

ABSTRACT:

The author of this thesis endeavours to elaborate a comprehensive portrait of Ivan Kurz, a contemporary composer and academic educator. The thesis is primarily focused on his composition works and his pedagogical contribution with the aim to establish a practical source of information helping musicologists and teachers in the analysis of Czech contemporary music. In addition, it emphasises the remarkable role of Ivan Kurz in the Czech contemporary music scene. In the introductory part of the main body, the work is concerned with the biography of Ivan Kurz and then the work's attention subsequently moves to his composition works. His works, which aesthetically go along with the postmodern ideal of musical expressive elements synthesis, are primarily of spiritually and philosophically themed music. The scope of his compositions is relatively wide. It includes, for example, symphonies, orchestral works, choir works, cantatas, oratorios, chamber music, sonatas, melodrama, etc. These individual composition works and their concert performances are briefly described. If available, sheet music or audio materials and recordings are mentioned as well. The work is also concerned with Kurz's important contribution to film music and the music for the theatre during his cooperation with remarkable Czech film and theatre directors. From the pedagogical perspective, the thesis shortly analyses compositions which are connected with children's musical development, namely works for recorders and works for children's choirs. The final part of the thesis is then focused on Ivan Kurz's pedagogical contribution and his students which have finished their study of composition. Kurz's publications are also succinctly mentioned in the final part.

KEYWORDS:

Ivan Kurz, portrait, composer, contemporary music, The Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, spiritual music, teaching composition