

Dace Kokle, director and show manager: “This is the year (2023) of showing off. Now in the Riga Palace the parties are bragging about the candidate for prime minister who comes to power. But the regional shows that filled the singing year were and are much more heartfelt and deeper, when everyone shows the best that they have. And “Klajumi” is ready to show off. We are meeting at the “Foals fun (Kumeļu rotaļas)” for the 12th time and today we have prepared 12 performances for you. And “Klajumi” is proud of its region. Our horse and nature show this year is dedicated to Selia region. This is historical land, relatively recently only secured by law.

Selia is the farthest south-eastern corner of Latvia, the left bank of the Upper Daugava is a kind of gateway and calling card of Latvia. Of course, historically the villages lived here alternately with the Latgalians, and many still consider this part to be Latgalian. But could this stop the “Klajumi” from naming last year's Latvian mare Selda's foal after Selia (Sēlija)? Let's pay tribute to the main participants of this year's Foal Games - Flora's boy Safrans and, of course, the beautiful Sēlija. Let honor and glory be given to the horses of Latvia.” August 2023

Arvids Babris, music director of the show:

“Kumeļu rotaļas (Foals fun).” Foals. Games. Games and foals. These words express everything - both in different combinations and separately: youth, impetuosity, energy, unrestrainedness and joy, play, improvisation, friendliness. The list goes on. And all this can be seen in “Klajumi”, where a man and a horse meet, and not just meet (we are talking more about the audience), but merge into a single whole (we are talking about the participants) in all its beauty and harmony.

And it turns out that it's not a problem at all that the riders are mostly young, even very young; most of them had already competed in many Foal Games, and the more observant guests had the opportunity to watch the little goofs develop into fine riders, trotting, galloping, jumping, training with and on horses. But above all, this is the feeling of the Latvian village - with the smell of the nearby bends of the Daugava, with the aroma of rural/Latgalian food and drinks, with the creations of artisans, with music coming from our roots, with the strength of the owners of their land and the land itself. With continuity. Latvia continues. Through foals and games.

Guntis Rozītis, associate professor of LU: For twelve years now, an emotional event called “Falt Games” has been taking place in “Klajumi”, Kaplava parish, Kraslava region. I participated in almost all of them, with a few exceptions. Therefore, I can safely say that such things can only be seen and enjoyed here.

The event is especially attractive because it fits perfectly into these beautiful hills of Selia, which are decorated with a cultivated herd of Latvian Warmblood horses. And we see in nature that our national value is the Latvian breed of horses, which can be perfectly used both for tourism along forest paths and along roads, as a rider in various performances, for riding children, pulling carts and much more. The farm, whose main activity is tourism, under the leadership of Ilze Stabulniece, also carries out certain genealogical work to cultivate the genetic resource of the breed, replenishing the herd with a representative of the Latvian horse breed - the filly.

The event perfectly showcased the different uses of the horse that complement other artistic values. And, probably, this is the only place in Latvia where something like this happens and delights and educates visitors. Other counties in Latvia should learn from the people of “Klajumu” how to please spectators by emphasizing the value of the Latvian horse.

This year, especially with a large number of visitors, it is clear that people love it!

Thank you for the sincere pleasure and good luck to the entire “Klajumu” team, so that they do not get tired and continue to delight us in the future! August 2023.