

The first issue of our new specialized periodical for the study of music and dance - *Živá hudba / Living Music* - is just being printed. The title is not new: *Živá hudba* follows the tradition of a collection of the same name - containing the works conceived at the Music Faculty of AMU. It was founded in 1959 as the initiative of prof. PhDr. Karel Janeček, DrSc., the dean and the head of the Department of Music Theory and History at that time. The collection was named after Janeček's study published in 1936 in the *Tempo* periodical, No. 15. It became a publication platform for research articles written by the Music Faculty tutors exploring a vast range of themes relating to music theory as well as practice. Significant music theoretical, aesthetic and historiographic texts by Karel Janeček, Jaroslav Zich, Karel Risinger, Jaroslav Jiránek and others were published here, and also texts by postgraduate students. They were habilitation lectures of Assistant Professors and Professors; texts by pedagogues - important artistic personalities - dealing with the special issues of the individual performance specializations taught at HAMU; partial outcomes of prepared dissertations; studies focusing on composition or interpretation analysis, and texts devoted to significant personalities. Also texts by writers outside AMU had their share - mainly guests at musicological conferences organized by the Music Faculty. Some excellent students were allowed to publish there, too.

Over-the-half-century-long existence of *Živá hudba*, 15 issues were published. Its 190 articles represents a remarkable contribution to musicology, useful both for the research of the specific issues and for getting deeper in knowing the publishing writers and making a picture of what has HAMU been living by in those 50 years.

However, over that long period, the requirements for the form and the level of specialized periodicals changed. Higher are not only requirements as to the expert level of the contents but also as concerns the manner that the research results are publicly presented. Among expert public and the authorities financing science and research, irregularly published collections do not gain such a respect as regularly issued specialized periodicals. Therefore we decided to transform our old *Živá hudba* collection into a peer-reviewed specialized periodical. To achieve this, the periodical has to fulfil a number of obligatory criteria: regular periodicity and highly expert level of the published articles are the main ones. Other parameters follow: international editorial board, strict procedure of peer-reviewing before publishing. It is true that the periodical maintains its traditional title *Živá hudba*, however, its subtitle „Periodical for the Study of Music and Dance“ implies, that its role is to broaden the spectre of similar Czech expert periodicals by one specialized on musicology and choreology. Those are the two fundamental areas of artistic and scientific activities at today's AMU Music and Dance Faculty.

Therefore, *Živá hudba* will, for now annually, present materials from the area of music and dance theory. In the musicological part it would give preference to those areas that have been up to now not reflected, or only sporadically in our country, i.e.: music theory including theory of interpretation, ethnomusicology, organology and ethnoorganology, music historiography - focusing mainly on the music history of the 20th and 21st centuries, music aesthetics, music psychology and music management. In the choreological part there will appear articles dealing with the problem issues from all the areas of choreology and ethnochoreology, including the broad spectre of historical issues as, up to now, in the Czech Republic there exists no other research oriented periodical specialized on the research in dance. *Živá hudba* is intended to enlarge the space for publication activities of HAMU pedagogues and postgraduate students, however, it will be also open for publication to all interested from Czech Republic as well as from abroad.

We are convinced that co-existence of the study of music and dance on the pages of our new periodical will bring original values and that it will lead to deeper mutual understanding and cooperation of both the research worlds.

On behalf of the editorial board:

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