

## Children's songs, lullabies



Unni Løvlid

In the folk song tradition, there are a lot of songs and jingles for children. Some can have funny lyrics about animals, which both children and adults alike can sing, whilst others are used when jiggling the child on your knee. Some songs can have an educational function, for example "*Draga riva ette' deg*". To be involved in folk music is also important for children.



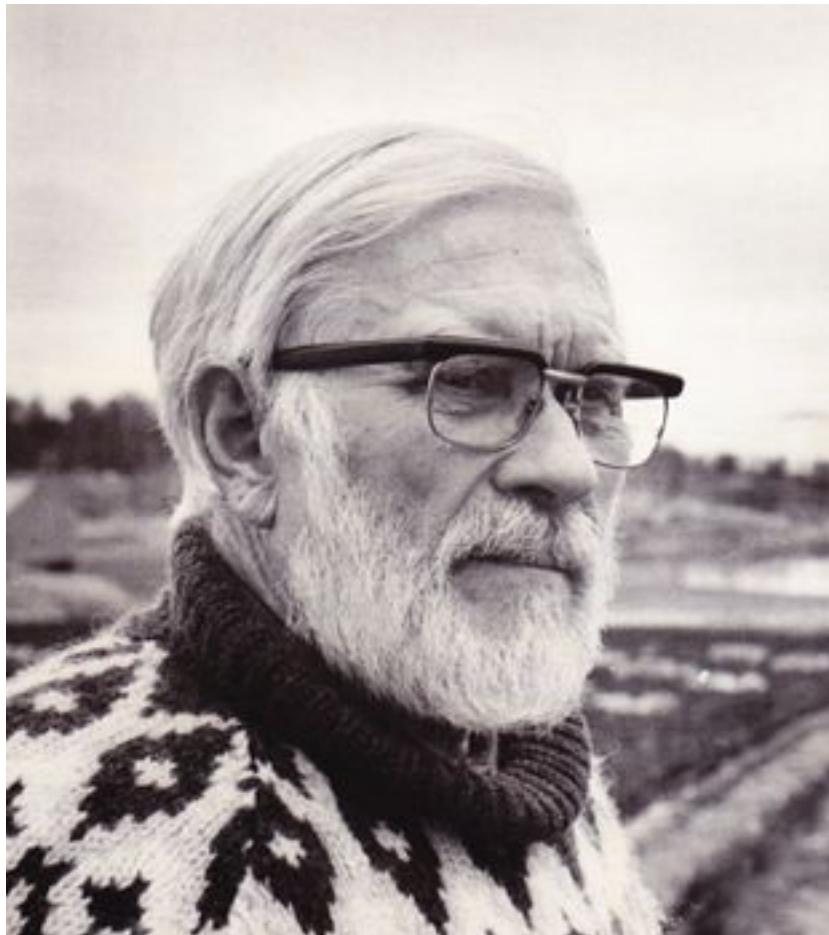
CD 1 – 11-14 Unni Løvlid, song: *Kalven dansa*, etter Ingeborg Sandvik, *Sere du noe t elite grå geita*, etter Inge M. Takle, *Krampe og rampe Rasmesen vår*, etter Klara Lødemel Kvaløy, *Draga riva ette' deg*, etter Marta Seljeset Frøland (Nordfjord, Hornindal)

*Kalven dansa*, etter Ingeborg Sandvik

Musical notation for the song "Kalven dansa" in G major, 2/4 time. The lyrics are written below each line of music:

Kal - ven dan - sa og rom - pa slång långt op - pi li - da.  
Pres - ten gret og klok - ka - ren song: "Kom, la vi byt i kni - vå".  
I - var Li ga meg ein kniv, Torstein Bond  
brau - te nå sond, Hå - kon Hatt bøt - te nå att, og  
Sju - re - svenn før - de nå heim - att frå Trond - heim.

Lullabies and cradlesongs are functional music to get the baby to sleep. The rhythm in these songs can often conjure up memories of the cradle's soporific rocking movement, but as a musical category, there can be wide variations. The melody stanzas are often simple and repetitive, and improvisation can be an important element.



*Edvard Rud*

In North Norway, there are many lullabies that are connected to the culture of the coast. Sing this lullaby *etter* Edvard Ruud, who more than anyone else helped to highlight the North Norwegian song tradition.



CD 1 – 15 Edvard Ruud, song: *Bånsull fra Senja* (*Lullaby from Senja*), tekst etter Jens Solvang (Troms)

Kråka sat på garitind, after Edvard Ruud

Krå - ka sat på gar - i - tind, såg ho se - gl i ves - ta - vind.

Såg ho skip i ha - vet gå, no - ken stor og no - ken små.

Høj! Løs - ti Ves - ta - vind, så seg - la vi ut, så seg - la vi inn,

til vi i må - ra når far din. Tra la la la la

Tra la la la

## Gjendine Slaalien and Edvard Grieg

In the summer of 1891, a meeting took place on a mountain farm in Jotunheimen between the composer, Edvard Grieg, and the 19-year-old milkmaid Gjendine Slaalien. There, Grieg discovered that Gjendine rocked her sister's children to sleep with a beautiful lullaby she had learnt from her mother. This left a lasting impression on the famous composer. He used the melody in his *Norske Folkeviser* (Norwegian Folk Songs), where he called it "Gjendines bådnål" ('Gjendine's Lullaby'). Gjendine lived for over 100 years, and through a recording of her and her famous lullaby, we can imagine what Grieg heard on the mountain that day.



Gjendine Slaalien, 1970



Edvard Grieg (right), mountain walk with friends



CD 1 – 16 Gjendine Slaalien, song: *Gjendines bådnål* (*Gjendine's Lullaby*) (Gudbrandsdalen)

1. Bar - net leg - ges i vug - gen ned,  
2. Min mor ho tog meg på sitt fang,  
stun - dom græ - der og stun - dom le. So - ve nu,  
dan - sa med meg fram og til ba - ke Dan - se så  
so - ve nu, i Je - su namn, Je - su be - va - re bar - net.  
mæ de små, dan - se så, så skal bar - net dan - se.