ELENA GONATA: SAXOPHONE AND ITS ROLE IN JAZZ MUSIC
Report of the Opponent

Diploma thesis written by Elena Gonata put brain to saxophone. In the introduction she confess her interest in this musical instrument from the childhood. She started playing saxophone three years ago, so her concern is connected with practices. Diploma thesis is divided into three chapters. There are some informations about history of saxophone in the chapter 1. Chapter 2 subdivides into three subchapters. The first is addressing to history of jazz, the second to jazz bands and orchestras and the third is engaged in well known bands and orchestras. Elena Gonata adheres the correct structure of diploma thesis, because of there is summary, resume (in Czech language) and bibliography in correct form in the end of thesis. The general impression is supplemented with nice photos, both with coloured and black and white.

The thesis is a high-level, the language is also on a high stylistic level, but sometimes I have perception that the diction is from the professional books and not by student, who has not much experiences with special language. I have some questions to Elena Gonata, she will have the possibility to answer me by the state exam:

1) Why do you numerate the subchapters with zero? For example: 2.0, 3.0.? The subchapter „Definition of Jazz“ (page 33) is even numerated 2.0.1.!

2) At the chapter 2.2. „Well Known Bands And Orchestras“ there are mentioned some music groups. But among them there are two musicians without band – John Birks „Dizzy“ Gillespie and Gerald Joseph „Gerry“ Mulligan. Why they are not in the next chapter addressing well known saxophonists?

3) The discography of all mentioned musicians is attached in the end of text about every one. Only discography of Anthony Braxton is in the supplement, in the end of all diploma thesis. Why?

I propose the mark: very well

Prague, May 18, 2009