

Rued Langgaard
POLARSTJERNEN
THE POLAR STAR

(1926/1948)

BVN 196

FOR SYMFONISK BLÆSERORKESTER

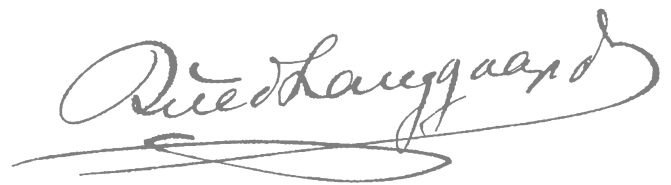
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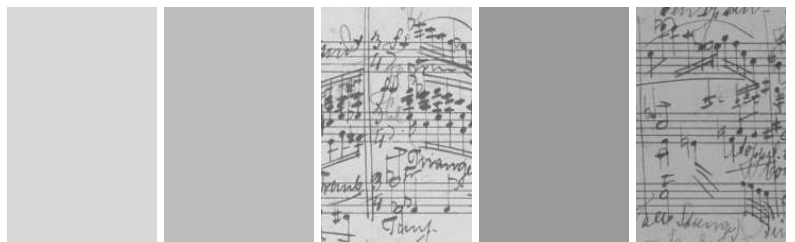
Critical edition by

Mike Cholewa

PARTITUR / SCORE

A large, elegant handwritten signature of Rued Langgaard in black ink, featuring a prominent flourish at the end.

The Rued Langgaard Edition
Edition Wilhelm Hansen



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RUED LANGGAARD UDGAVEN
THE RUED LANGGAARD EDITION

EDITION WILHELM HANSEN

Rued Langgaard: Polarstjernen (BVN 196)

Kritisk udgave ved Mike Cholewa

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Copenhagen

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Layout: Hans Mathiasen.

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Den her foreliggende udgivelse er udarbejdet og publiceret med støtte fra Augustinus Fonden.

Koda Kultur har desuden støttet udgivelsen af Langgaards blæservesker.

Rued Langgaard Udgaven skylder begge tilskudsgivere en varm tak for den velvillige støtte.

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Motto:

Helligt er Himmelens vemodige Skær, som samles om Nordstjernens Glans.
(Ernesto Dalgas, 1871-99)

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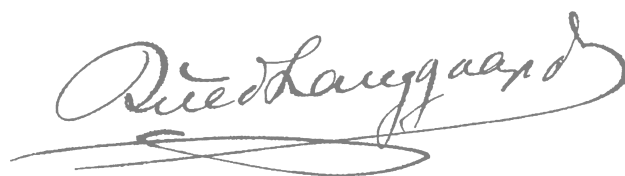
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OM UDGAVEN

Denne kritiske førsteudgave af *Polarstjernen* er baseret på komponistens egenhændige partiturrenskrift, som foreligger i Det Kongelige Bibliotek i København (Rued Langgaards Samling, RLS 50,1).

Udgiverens tilføjelser og rettelser er typografisk markeret i partituret ved hjælp af skarpe parenteser; tilføjede buer er angivet med brudt streg og bueændringer som en kombination af hel og brudt streg. Orienteringsfortegn i runde parenteser skyldes udgiveren. Faste fortegn for klarinetter i B, trompeter i B og pauker er tilføjet af udgiveren. Der henvises i øvrigt til *Kilder og kritisk beretning* s. 34.

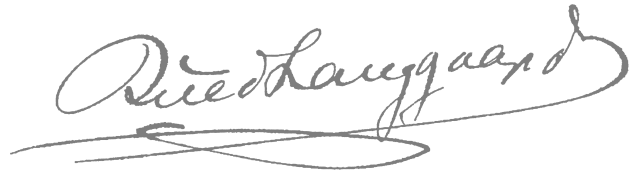
Mike Cholewa, januar 2020

ABOUT THIS EDITION

This critical first edition of *The Polar Star* is based on the composer's autograph fair copy preserved in the Royal Danish Library, Copenhagen (Rued Langgaard's Collection, RLS 50,1).

The editor's additions and emendations are indicated typographically in the score by square brackets; added slurs and ties are shown with broken lines and altered slurs and ties with a combination of unbroken and broken lines. Cautionary accidentals in round brackets are also editorial. Key signatures for clarinets in B \flat , trumpets in B \flat , and timpani have been supplied by the editor. Further information is given in *Sources and critical commentary* p. 34.

Mike Cholewa, January 2020



OM POLARSTJERNEN

Kompositionen blev, i den her udgivne form, skitseret i Ribe den 8. december 1948 mellem kl. 4 og 5 om morgenen. Partiturrenskriften blev påbegyndt dagen efter, kl. 4 morgen, og fuldført den 11. december 1948 i tidsrummet mellem kl. kvart i 4 og 7 om morgenen. Langgaards skitse fra 1948 indeholder imidlertid kun værkets indledning (t. 1-9) og slutning (t. 136-155). Satsens hoveddel angives at være komponeret i juli 1926 (i Farum) og i september 1926 (i Arild på Kullen, Sverige). Den tidlige version (eller de tidlige versioner), som Langgaard refererer til i skitsen med et kryds og en side- og takthenviisning, må antages at være forsvundet. Det drejer sig uden tvivl om en blæsersats, der i 1926 ikke var kommet videre end til partitel-stadiet. I årene 1926-28 skitserede Langgaard nemlig en række satser for symfonisk blæserbesætning – satser der skulle indgå i symfoni nr. 8 eller en forløber herfor, men som i flere tilfælde ikke blev benyttet. Der foreligger således en sats i particelform, hvis indhold i nogen grad stemmer overens med dele af *Polarstjernen*. Dette manuskript er dateret i Arild den 5. september 1926.¹

Kompositionen kan muligvis være blevet til på opfordring af pianist og kapelmester Ove Peters (1903-1978), som var klaver-elev af Rued Langgaards far, Siegfried Langgaard (1852-1914). Ove Peters stod for musikopførelser om sommeren i Frederiksberg Have og *Polarstjernen* blev uropført her med Frederiksberg Kommunale Orkester den 28. juli 1949 – hvilket var på Langgaards 56 års fødselsdag. Ove Peters genopførte værket i haven i 1954 og opførte det også i Tivoli med Tivolis Harmoniorkester omkring 1950. I en samtale med undertegnede i 1976 oplyste Ove Peters, at komponisten var til stede både ved uropførelsen og senere i Tivoli og var kommet med blomster og iført "stor hat". I Frederiksberg Have lå han på græsset og hørte musikken i det dejlige vejr, oplyste Ove Peters. Peters hævdede i den samme samtale, at *Polarstjernen* var tilegnet ham. Denne tilegnelse fremgår dog ikke af kilderne. På skitsebladet fra 1948 anfører Langgaard andre forslag til dedikationer og referencer. Han skriver således: "Til Minde om min Onkel, Orlogskaptajn Helge Foss, og min Moder [Emma] født Foss [...]". Han skriver også: "[...] Skal skrives op i Partitur som Minde om Niels Juels Gade" (Rued Langgaards barndomshjem var Niels Juelsgade 7 i København).

Værket blev forsynet med følgende motto fra Ernesto Dalgas' (1871-99) *Dommedags Bog*:

*Helligt er Himmelens vemodige Skær, som samles om Nordstjernens Glans.*²

ABOUT THE POLAR STAR

In the form published here, the composition was sketched out in Ribe on 8 December 1948, between 4am and 5am. The writing of the score was started on the following day at 4am and completed on 11 December 1948 between 3.45am and 7am. Langgaard's sketch from 1948, however, only contains the introduction to the work (bars 1-9) and the conclusion (bars 136-155). The main part of the piece is indicated as having been composed in July 1926 (in Farum, Northern Zealand) and in September 1926 (in Arild at Kullen, Sweden). The early version (or early versions) which Langgaard refers to in the sketch by a cross and a page and bar reference must be assumed to have disappeared. It was probably a wind orchestra piece which had not got any further than to the short score stage in 1926. For in the years 1926-28, Langgaard outlined a number of pieces for a symphonic wind ensemble, pieces that were to be included as movements in Symphony no. 8 or a precursor of it, but which in a number of instances were not made use of. There is, for example, a piece in short score form, the content of which corresponds to a certain degree with parts of *The Polar Star*. This manuscript is dated in Arild on 5 September 1926.¹

The composition may possibly have come into being at the request of the pianist and conductor Ove Peters (1903-1978), who was a piano pupil of Rued Langgaard's father, Siegfried Langgaard (1852-1914). Ove Peters was responsible for music performances during the summer in Frederiksberg Garden, and *The Polar Star* had its first performance here with Frederiksberg Municipal Orchestra on 28 July 1949 – which was on Langgaard's 56th birthday. Ove Peters gave another performance of the work in the garden in 1954 as well as in Tivoli, with Tivoli's Wind Orchestra, around 1950. In a conversation with the present writer in 1976, Ove Peters stated that the composer was present both at the first performance and later in Tivoli and had brought flowers and was wearing "a big hat". In Frederiksberg Garden he lay on the grass and heard the music in the lovely weather, said Ove Peters. Peters claimed in the same conversation that *The Polar Star* was dedicated to him. Such a dedication, however, is not indicated in the sources. On the sketch page from 1948, Langgaard lists other suggestions for dedications and references. He writes: 'In memory of my uncle, Commander Helge Foss and my mother [Emma], née Foss [...]'. He also writes: '[...] Must be worked out as a score in memory of Niels Juels Gade' (Rued Langgaard's childhood home was situated at Niels Juelsgade 7 in Copenhagen).

The work was provided with the following motto from Ernesto Dalgas' (1871-99) *Book of the Day of Judgment*:

*Holy is the mournful glow of the sky that gathers round the gleam of the Polar Star.*²

1 Det Kongelige Bibliotek, Rued Langgaards Samling, RLS 23,27.
2 *Dommedags Bog. En Vandring gennem Eksistensens Verden*. Kbh. 1903; mottoet findes s. 417.

1 The Royal Danish Library, Rued Langgaard's Collection, RLS 23,27.
2 *Book of the Day of Judgment. A Walk through the World of Existence*. Copenhagen, 1903; the quotation is on p. 417 of the Danish original.

Der er dog ingen tvivl om, at værkets titel tillige refererer til zar Alexander III's kejserlige yacht *Polarstjernen*, som Langgaard i sin barndom havde været om bord på, da den gæstede København. Titlen giver således på forskellig vis mindelser om tiden omkring 1900.

Bendt Viinholt Nielsen, januar 2020

It is, however, certain that the title of the work also refers to Tsar Alexander III's imperial yacht *The Polar Star*, on which Langgaard had been on board as a boy when it visited Copenhagen. The title thus calls forth various kinds of memories of the period around 1900.

Bendt Viinholt Nielsen, January 2020

ORCHESTRA

Flauto piccolo

Flauti 1-2

Oboi 1-2

Clarinetti in Mi \flat 1-2

Clarinetti in B \flat 1-2

Fagotti 1-2

Corni in Fa 1-4

Trombe in Si \flat 1-3

Tromboni 1-3

Tuba

Timpani

Piatti

Gran Cassa

Polarstjernen

Festivo ♩ = 152
(Due battute)

Rued Langgaard
(BVN 196)

Flauto piccolo

Flauto 1-2

Oboe 1-2

Clarinetto 1-2 in Mi \flat

Clarinetto 1-2 in Si \flat

Fagotto 1-2

Corno in Fa

Tromba in Fa

Tromba in Si \flat

Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Piatti

Gran Cassa

KILDER OG KRITISK BERETNING

KILDER

A. Partitur

Det Kongelige Bibliotek. Rued Langgaards Samling, RLS 50,1. Proveniens: Frederiksberg Kommunes Musikarkiv 1948. Det Kongelige Bibliotek mellem 1969 og 1977. Autograf. Renskrift med blæk. Titel: *Helligt er Himmelens vemodige Skær / som samles om Nordstjernens Glans. / Ernesto Dalgas. /* [med blyant i fremmed hånd: *Tilh. Frederiksberg Komm.] / Polarstjernen. / Af / Rued Langgaard / Partitur. Komp 1926* [overstreget: *og 1948*] (*Indledning og Slut / komponeret Kl. 4 Morgen / 1948 8 December i Ribe*) Overskrifttitel s.1: *Polarstjernen!* Signeret og dateret til slut (s. 13): *Rued Langgaard / Første Version Juli 1926. (Arild.) / Ny Instr sluttet: / Morgen Kl. 7. (3¼ - 7 Morgen) / 11 December. 1948 / Ribe* 12 blade, 27 × 34 cm; 14 beskrevne sider, pagineret: (titel), 1-13, (10 blanke sider). Papirtype: *W. H. Nr. 14. K. 12* (12 systemer).

B. Skitseblad 1948

Det Kongelige Bibliotek. Rued Langgaards Samling, RLS 50,2 (mu 9102.2761). Proveniens: Boet efter Constance Langgaard. Det Kongelige Bibliotek 1991. Autograf. Skitse med blæk (få rettelser med blyant). Udkast til titel (recto) med rettelser og ændringer (overstregede passager udeladt her): *Til Minde om min Onkel Orlogskaptajn Helge Foss og Min Moder født Foss, døde 1901 og 1926. / Begravet Holmens Kirkegaard begge / "Polarstjernen" / for / Militær-orkester Søofficersorkester. / af / Rued Langgaard / Komp i Juli. 1926 i Farum og Sept. Arild. 1926! / Desuden 8 December 1948 i Ribe. Kl. 4 Morgen. [tilføjet med blyant: (Ny Trio. Ny Indledning og ny Slutning!)] / Udkast for Militærmusik / Skal skrives op i Partitur som Minde / om Niels Juels Gade.* Skitsesiden (verso) har overskriften *Polarstjernen* og er ved begyndelsen dateret *Ribe 4 Morgen / 8/12 48* – og slutdateret: *8/12 48 / 5 Morgen*. 1 blad, 35 × 26 cm; 2 beskrevne, upaginerede sider (recto med titelpåskrift, verso med skitser). Papirtype: 12 systemer uden angivelse af fabrikat.

Kommentar.

Skitsen omfatter værkets *Begyndelse* (9 takter), hvorefter der henvises til et ukendt manuskript, antagelig fra 1926, med et ×. Desuden rummer **B** en skitse betegnet *Slutning (til Side 12 Takt 2)*, i alt ca. 40 takter noteret i 3/4-takt. Side- og takthenvisningen passer ikke med nogen i dag kendt kilde. Der foreligger dog en 16 sider lang, men ukomplet sats i Es-dur i particeform

SOURCES AND CRITICAL COMMENTARY

SOURCES

A. Score

The Royal Danish Library. Rued Langgaard's Collection, RLS 50,1. Provenience: The Municipality of Frederiksberg Music Archive 1948. The Royal Danish Library between 1969 and 1977. Autograph. Fair copy in ink. Title: *Holy is the mournful glow of the sky / that gathers round the gleam of the Polar Star. / Ernesto Dalgas. /* [in pencil in an unknown hand: *Property of Frederiksberg Municip.] / The Polar Star. / By / Rued Langgaard / Score. Comp 1926* [crossed over: *and 1948*] (*Introduction and end / composed at 4 in the morning / 1948 8 December in Ribe*) Heading p. 1: *The Polar Star!* Signed and dated at end (p. 13): *Rued Langgaard / First version July 1926. (Arild.) / New instr ended: / Morning at 7 o'clock (3¼ - 7 a.m.) / 11 December. 1948 / Ribe* 12 leaves, 27 × 34 cm; 14 pages of writing, paginated: (title), 1-13, (10 blank pages). Paper type: *W. H. Nr. 14. K. 12* (12 staves).

B. Sketch leaf 1948

The Royal Danish Library. Rued Langgaard's Collection, RLS 50,2 (mu 9102.2761). Provenience: The estate of Constance Langgaard. The Royal Danish Library 1991. Autograph. Sketch in ink (a few corrections in pencil). Title draft (recto) with corrections and alterations (crossed-out passages left out here): *In memory of my uncle, Commander Helge Foss and my mother née Foss, died 1901 and 1926. / Buried Holmen's Cemetary both / "The Polar Star" / for / Military orchestra Naval officer orchestra. / by / Rued Langgaard / Comp in July. 1926 in Farum and Sep. Arild. 1926! / Furthermore 8 December 1948 in Ribe. At 4 in the morning. [added in pencil: (New trio. New introduction and new ending!)] / Draft for military band / Must be worked out as a score in memory / of Niels Juels Gade.* The sketch page (verso) has the heading *The Polar Star* and is dated at the beginning *Ribe 4 a.m. / 8/12 48* – and dated at end: *8/12 48 / 5 a.m.* 1 leaf, 35 × 26 cm; 2 unnumbered pages of writing (recto with title inscription, verso containing the music sketch). Paper type: 12 staves without manufacturer's name.

Commentary.

The sketch comprises the *Beginning* (9 bars) of the work, after which there is a reference to an unknown manuscript, probably from 1926, with a ×. In addition, **B** contains a sketch entitled *Conclusion (to Page 12 Bar 2)*, a total of approx. 40 bars, with a 3/4 time signature. The page and bar references do not match any known source. There exists, however, a 16-page long but

(RLS 23,27), som er dateret 5/9 Arild 1926, og hvis indhold til dels er sammenfaldende med *Polarstjernen*. Denne kilde kan imidlertid ikke være identisk med det (eller de) forlæg, RL benyttede ved udarbejdelsen af *Polarstjernen*. En skitse fra 1948 til værkets 'nye Trio', som nævnes på titelsiden af B (men ikke i A), kendes ikke.

REDAKTIONSGRUNDLAG

Udgaven er baseret på partituret kilde A. Skitsebladet B har ingen betydning for udgaven. Et stemmesæt i afskrift, udfærdiget forud for uopførelsen i juli 1949 (RLS 50,3), er ikke relevant for udgivelsen. Stemmesættets besætning afviger i nogen grad fra partiturets.

RETNINGSLINJER FOR UDGAVEN

Udgiverens tilføjelser og rettelser er typografisk markeret i partituret ved hjælp af skarpe parenteser; tilføjede buer er angivet med brudt streg og bueændringer som en kombination af hel og brudt streg. Orienteringsfortegn i runde parenteser skyldes udgiveren.

Der er foretaget stiltiende komplettering for så vidt angår manglende nodepunkteringer. Små justeringer af uegalt anbragte foredragsbetegnelser og dynamiske angivelser er foretaget uden videre. Faste fortegn for klarinetter i B, trompeter i B og pauker er tilføjet af udgiveren.

NOTER

<i>takt</i>	<i>stemme</i>	<i>kommentar</i>
104	fl 1-2	takten udfyldt i overensst. med cl(Mi ₂); RL angiver med en bølgelinje, at fløjter i t. 99-104 skal spille unisont med oboer, men har overset at oboer hører op med at spille på første slag i t. 104, hvorefter fløjterne overtager klarinetternes stemme
106	cl(Mi ₂) 1-2	takten udfyldt i overensst. med fl 1-2 og cl(Si ₂) 1-2; RL har heltaktspause i takten, hvilket tolkes som en fejl

incomplete piece in E flat major in short score form (RLS 23,27), which is dated 5/9 Arild 1926, the contents of which partly coincide with *The Polar Star*. This source, however, cannot be identical with the original(s) which Langgaard made use of when preparing the score. A sketch from 1948 of a 'new trio' of the work, mentioned on the title page of B (but not in A), is unknown.

TEXTUAL BASIS OF THE EDITION

The edition is based on the score source A. The sketch leaf B is of no significance to the edition. A set of orchestral parts written out before the first performance in July 1949 (RLS 50,3) is of no relevance for the edition. The set of parts differs somewhat from the instrumentation in the score.

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

The editor's additions and emendations are indicated typographically in the score by square brackets; added slurs and ties are shown with broken lines and altered slurs and ties with a combination of unbroken and broken lines. Cautionary accidentals in round brackets are also editorial.

Missing dots have been tacitly supplied. Minor adjustments of irregularly located marks of expression and dynamics have been made without comment. Key signatures for clarinets in B, trumpets in B, and timpani have been supplied by the editor.

NOTES

<i>bar</i>	<i>part</i>	<i>comment</i>
104	fl 1-2	the bar filled out in agreement with cl(Mi ₂); RL indicates by a wavy line that the flutes in bars 99-104 are to play in unison with the oboes, but has overlooked the fact that the oboes stop playing at the first beat of bar 104, after which the flutes take over the parts of the clarinets
106	cl(Mi ₂) 1-2	the bar filled out in agreement with fl 1-2 and cl(Si ₂) 1-2; RL has a whole bar rest, which is considered an error