

SUMMARY

The performance issues of Johann Sebastian Bach's cantatas in terms of didactic values exemplified by O ewiges Feuer BWV 34, O Jesu Christ, mein's Lebens Licht BWV 118b, Gloria in excelsis Deo BWV 191.

This study is a result of the author's interest in the early music performance as well as his 25 years of professional experience as a conductor, vocalist and teacher. It assumes to prove the thesis of Johann Sebastian Bach's cantatas to be the most precious didactic material for secondary music school students provided that the repertoire has been accurately selected in terms of perceptive and technical skills of young performers. A long term pedagogical experience of a chorus master as well as chamber ensembles conductor let the author make observations about the beneficial impact of a student-teacher cooperation on the final performance result.

The dissertation describes an artistic event which was the concert of the German Baroque vocal and instrumental works with the participation of The Frédéric Chopin State Music Schools Complex soloists and ensembles: School Mixed Chorus, Collegium Vocale Bednarska Chamber Chorus and Collegium Musicum Bednarska Baroque Orchestra. The programme of the concert included: polychoral psalm by Heinrich Schutz Alleluja! Lobet den Herren SWV 38, Johann Bach's motet Unser Leben ist ein Schatten and three selected cantatas by Johann Sebastian Bach – O ewiges Feuer BWV 34, O Jesu Christ, mein's Lebens Licht BWV 118b and Gloria in excelsis Deo BWV 191.

In six chapters the author of this study presents: the historical background of the German protestant cantata formation, its evolution before Bach, cantatas of the composers contemporary with Bach, general features of Bach's cantatas, reception of Bach's vocal and instrumental creativity in the past and today. He also analyses thoroughly the performance issues in selected Bach's cantatas that make up an artistic work in terms of its didactic attributes. The final section of the study is the author's conclusions about the initial suppositions. Regardless of high technical performance requirements that secondary educational level musicians have to confront with, Johann Sebastian Bach's cantatas provide a unique didactic material and may be enormously beneficial in the teaching process. These benefits are: acquiring vocal and instrumental baroque music performance practical skills essential in the coming professional artistic life of young musicians as well as gaining rare experience while presenting an exceptional repertoire in front of the audience, an opportunity to cooperate with outstanding specialists, reaching wider knowledge of history of music as well as direct contact with Bach's masterpieces. The dissertation has got both bibliography and complete texts of all compositions that stand for an artistic work along with a precise translation into Polish