



Kukši Manor

The productive German writer Werner Bergengrün was the son of Helene Anna Mathilde von Bötticher from the Kukši manor (Kukschen) west of Riga. Werner Bergengrün was born in Riga in 1892 to a Baltic German family of Swedish descent. In his younger days he is believed to have spent a lot of time at the beautiful estate of his mother.

Before WWI he went to Germany to study, but he remained very much linked to his Baltic background for the rest of his life. During the 1930-ies he was opposed to the Nazi regime and his literary activities were restricted. After the war he continued his career in Germany and became one of the best-known and most successful writers of the young federal republic. In total, Werner Bergengrün produced more than

60 books, being novels, poems and collections of short stories. Among his most popular books are the short stories "The Three Falcons". He remained active as a writer until he died at the age of 72 in 1964.

The Kukši manor where Werner Bergengrün's mother used to live was in a dramatically poor shape until 2000. It was then found by a Latvian-German Daniel Jahn, the director of two of the best hotels in the Old Town of Riga. He decided to put all his free time and creative energy into bringing new life and glory back to this beautiful manor. He succeeded. In 2006 the elegant manor welcomed its first hotel guests. It is considered to be one of the most astonishing manors in the Baltic sea area, and the restaurant can more than successfully compete with the best gourmet restaurants in any European city.