

TUNES & SONGS

OF FINLAND

sung by John Stark & Aino Karelia



M
1729.3
S795
F514
1957

MUSIC LP

6856

Polkways Records & Service Corp., New York, U.S.A.

SIDE 1

- Band 1. TUOMI ON VIRRAN REUNALLA—Besides the Stream
vocal by Adolf Stark
- Band 2. FINNISH POLKA—By a Cuckoo Clock
Instrumental by Adolf Stark
- Band 3. VIENAN RANNALLA—At the Viena River
vocal by Aino Karelia
- Band 4. KREIVIN SYLISSA ISTUNUT—Standing on a Hillock
vocal by Aino Karelia, Adolf Stark
- Band 5. FINNISH WALTZ

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SIDE 2

- Band 1. KEHTO LAULU—Cradle Song
vocal by Adolf Stark
- Band 2. POLSKA DANCE
Instrumental by Adolf Stark
- Band 3. DREAMS OF A SOLDIER'S LIFE
by and sung by Adolf Stark
- Band 4. CAREFREE VAGABOND
by and sung by Adolf Stark
- Band 5. MIKSI EN LAULISI—"Lapland" children
vocal by Aino Karelia

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Adolf Stark's family came originally from Sweden. His father learned the trade of bricklaying and stonework in the city of Turku (Finland) where he grew up and became so adept that he was sent to Lappeerants in the Eastern part of Finland to do masonry work for Russia's Czar Alexander the 3rd's summer palace. Some of the glazed tile from one of the fireplaces now decorates the fireplace of Adolf which he built in his home in Rhode Island. John met Adolf's mother, daughter of Matti Hoglund a construction engineer, in Lappeerants and married her. Adolf was born in Enso, Finland in 1893.

One day a man came to visit the Starks. He had brought with him a Finnish harp and Adolf, who was nine years old at the time, became very interested in the harp and asked his father to buy it for him. It became his life-long hobby to play it for his own pleasure and the pleasure of others. At the age of seventeen, Adolf decided to run away from home to join the circus which was in Karelia near the border. Adolf's act was to walk on the tightrope while playing a violin. Performing in the shows throughout the Karelian villages was a lot of fun. But Adolf's career in the circus was very short. One of the leading men was an athlete and a wrestler. They had an act where local men were invited to challenge the wrestler, and a cash prize was awarded to the winner. But the previous winter another circus had been to this village and most of the local men had learned the art of wrestling. Since the members of the circus were all shareholders, they did not want to lose money if the local contestants won. Adolf was chosen to be the wrestler's partner. Unfortunately, Adolf, in one of the holds, managed to get the wrestler on his knees. The wrestler became very angry and threw Adolf on the floor crushing him with his elbow and breaking a couple of ribs.

"When I finally reached home, my uncle persuaded me to go to America. In the United States I went to Cleveland to see my uncle. I bought from him a little Finnish harp that he had made, for ten dollars. In New York City I met a girl who came from the city of Viipuri, Karelia, and married her. Once after wrestling in a gymnasium I came home with my ear hanging and my nose bruised. My wife insisted that I quit wrestling and so I went to school in the evenings and learned bricklaying and construction. I have had a hand in carrying out the construction of some of the finest and tallest buildings in New York City."

Born in Finland, Aino Karelia has lived a number of years in the United States which is now her permanent home.

Daughter of a teacher (educator) she was brought up in an intellectual home with musical atmosphere, a home that was a center of music and literature.

Aino Karelia is a true Karelian. Her ancestors once lived in "Viena Karelia", near the White Sea. The hardships of the life and wars brought some

Karelians to the vicinity of Ladoga Lake. The Finnish settlement still extends to the neighborhood of the White Sea.

TUOMI ON VIRRAN REUNALLA (Beside the Stream)

Tuomi on virran reunalla,
Ja sen juurella minä itkin,
Tuomi on virran reunalla,
Ja sen juurella minä itkin.
Vieraille maille kultani läksi
Ja jätti mun tanne yksin,
Vieraille maille kultani läksi
Ja jätti mun tanne yksin.

Kätke tuoni kyöneleen',
sulje kuolo silmäseni;
Kätke tuoni kyöneleen',
sulje kuolo silmäseni;
Ole sitten ystävän',
koska jäin minä yksinäni.
Ole sitten ystävän',
koska jäin minä yksinäni.

Here beside the stream I weep
Standing sadly beneath a willow,
Here beside the stream I weep
Standing sadly beneath a willow,
For my lover sails the deep,
Far away in realms I know not.
For my lover sails the deep,
Far away in realms I know not.

Come, Oh death, and hide my tears,
Close my eyes and remove my sorrow;
Come, Oh death, and hide my tears,
Close my eyes and remove my sorrow;
Pity me and be my friend,
Visit me before tomorrow.
Pity me and be my friend,
Visit me before tomorrow.

VIENAN RANNALLA (At the Viena River)

Vienan rannall' koivun' alla
kuulin laulun kaunihiin,
aurinkoisen taivahalla
vaipuessa aaltoihin.

Siellä istui ihanainen
neitsy kanteleinensa,
sulhoansa surevainen,
vierasmailla kaukana.

Vienan virran pyörtehiä
kynnensilmin katselee,
aikojaansa ikäviä
neito siellä laulelee.

Turhiin rientää nuoruuteni,
niinkuin laine virrassa;
polttava on sydämeni,
kaipaus on rinnassa.

Kohta kuihtuu kukka liljan,
surkastuupi muotoni.
Kultani! jos tulet hiljan,
löydät vaan mun hautani.

Näitä neidon laulellessa
luonto laski levolleen;
vaikeni jo lehvikossa
leivonenkin lauluineen.

At the Viena River
(Near the white sea - Finnish folk melody)

Under the romantic birch tree
Sweet singing spread around -
Hot summer sun rays
Glorifying the water.

There sat a beautiful maiden
Beloved "kantele" on her lap -
Grieving her sweetheart
Far away in the foreign land.

The waves of the "Viena river"
Tears, sadness brings to her mind;
Lonely days, loneliness of the young heart
Makes her even more sad

Very soon, very soon, the white lily will fade away...
Very soon the youthful days are gone
Darling! If you do delay your homecoming-
You'll find my "grave" instead

KREIVIN SYLISSA ISTUNUT (Standing on a Hillock)

is one of the most beautiful ballads in the Finnish
language and one of the very rare ballads of chivalry.
Knightly romance did not flourish to any great degree
in Finland, but there were some centres of splendour
even here.

Olavinlinna on Suomen kauneimpia ja runollisimpia
keskiaikaisia muistomerkkejä.

Minä seisoin korkealla vuorella,
viherjäisessä laaksossa.
Minä seisoin korkealla vuorella,
viherjäisessä laaksossa.
Näin, näin minä laivan seilaavan,
kolme kreiviä laivalla.
Näin, näin minä laivan seilaavan,
kolme kreiviä laivalla.

/: He laskivat laivan rannalle,
kivät maalle astumaan; :/
/: ja se nuorin kreiveistä kaikista
tuli minua kihlaamaan. :/

/: Hän otti sormuksen sormestaan,
ja se oli kultainen; :/
/: "Katsos nyt, minun
sinä saat tämän

/: Tyttö istui kreivinsä sylissä,
moni muistui mielehen; :/
/: yö joutui ja päivä oli laskenut,
hän nukkui kreivin vierehen. :/

/: Aamulla koska tyttö heräsi,
oli hän ihan yksinään; :/
/: pois laiva lähtenyt rannalta,
pois kreivikin vierestään. :/

(Translation by Alex Bryan)

Standing on a hillock well above the lake,
With a view over vale and lea;
Standing on a hillock well above the lake,
With a view over vale and lea;
I saw a fine sailing ship approach,
Bearing three noblemen toward me.
I saw a fine sailing ship approach,
Bearing three noblemen toward me.

/: Soon they neared the shore with sailing ship,
Then they came all three on land; :/
/: And strange to relate the youngest man
Came to me to ask my hand. :/

/: From his hand he took a ring of finest gold
And he held it before my eyes. :/
/: "Look here, pretty maid, I'll give you this,"
Said he in solemn wise. :/

/: So the maiden sat upon the young man's knee,
Where she thought of her lover true; :/
/: But evening soon came and by his side
She slept the long night through. :/

/: In the morning when she wakened from her sleep,
She was there all alone she found. :/
/: The ship with the sails, once fastened to the shore,
Had departed without a sound. :/

KEHTO LAULU (Cradle Song)

Pium paum kehto heilahtaa
ja lapsi viatoinna nukahtaa
Pium paum Äiti laulaa vain
Kun sydan käpyänsä tundittaa.

Pium paum Viulu vingahtaa
ja nuoret karkeloihin kiiruhtaa
Pium paum nauti elämää
Sillain kun se sulle hymyää

Pium paum kerran kajahtaa
Tuo kirkon kello sulle ilmoittaa
pois pois henki vaeltaa
ja ruumis mullan alla majan saa.

Pium paum cradle swaying on
Innocently baby falls asleep
Pium paum mother singing on
As her darling she keeps swaying on.

Pium paum sound of fiddle creaks
In haste the youngsters dancing go
Pium paum go enjoy your life
While it still smiles at you.

Pium paum some day bells will clang
The Church bell to you will make it known
Away away your soul is roaming on
And under the soil your body is at rest.

DREAMS OF A SOLDIER IN A TRENCH

by John A. Stark

Once in a summer evening
Swinging my beloved one
Dreamt the dreams of a lover
That someday you'd be my own
Those smiling lips I believed in
The happiness of spring I'm awaiting
O, let me caress your hair so lovely
Let me someday call you my own.

A long time has passed since summer
The swing has perhaps decayed
The path we walked together

Perhaps all covered by trees
May I ever see you my darling
To caress your hair so lovely
The only dream I wish to remember
Is that our paths lead to that swing again.

CAREFREE VAGABOND

by John A. Stark

Heigh-ho my song is ringing
I'm a gay carefree vagabond
I used up my money on drink
Cause I can't live as a man of wealth
Heigh-ho heigh-ho heigh-ho
And I used up my money on drink
Cause I can't live as a man of wealth.

For my darling I made a ring of birch bark
With which we became engaged
Since the birch bark rings and my loves
Lasted for only one night at a time
Since the birch bark rings and my loves
Lasted for only one night at a time.

MIKSI EN LAULAI SI (Kanteletar)

Laulavat Lapinki lapset, heinäkengät heittelevät
hirven harvoilta lihoilta, petran pienen pallehilta;
niin miks en minäi laula, miks ei laula meiän lapset
ruoalta rukihiselta, suulta suurukselliselta?

Laulavat Lapinki lapset, heinäkengät heittelevät,
vesimaljan juotuansa, petäjaisen purtuansa;
niin miks en minäi laula, miks ei laula meiän lapset
juomalta jyvälliselta, oluelta ohraiselta?

Laulavat Lapinki lapset, heinäkengät heittelevät,
nokisilta nuotioilta, hiilisiltä hiertimiltä;
niin miks en minäi laula, miks ei laula meiän lapset
lavitsoilta lautaisilta, huonehilta honkaisilta?

"Lapland" children
Singing carefree -
Wearing shoes,
Made of fiber --
Less fed with tasty deer meat
Less fed with tasty deer meat
Why I shouldn't sing - too?
Why our children couldn't sing too!
We are fed with the rich, rye bread,
We have had plenty feel of everything!

Lapland children
Singing carefree -
Wearing shoes,
Made of fiber (obs! kuitusaije)

Vesimaljan juotuansa
(After drinking kristall water,)

Petäjaisen purtuansa;
(After eating "Petta" - bread.)
(Petta - 'Skin of the pine tree, mixed with flour')

Niin miks' en minakin laula
(Why I shouldn't sing too -)

Miks' ei laula meiän lapset:
(Why our children shouldn't sing too:)

Juomilta jyvällisilta,
(Drinking "Kaljo" made of rye,)

Oluelta ohraiselta?
(Tasty "Kaljo" made of barley?)

Niin miks' en minakin laula,
(Why I shouldn't sing too!)

Miks' ei laula meiän lapset:
(Why our children shouldn't sing - too:)

Lavitsoilta lautaisilta,
(Praising bed large and woody,)

Huonehilta honkaisilta.
(Praising the house- made of pine-trees -),

