

Opinion

by Assoc. Prof. PhD Georgi Metev Petkov, Department of Music at the New Bulgarian University,

professional field 8.3 „Music and Dance Arts“,

on the PhD dissertation

by

Damyan Yordanov Parushev

entitled:

„Some Specifics of the Holistic Teaching of the Flute”

Academic Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. PhD Ermila Sekulinova-Shvaytser

Damyan Parushev has been interested in music from a very early age. When he was only 5 years old in the city of Gorna Oryahovitsa, he started learning piano, solfeggio and theory of music. In 2007, he graduated with a bachelor's degree and a major in the flute from the Amazonas State University. In 2018, he acquired a master's degree in musical performance (with the flute) from the New Bulgarian University (NBU) and immediately after that he started his PhD studies at NBU.

Damyan Parushev's main idea is to use the paper for sharing the personal experience of his work as a teacher of the flute related to the holistic projects on an institutional level in Brazil, namely in Manaus, where he works as a lecturer at the Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM).

The choice of topic is related to the author's desire to turn observations of the holistic element in the art of music spanning from the Antiquity, going through the Baroque and all the way to our modern age, into a specific dimension of joint musical performance, interpretation and education of young performers. The topic is directly related to the candidate's experience as a performer and a pedagogue in his work till now, which makes it significant and valuable in a practical and applied aspect.

The paper has a total volume of 172 pages, which includes the example musical notations and photos, and which is structured into 4 chapters, an introduction, a conclusion and a bibliography of 63 sources related to the topic. The author also includes a sitography of 12 electronic sources, as well as 2 publications on the topic written by the author himself.

The introduction clearly defines the subject, object, goals and tasks of the research. The main research goal of the given dissertation is to present the holistic method in the teaching of the flute as well as its influence in the context of means of expression in the chamber ensemble musical performance. The research's methodology includes the analytical and comparative and analytical methods, the historical and deductive approach, which gives a wide context to analyzed and observed holistic processes of a different perspective and in a different sequence. The research discusses questions related to the psychology of perception, performance, the musical language and specific stylistics.

The analysis of the life and creative work of one of the great names of the Baroque, Georg Philipp Telemann, his enlightenment and educational platform in the context of the holistic idea, as well as his view of inventive musical simplicity and accessibility of the art of music, stands out in the paper. The author's analysis of the musical structure and specifics of expression in the first sonata of the cycle of Six canonic sonatas by Telemann also adds to the paper's quality.

The research presents the Venezuelan educational program "*El Sistema*" which was developed and applied in other countries as well, and its social function of impact as a socio-political instrument through the musical education of children and youth.

I fully agree with the dissertation's contributions derived on a textual level:

1. A research of the holistic teaching of the recorder is done for the first time in the Bulgarian and Brazilian academic literature.
2. The model of forming and educating the young instrumentalist is discussed in a holistic aspect for the first time in Brazil and Bulgaria.
3. The processes of the emerging of the holistic idea are discussed in a historical aspect with a theoretical analytical approach – from Ancient Greece to its modern projection implemented in "*El Sistema*" in Brazil and Venezuela.
4. The paper completed an observation of the ensemble music and the shaping of instrumentalists in the context of the holistic model.
5. The means of expression are discussed in an evidence-based aspect in the context of musical expression which is an element of the holistic model of teaching and educating.
6. The paper analyzes the holistic educational idea in the creative works of Georg Philipp Telemann which influenced his enlightenment and educational mission as a continuation and development of the holism of Ancient Greek philosophers.
7. The study of the practical application of the holistic method in Brazil's educational system, namely in the State of Amazonas, and in Venezuela, is of contributory nature.

8. The interview with Prof. PhD Roberio Braga, former secretary of culture and main figure in the development of musical institutional projects in the city of Manaus that put the holistic idea of multidimensional musical education to practice, is of contributory nature.

I am familiar with the author's abstract of the paper which clearly and precisely presents the main aspects of the research in a volume of 34 pages, and it also includes a precise presentation of the author's publications in specialized journals, as well as his concert activity and participations in master classes, workshops and seminars.

Based on the aforementioned, I take the liberty of evaluating this research positively, including all its theoretical and practical contributions. I congratulate the author and his academic supervisor, Assoc. Prof. PhD Ermila Sekulinova-Shvaytser, for the high result that was achieved.

I recommend with conviction to the Dissertation Defense Committee that they award Damyan Parushev the Doctor's degree in professional field 8.3. "Music and Dance Arts"!

Sofia July 6, 2021

Assoc. Prof. PhD Georgi Petkov

