Kyriakos Koursaris:
Main Conducting Techniques Based on Greek and Cypriot Folk Music

The Supervisor’s Report

I have known Kyriakos Koursaris for five years, since the very beginning of his study at the Faculty of Education. It was clear from the beginning that he had peculiar disposal for conducting activities because of his motional abilities but thanks to his diligence he has made a great progress both in his theoretical knowledge and in all areas of practical musical skills, as well.

He approached to his thesis with the same responsibility, as well. The theme of his diploma work, it means the monograph devoted to the problems of conducting technique, was proposed by himself. During the process of the preparation and final writing of the thesis, he showed the ability to work in the single-handed way but on the other hand he was always ready to accept my recommendations.

The first two chapters make up the theoretical and historical outlet for the main part of the thesis. The author describes the specific situation in musical tradition and present in his native country. He is thinking about such questions as importance of a conductor in music interpretation, his required competences, he compares orchestral and choral style of conducting etc. These chapters of his thesis can be considered as very interesting and mostly individual essays about musical interpretation.

The central Chapter 3 contains Koursaris’s own methodical system of the basic conducting skills, made on a base of detailed knowledge of several relevant textbooks. What is most important is the musical material he used for practise all skills – the traditional Greek a Cypriot folk music. Sometimes he used a bit untraditional sequence of individual problems, for example he starts with 4/4 conducting scheme and only later come 3/4 a 2/4 schemes.

In my opinion Koursaris’s dissertation has got the high level in the formal and language aspects, as well. The author is able to construct the continuous and readable text without grammatical and orthographical mistakes.

I consider this thesis very succesful and I think it could be used as a textbook of conducting technique in Greek speaking countries. I propose to mark it **excellent**.

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