

In my thesis, I analysed ten songs of my own choice by Václav Jan Tomášek in poems by Johann Wolfgang Goethe in a harmonic, melodic and formal way. I compared his approach to the techniques of Franz Schubert and I found certain parallels and differences. Both composers lived in the same period and although both of them had a similar opinion on the poems of Johann Wolfgang Goethe, they both composed in a completely different way. I also did an analysis of the singing technique and interpretation of these songs and I described the interpretative problems of each song in the aforementioned areas. I investigated different attitudes and aspects of singing techniques of Libuše Márová, Jindřich Jindrák, Thomas Lippert and Magdaléna Hajóssyová when interpreting these songs. I did a deep analysis and I managed to find very specific details. The inclusion of the work is a record of the songs which I made together with my colleague Mgr. Magda Veličková. The record might be an inspiration and motivation for other students or singers when studying songs in Goethe's poems or other vocal compositions by this author. It might also serve to motivate people to further study his life and work. To conclude, I found out that thanks to Tomášek, the production of Czech composers of the nineteenth century, at least in the area of vocal production, reached a standard equivalent to that of European composers, although most songs were composed in foreign texts. Nevertheless, they definitely paved the way for the development of Czech songs (in Czech texts, written by Czech composers). I agree with many of the investigators who have written more extensive texts about Václav Jan Tomášek, that he is marginalised unjustly and that not only students of music but also the public should have more of a chance to learn more about him.