
UDC 78.491; 78.2U; 78.2i

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UKRAINIAN-SWISS COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF CHAMBER AND SOLO MUSIC

Abstract. The article presents a panoramic view of the Ukrainian-Swiss artistic contacts in the various forms of chamber music at the concert platforms, based on the cooperation between Switzerland and Ukraine. It identifies priority areas: performing, teaching, competitions and festivals, promoting of new compositions, world premiers. The examples of partnership and sponsorship of cooperation in international projects, publishing of new music, CD-recordings are provided in the article.

Keywords: chamber music performances, special education programs, partnership and sponsorship, co-operation, competitions and festivals.

The Ukrainian-Swiss musical-artistic mutual relations have a deeply engrained tradition. For example, the Lviv Musical Conservatory named after K. Szymanowski (initial names «Musical Institute» - until 1905 and «Lviv Musical Institute» - until 1931), was founded in 1902 by A. Niemientowski, - a student of I. Fridman and T. Leszetycki, who received his musical in England, France, USA and Switzerland. There were numerous followers of the method of Émile Jaques-Dalcroze, who was the author of the original educational system, a prominent professor of

solfege and harmony at the conservatory of Geneva [3, p. 107; 8, p. 11].

Switzerland was included in the sphere of concert-tour activities of the numerous Ukrainian musicians (soloists, chamber music formations and choirs) even in a relatively closed for international artistic activities of its citizens during the Soviet period. Here, in the 1970s, a well known vocally-choreographic ensemble «Galychyna» gave its first performance (already laureate of international and all-soviet competitions, (leaders - J. and V. Chuperchuk); later the Lviv Chamber orchestra «Virtuoses» would regularly gave successful concerts in the famous halls and churches of Switzerland (artistic leader S. Burko, leader-concertmaster V. Duda, musical consultant J. Lutsiv); the world recognized opera soloist, winner of three international competitions (among which is the prestigious ARD Munich) Zorjana Kushpler; 1st prize winner of the National Ukrainian competition (Odessa, 1981) bandura-player Lyudmyla Fedorova; soloist and chamber music partner, 1st prize winner of the International competition «Gold Trembitas» Lyudmyla Chernetska.

After Ukraine became independent, as a result of the processes of its euro integration (at least in terms of classical music), the forms of cooperation between Ukrainian and Swiss musicians are fundamentally enriched in terms of concert, festival and competition activities, as well as pedagogic, composers' cooperation. However, facing a considerable amount of empiric information, the aspects of music collaboration in the field of the chamber music didn't find their definition in the special literature yet. It can be found in the programs and booklets of international festivals [2; 7; 13], reviews and interviews, which are reflections of the event of certain international projects [1: 4; 5], some facts are given in scientific researches on a choreographic art [8], musical education systems [3], competition and festival activities [12], activities of certain instrumentalists [9-11]. The aim of this research is to create the panorama of the Ukrainian-Swiss artistic contacts in the field of chamber music.

From the 1990s the potential of professional preparation of Ukrainian instrumentalists in the Swiss music area reached a different level. Numerous Ukrainian artists have added multicultural constituents to their education (master classes, academies, studies in the leading foreign schools, particularly, in Switzerland). Several prominent musicians, such as Oleh Kaskiv (prof. Alberto Lysy, 1996-2002), Anna Savytska (classes of profs. Alberto Lysy, Yehudi Menuhin), Andriy Vijtovysh (profs. Alberto Lysy and Johannes Esker) received their education at the prestigious International Y. Menuhin school of music (Gstaad);

scholarships were given by Swiss foundations «Herbert von Kapayan», «Till Dürr Stiftung» to a world recognized violinist Maksym Brylynski [9, p. 16-25; 3, p. 109].

Active cooperation between Ukrainian and Swiss musicians and the process of euro integration resulted in the presence of big number of Ukrainian musicians, who got teaching positions in Swiss education centers and in some cases initiated their own original educational projects. From 2002 Oleh Kaskiv works as the assistant of class of violin at the International Academy of Y. Menuhin and later is leading his own class of violin at the conservatory of Geneva, Anna Savitska taught violin at state musical college of Kanton Turgau and also founded her own school of violin art for gifted children, called «InMuSt» (Innovatives Musik Studio) in Bülach (Zürich), where studies are conducted on the basis of her own original creative methods.

Ukrainian stages have also been open for Swiss ensembles, soloists, choirs and orchestras: Zurich ensemble of new music ("Ensemble of Neue Musik Zürich»), «Avalon-Trio», percussion ensemble from Lugano, ensemble «Klangheimlich», «Duel-Duet», ensemble of «Inverspace» and others.

Ukrainian musicians often participate in international projects and concert tours in many European countries, especially in Switzerland. Such Ukrainian Artists, as Joseph Ermin, Oksana Rapita, Oleh Bezborodko, ensembles «Cluster» (Lviv), «Ricochet» (Kyiv) and others are regular invited to give concerts for highly educated Swiss audience.

A special place in this list is occupied by the Ukrainian performers, that are working in Switzerland and submitting artistic interests of cultures of both countries: violin duet «Innovation Duo» in composition - Anna Savitska (Ukraine-Switzerland) and Jakub Dzialak (Poland-Switzerland), Vitalij Voznjak (Ukraine-Switzerland, clarinet), Irena Zeitz (Ukraine-Switzerland, organ), the author of this research, Andriy Dragan (Ukraine-Switzerland, piano) and others. Each of them studied in different countries, including Switzerland and now they are integrated in the Swiss artistic life at the same time representing Ukrainian culture abroad.

Switzerland has a very important platform for musicians from all over the world. Ukrainian musicians have never been an exception. Just on the contrary: they are regularly participating in festivals («Menhir», Verbier Festival, Menuhin Festival, etc.) and competitions (Chamber Music Competition, Competitions of Lausanne and Gstaad). [3, p. 109].

On the other hand, an exchange was always an important aspect in

terms of artistic relations between the two countries. Such Ukrainian Festivals, as «Kyiv Music Fest», «Musical Premieres of the Season», international music festival «Week of the high classics with Roman Kofman» in Kyiv, «Forum of music of youth», "Two days and two nights of new music» in Odessa, «Virtuosos» and «Contrasts» in Lviv, «Kharkiv assemblies», etc. – regularly invite many leading ensembles from Switzerland.

Since 1990 the financial partnership and sponsoring have been developing between Switzerland and Ukraine. Due to them many contemporary works, written by Ukrainian and Swiss composers appeared in the programs of different international festivals in Ukraine. In particular, such Swiss foundations, as «Pro Helvetia», «Association New Music», SUIISA, Schweizer Kulturstiftung, Reseaux Est-Ouest made a great contribution in the development of Swiss-Ukrainian musical cooperation.

Due to such Modern-Music Festivals the multicultural artistic society could come to know the works of prominent Ukrainian (D. Danylov, A. Merhel, M. Kolomiyets, B. Segin, S. Pilyutikov, V. Poleva, Z. Almashi, L. Sydorenko, and N. Chernij) and Swiss Composers (Ch. Henking, H. Holliger, S. Henssler, N. A. Huber, A. Knüsel, F. Müller, T. Kessler, K. Rosenberg, H. Meier, J. Wyttenbach and others).

There are festivals, which earned a great reputation by presenting modern music to a wide audience of Ukraine. To name a few: «Two day and two nights» in Odessa (founded in 1995, has great resonance and in Ukraine and abroad) that actively presents chamber music: «The programs of the festival are always build in a very fresh way... Artistic director of festival this time again created a polyphonic score of master voices from Russia, Germany, France, Sweden, Italy, England, Lithuania, Japan, Belgium, Chile, Switzerland, Greece, Mongolia and Korea... Due to the "Two days and two nights" the art of our gifted fellow citizens gets a wide resonance abroad» [2]. On the website of the festival we find words, that describe its «credo»: «...combination of New music with a new festival form, demonstration to the Ukrainian audience the new ways of modern art, integration of Ukrainian music into the world culture. Our goal is to unite new music with the new form of the festival, to show the new tendencies of new music to the Ukrainian listener (about 2000-3000 every year), to assist integration of Ukrainian music into the world musical culture".

In particular, the programs of festival are enriched by the performances of ensemble «Duel-duet» (mentioned above); by the Swiss-

German-Belarusian ensemble "Inver space" and many others. A lot of premieres, such as «Duet» by Z. Almashi (2006), «Duet» by H. Havrylets (2007), and «Partita-Meditation» by B. Froljak (2007) were presented in 2007 to the wide audience of modern music lovers by the ensemble «Innovation Duo». In 2010 the same ensemble performed a world premier of the «Traveler and his shadows» by V. Kaminski (2010), «Light/Lumiere» by L. Sydoenko (2010), «Calmness, oppressive pain and gladness» by Z. Almashi (2010), «Saying shortly...» by N. Chernij (2010).

Among the periodic programs an international festival «Kyiv Music Fest» has series of the thematic programs, called «Musical guests». Among them the most regular one is «Switzerland - Ukraine» («Musical dialogues: Ukraine – Switzerland»). The momentous event of the 2008 edition of the festival was «Requiem to Mozart» written by Francois Cattin, performed by "Ensemble Jeune Opéra Compagnie" under the baton of Nicolas Farin.

The same year a new season of National Union of Composers in Kyiv was opened with a piano recital, which included pieces written by Ukrainian and Swiss composers: Alfred Schweizer, Yevhen Stankovych, Ihor Shcherbakov, Oleh Bezborodko. It was performed by laureate of the International competitions and a winner of prestigious L. Revutsky-Prize Oleh Bezborodko.

Due to a possibility of the concert and competition activities the representatives of both countries have a great opportunity to present the works of modern Ukrainian composers in Switzerland. Such possibilities advertise not only composers and their works but also the excellence of the performers. For instance, the works of S. Piljutikov were performed on several festivals in Ukraine and in «Days of new music» in Zurich (1998) by «Ensemble für Neue Musik Zürich», «Percussion Ensemble of Lugano»; works of V. Poleva – by «Atros-trio», «Avalon - trio», «Ensemble für Neue Musik Zürich» and others. Initiated by similar projects, other kinds of cooperation are taking place. For instance, in 2004 Ukrainian composer L. Sydorenko signed a contract with a Swiss publisher «Sordino» for publishing her chamber works.

The International festival of organ music «Diapason» became an important manifestation of the Ukrainian-Swiss cooperation in the field of classical music. It was founded in 2006 by Lviv-born organist Irena Zeitz, who studied piano with O. Kryshtalski and organ with S. Daytch at the Conservatory of Lviv, continued her studies at the Krakow Music Academy with J. Jargon and later at the Music Academy of Basel (class

of Guy Bovet) and Music Academy of Lucerne (choir conducting). Irena Zeitz was an initiator and organizer of the reparation of the Organ in the House of Organ Music in Lviv.

Irena Zeitz is a very active concert artist, who participated in many festivals of Europe, USA and Japan. After the official opening of the concert of the resurrected organ of Lviv's Organ Music House in 2006 Irena Zeitz immediately started working on the idea of «Diapason» in cooperation with city council of Lviv, Lviv's Organ Music House, «Pro Helvetia», several informative sponsors. Since then the festival was held almost every year. Famous performers, professors, experts, such as: consultant on maintenance of the historical Swiss organs R. Belatti, organist of monastery Rainau (Switzerland); teacher of Ausburger Highschool (classes of basso continuo, harpsichord and organ) A. Maisch; world famous organist and composer Guy Bovet and others, were regularly visiting Lviv.

Thanks to the financial support of sponsors and foundations some chamber music performances at «Diapason» were recorded live and released in Germany. An important Swiss-Ukrainian cooperative project, called «Candors of mystery» was recorded and released in Odessa in 2003 (total duration of the recording comes to 22 hours) [6].

It is obvious, that the prior directions of cooperation between Ukraine and Switzerland in terms of chamber music are: concert tours of performers-soloists and ensembles; formation of multinational collectives, which include Ukrainian and Swiss performers; premieres of works of modern Ukrainian composers in Switzerland and vice versa; participating and representative mission in the field of competitions and festivals; professional preparation of the Ukrainian performers in the classes of the leading Swiss professors, supported by Swiss benevolent funds; creating new educational systems by Ukrainians in Switzerland; realization of the audio recording and publishing of chamber music works; support of chamber music activities by sponsors, foundations and artistic projects with specific purpose.

Keywords: *chamber-instrumental performance, special education, partnership and sponsorship cooperation, competition and festival movement.*

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