

The influence of T. Dokshitzer's work on the development of 20th century trumpet literature

Justification for the selection of research issues

For many years, the area of my special interest has been trumpet literature, among which the most important place is occupied by the rich work of Timofiej Dokshitzer. This outstanding artist was not only a great musician, but also a conductor, composer and arranger, which undoubtedly allowed him to thoroughly learn the technique of playing various instruments and thus facilitated the development of prototypes and the creation of excellent works that were previously associated with cornet and virtuosic performances. In the past, mainly Anton Weidinger was a trumpeter like pianists and violinists, and players such as Arban and Clarke represented a stream of popular music. From the mid-twentieth century, T. Dokshitzer, together with Maurice André, radically changed the approach to the trumpet. André's origin led him in a mainstream direction, focusing mainly on contemporary compositions written by the French, while Dokshitzer created himself a new repertoire. In his hands, the trumpet became an instrument that sounded as expressive as a violin or a piano. His influence on technique became primarily detached from the clarinet and cornet traditions. His works on the unification of articulation, transcriptions of violin and piano pieces, and above all his own interpretations, completely unlike those of trumpet players, have been as important to contemporary trumpets as the influence of jazz. Unfortunately, for various reasons, the silhouette and work of Dokshitzer are not known in Poland and therefore not as appreciated as in the rest of the world. Research also shows that he did not live to see a single Polish publication about himself. That is why I decided to prove the great value, artistic richness and importance in the history of trumpet literature that his works possess. Through careful analysis of artistic execution and the characteristics of selected works for solo trumpet, as well as trumpet and piano, I will try to bring closer together the aesthetic and workshop values of the works, which have become the basis of every trumpeter's repertoire thanks to the phenomenal compositions and developments of Dokshitzer.

Educational purpose of the dissertation

The purpose of this dissertation is primarily to emphasize the importance of Timofiej Dokshitzer works and to demonstrate their impact on the development of trumpet literature in the last century. By creating my own and unprecedented (at least because of articulation and expression) repertoire, I would like to prove how significantly his influence was on contemporary performance techniques. Among his many works, there are also trumpet arrangements, which are characterized by an amazing knowledge of the trumpet playing technique and a great sensitivity to the beauty of this instrument. It is worth noting that Dokshitzer broke the sound and articulation barrier, and thanks to his work, trumpet literature swung out more and veered towards the lyricism of an oboe as well as the expression of a violin. Considering all these elements, one cannot ignore the characteristics of Dokshitzer silhouette in the context of artistry, execution, pedagogy and composition.

The State of research

In Poland, knowledge about Timofiej Dokshitzer is very poor. Only three books were created, by the same author, which were written and published in Russian. The only publication, which was translated into English was "The Memories of Timofei Dokshitzer" (1997 translated by Olga Braslavsky, edited by Joyce Davis, Kim Dunnick). There is also a website dedicated to the artist. It is divided into tabs that contain his biography, photos, videos, discography, information about his books, and any schools and competitions in his name. On the website of Bruce Duffie, there is an extensive interview with the artist. You can also find a page dedicated to the riches of Russia, on which there is a tab dedicated to the hero of this work. Through Edition Marc Reift, a Swiss publishing house, Dokshitzer published an extensive collection of sheet music, which was named after him. It contains 146 items, which include his compositions, transcripts, pieces written for or dedicated to him, as well as works edited and corrected by the artist himself. There is also some information about him in 'Brass Bulletin'. In 2007, at the Wrocław Academy of Music, Seweryn Wróbel created a diplomatic thesis entitled "Timofiej Dokshitzer - an outstanding artist and pedagogue", bringing his silhouette nearer. It is worth noting that, in Poland, the expert on Timofiej Dokshitzer life and work is Professor Igor Cecocho, as he had close personal relations with him.