

ABSTRACT

The Diploma Thesis is a presentation of the notable Czech piano teacher Alena Fišerová, who spent all her professional life at the “Vzorová hudební škola” (Model Music School) in Voršilská Str. in the borough of Praha 1. The first part of the Thesis focuses on her family background and childhood. Her studies and professional life are also described. This information is mostly based on witness accounts and memories of her former pupils and friends. Exact data was verified using personal documents available and the chronicles of the Vzorová hudební škola. The Thesis follows in detail her method of teaching the piano as well as the contribution that she presented in her day and time. Alena Fišerová did not leave her mark in piano pedagogy as a teacher alone but also as the creator of many sheet music compilations, either alone or in collaboration with others. The best-known titles out of her publishing activities are the Album etud I. – V. (Album of Études, vol. I – V), to this day possibly the most commonly used compilations at the Základní umělecká škola (Fine Arts School) in the Czech Republic. This work is the subject of detailed analysis and description in the following chapters. All five volumes of the Album etud are introduced and selected études from vol. I and II are analysed with regard to the method. The research part of the Diploma Thesis presents an investigation of her contribution and its usage to teaching the piano at the Základní umělecká škola (Schools of Fine Arts) in Czech Republic. Alena Fišerová raised many piano teachers as well as performing or otherwise active musicians – not just pianists but also conductors and composers. Their direct witness accounts and memories are incorporated into the Thesis.

KEYWORDS

piano, piano teacher, piano pedagogy, Alena Fišerová, Album etud