, Occitan, Romani, Saami, Sorbian and Welsh. The Saami have won the festival the last three times. We're therefore thrilled that Liet Lavlut comes to Luleå.

You're invited to send in newly composed music and lyrics in any of the lesser used, regional or minority languages in Europe.

Liet Lavlut collaborates closely with various other song contests in minority languages throughout Europe such as the Liet songcontest in Fryslân, the Netherlands, Laulun-Laulut, the songcontest for minorities from Scandinavia and the Baltic states, the Sámi Grand Prix in Kautokeino, Norway and last but not least Nos Ur, the first Celtic & Scottish songcontest in Inverness. The winners of these events automatically qualify for Liet Lavlut. Songs submitted to us in one of the languages of those other songcontests will be immediately forwarded to them.

A few bands already qualified for Liet Lavlut. The first semi-final for the Nordic countries, the Baltic region and Karelia was held in Pajala 2007. Mordens, a Mordvinian band from Saransk in Russia won the jury award and will be invited to Liet Lavlut 2008. Surunmaa from Sweden and singing in Meänkieli won the public award and is invited to Liet Lavlut as well.

The winners of the jury and public awards of the West European semi-final Nos Ur in Inverness on June 21 will also be invited to Liet Lavlut 2008. Furthermore, the winners from Liet 2008 in Fryslân, the Netherlands and the Saami Grand Prix in Kautokeino, Sápmi, Norway will be invited to Liet

Lavlut 2008. Hence, music groups in the Nordic countries, Russia, the Baltic region and Karelia are not able to submit entries directly to Liet Lavlut. The same goes for Frisian, all Celtic languages and other minority languages in the U.K, Ireland and Brittany. However, bands singing in a Celtic language or in Scottish are encouraged to submit their song to the organisation of Nos Ur before the 14th of March. Check the Nos Ur website for more details: <http://www.nos-ur.eu/>

The semi-finals send 6 bands to Liet Lavlut. This means that we have 4 to 6 open places for bands who sing in other minority languages in Europe. The selection process is done by a small and completely independent selection jury in late May 2008. Qualification criteria for the committee are the following: quality and uniqueness of song and music, language, geographical spread, gender and age.

You'll find useful information on our website <http://www.Liet-Lavlut.eu>. More information will be added as it becomes available. You'll also find information on Liet Ynternasjonaal and previous contests at the same website.

The lyrics and music should be new or newly written and composed, so-called traditionals are not accepted. Send your songs on a CD to the address below.

A committee comprising musicians representing the Saami, Tornedalians, Frisians and Celtic languages will select the 4-6 best songs to go forward to the regional song contest. Qualification criteria for the committee are the following: quality and uniqueness of song and music, language, geographical spread, gender and age.

The singers/groups chosen will be invited to take part in the contest. Liet Lavlut encourages participants to seek financial support for the travels expenses from the nation they represent. We take care of hotel and living expenses

Two prizes are awarded: one voted for by the international jury and the other voted for by the public. The panel of judges comprises a representative from each participating region. It is also our intention to arrange a live broadcast on the radio and the internet, which offers listeners the possibility to vote by SMS-text or on the internet. Of course the audience in the concert hall will be also be able to vote.

It is our intention to have Liet Lavlut registered for public television. Footage of the festival will also be made available for other tv-stations. Liet Lavlut usually attracts a lot of media attention. The fourth edition of Liet Lavlut in Östersund was broadcasted on television in five European countries.

Apart from the song contest Liet Lavlut will also consist of a few conferences and other concerts. The Council of Europe will host a conference on the 10th anniversary of the Charter for regional or minority language in the Kulturens Hus in Luleå. The School of Music in Piteå will host a conference on minority languages and music. Liet Lavlut will last for three days, from October 15 to October 18, 2008. The song contest is on October 18.

The organisers are:

SWEBLUL, the Liet foundation from Friesland, the Netherlands and a number of other partners.

SWEBLUL is an association representing the five minority languages in Sweden: Saami, Meänkieli, Finnish, Romani chib and Yiddish.

Liet Lavlut is supported and sponsored by e.g. Luleå municipality, County Council of Norrbotten, The North Calotte Council, Saami Parliament as well as a number of other sponsors.

The Council of Europe has taken Liet Lavlut under its patronage under the auspices of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Terry Davis. The Council of Europe also sponsors Liet Lavlut.

Please let us have your songs not later than May 1.

For more information, go to www.Liet-Lavlut.eu

Send you songs on CD to Birger Winsa.

For more information and in case of queries, please contact

Birger Winsa
Co-ordinator for Liet Lavlut

Adress for CD's

Liet Lavlut
Birger Winsa
Rapsodivägen 48
S-142 41 Skogås
SWEDEN
Cell phone: 0046(0)739328330
Telephone: 004687719370
E-mail: birger.winsa@comhem.se

Website: <http://www.Liet-Lavlut.eu>

Venue for the song contest: Kulturens hus, <http://www.kulturenshus.com/>

Hotel partner is the Quality hotel in Luleå where all artists, jury members and media will stay. The hotel is 300 meters from the venue.

Useful links to organisers, sponsors and partners

www.Liet-Lavlut.eu

www.liet.nl

www.lulea.se/

www.kulturenshus.com/

www.nos-ur.com

www.laulun-laulut.eu

www.saami-easterfestival.org

www.nordkalottradet.nu/

www.nll.se/

www.sametinget.se/

www.choice.no/html/page.jsp?inframe=1&langcode=SV&propcode=SE052

www.bd.lst.se

www.coe.int/minlang/