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The influence of traditional Chinese design features in music and their connection with Western composition techniques using the example of selected works of different genres as well as their evaluation in Chinese and Western specialist literature

Abstract

The doctoral thesis for obtaining the academic degree Doctor rerum scientiae musicae consists of two parts. The first part is a scientific work which would deal with the following topic: "The influence of traditional Chinese design features in music and their connection with Western composition techniques using the example of selected works of different genres as well as their evaluation in Chinese and Western specialist literature".

In the second part, a new orchestral work with the working title "The Book of Songs" will be composed and performed. It is divided into three main parts: "Feng", "Ya" and "Song". In the eighteenth century Chinese influences were announced in the social milieu in Europe. At first, Chinese elements became popular in the visual arts, such as architecture and painting. Subsequently, Chinese elements were also transferred to the music or to Chinese subjects while selecting opera fabrics which then being combined to form an amalgam of Chinese and European works of art.

In the nineteenth century, western composers began to use trendy elements such as exoticism and Chinese ones in their creation.

From the twentieth century onwards, a significant number of western composers have been looking for inspiration outside Europe. As a result, they stepped out of their intellectual origin and set an expansive sign in the wide world with their own style. Therefore, Chinese elements received special attention due to their representative "Far Eastern" character. More and more western composers adopted Far Eastern and increasingly specifically Chinese elements ever since.

During the twentieth century, western composers mainly wrote operas, songs and piano works, but only a few orchestral works in which Chinese influences clearly stand out. For this reason, I am going to compose an orchestral work with Chinese elements, which is to have the provisional title "The Book of Songs".