

SUMMARY

THE SONGWRITING OF LUDOMIR MICHAŁ ROGOWSKI. INSPIRATIONS AND SEARCH FOR PERFORMANCE AESTHETICS

I stumble across the name of Ludomir Michał Rogowski a few years ago, while working on the anthology *Songs of Polish Cultural Salons of 19th and 20th Century Warsaw*. This, so far unknown, artist from Lublin, intrigued me to the extent that I started to explore his life and work. During my research, I learnt of his sensitivity to beauty, intransigence and mysticism which indicated that he was an interesting, worth knowing artist. I did not only find him extremely intriguing, but I have also noticed that his sensitivity was very close to mine.

Therefore, I started to search for his activity; it was not an easy task as his vocal and instrumental music has been never recorded before. Discovering Rogowski's biography and learning of all his creativeness was a fascinating adventure for me from the very beginning. In the course of time, this unknown artist grew closer to me. He spent a large part of his life in Croatia, settling in Dubrovnik, where he lived and worked for almost 30 years, until his death.

Searching the State Archives in Dubrovnik allowed me to find sources that have not been used so far.

Thanks to the cooperation with the Archives and collaboration with the Embassy of Croatia in Poland, which helped me to translate the needed poetry of Dubrovnik authors, I have found most of the manuscripts of Rogowski's works: journalistic, literary and compositional – the sources that have an extremely high value for Polish musical culture. Some of the materials, such as manuscripts, typescripts, newspaper clippings referring to his comments on the musical and concert life of the capital and education, private photos as well as photos of works are also stored in the Archives of Polish Composers of the University Library in Warsaw. Rogowski's works are not yet catalogued - they can be found in his manuscripts, though some of them have disappeared altogether - and he still remains a somewhat mysterious figure.

Reaching the manuscripts of unpublished note sheets allowed me to explore the composer's oeuvre and to include more unknown songs in my repertoire. This resulted in the recording of

an album comprising Rogowski's songs, compositions and vocalizations titled *Fantasmagories* as well as elaboration of the acquired materials in this paper.

The aim of my thesis is to restore the memory of the genius of Ludomir Michał Rogowski and to draw attention to the cultural tradition linking Poland and Croatia as well as to preserve the remembrance of this niche artist, less known, but worth reminding due to the value of his art. I would like to contribute to finding “the missing puzzles” of the image of Polish music of the first half of the 20th century and including L. M. Rogowski's works in the repertoire of musical institutions.

This thesis consists of three main chapters. The first one contains the story of the composer's life, based mainly on his memoirs, diary notes and musicological publications as well as the overview of his work, both composing and literary.

Chapter II is devoted to his inspirations and search for performance aesthetics, as well as his concept of national art. In the sphere of inspiration, we can distinguish two sources: nature and the circle of myths and legends. Among the myths and legends, the inspiration was: the ancient Greek tradition, selected motives from Celtic legends, Hindu gods and Polish folk tradition.

Chapter III is a detailed analysis of the songs that I have recorded and the vocals entitled *Fantasmagories*.

The Annex of the thesis includes materials documenting my activity regarding the promotion of Rogowski's music as well as the note sheets, which, thanks to my efforts, were printed from the artist's manuscripts.