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Abstract of the Doctoral Dissertation

*Performance issues and interpretation of selected vocal works
with piano accompaniment as a determinant of the development of musical aptitudes
in the context of the core curriculum for music education in upper secondary education*

The dissertation addresses the performance issues and interpretation of selected vocal works with piano accompaniment as a determinant of the development of musical aptitudes. The aim of the study was to prepare and perform a musical work based on selected compositions forming part of the school repertoire, to identify their significance for the development of the choristers' musical aptitudes, and to conduct a text–music analysis of these compositions.

The study focuses on the question of whether, and in which areas of the arrangements of the selected works, performance aspects determine the development of the choristers' musical aptitudes in terms of interpretation.

The dissertation is accompanied by a disc containing recordings of ten a cappella works and works with piano accompaniment, which together constitute the musical work presented as part of the research.

Chapter I analyses the concepts of aptitude, ability, and talent and characterises the structure of musical aptitudes.

Chapter II presents the assumptions of the core curriculum for music education and the curriculum for the subject of music.

Chapter III describes and characterises voice emission classes as a pedagogical innovation at the upper-secondary level, with particular consideration given to the methods and forms of work employed.

Chapter IV presents the process of preparing and performing the musical work, including a description of the ensemble, the organisation of rehearsals, and the recording process.

The final chapter presents a text–music analysis of ten selected vocal works, including works with piano accompaniment.

The conclusion presents the findings derived from the analyses conducted and from the realisation of the musical work.

A digital storage medium containing recordings of the performed works is included with the doctoral dissertation.

Keywords: Music education; choir; singing; arrangement; musical aptitudes