

# **ABSTRACT**

## **Pedagogical value and virtuosity in 24 Caprices for solo violin op. 22 by Pierre Rode.**

My doctoral dissertation aims to present Pierre Rode's caprices as multi-tasking pieces that contributed to the development of the violin technique. It is a remarkable set of caprices that has unquestionable pedagogical values in terms of improving the playing technique combined with the development of musicality. Rode's caprices are extraordinarily virtuoso compositions which are exposing lyricism and phrasing in unique and unprecedented way comparing to other etudes or caprices. Despite the many technical benefits that the composer shares with us, the overriding role of his pieces is to learn to lead a phrase, to be able to „sing” on an instrument and to play with musical expression. The Pierre Rode caprices fulfill in the most mature way possible the requirements of the style and aesthetics of the new era, which began at the time of the establishment and glory of the Paris Conservatory.

My work is also intended to assist in learning each of the caprices. It describes technical problems and indicates auxiliary exercises constructed to solve them. It is a kind of guide to achieving virtuosity in the caprices of Rode. In order to describe the meaning of these pieces in violin literature, the work begins by recalling Rode's biography and describing the French violin school at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries. In a later chapter, there is a short description of selected collections of caprices/etudes that were created at that time. Then, in the main part of the work, there is a description of each caprice, technical challenges and advices for practicing them. The final chapter is dedicated to the recordings of caprices available in the music industry