

Albania is a country where western and eastern culture is naturally mixed. This characteristic is notable in all kinds of Albanian art. The piano came to Albania at the end of the nineteenth century and was till the sixties of the twentieth century mostly used as an accompanying instrument. In 1962, thanks to the opening of the Conservatory of Tirana, the piano became a concert instrument, and by the seventies it was considered a highly preferred instrument in Albania. The Communist era can be esteemed as the most important period for Albanian piano literature. Considering that the aim of this study is to make an introduction to the Albanian music by focusing on piano music, a considerable part of this diploma thesis deals with the Communist period of the Albanian history (1945 - 1990). Because of the word limit of this diploma thesis, only an overview to the Albanian music and a general analysis of the Albanian piano literature is introduced.