



FACULTY OF EDUCATION
Charles University
Department of Music Education
Magdalény Rettigové 4, 116 39 Prague 1

Review of Diploma Thesis

Thesis Supervisor

Student: Bc. Kyriaki Chira

Title of the thesis: Compositions for Violin by Modern Greek and Cypriot Composers, Solon Michaelides, Alkis Baltas and Andreas Argyrou

Thesis Supervisor: PhDr. Gabriela Kubátová, Ph.D.

Thesis Examiner: prof. PhDr. Stanislav Pecháček, Ph.D.

Evaluation of the thesis	Mark (1 - 4)
Clarity of the thesis question and its realization	1
Difficulty of the theme in relation to the theoretical knowledge	1
Difficulty of the theme in relation to practical skills	1
Methodology and adequacy	1-2
Literature review	1
Structure of the thesis	1
Language and terminology	1
Writing level	1
Originality of the thesis	1
Practicality of the thesis	1

Overall assessment of the thesis:

In this diploma thesis, the student explores violin literature by three Cypriot composers, an original and interesting topic that has not been covered in recent academic literature.

The work is logically structured and deals broadly with pieces for violin by Solon Michaelides (1905–1979), an important cultural icon in Cyprus, Alkis Baltas (*1948), and Andreas Argyrou (*1957). The candidate introduces the composers through their works and through valuable interviews that she conducted with Baltas and Argyrou.

I commend that the candidate explored and analyzed the extent to which the chosen pieces were inspired by folklore. Moreover, she presented the specific folk songs and contextualized her findings within broader Cypriot folk music.

One of the most unique and laudable aspects of this thesis is the candidate's overall approach to the diploma thesis process. The student coupled her preparation for the master's recital and



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her interpretation of the piece, *Nostalgia* by Solon Michaelides, with the thesis, presenting a nuanced review of the violin part.

I consider the thesis to be extremely successful and unique, and in terms of language, it is at the C1 level. The terminology used is entirely adequate for the given topic, and the stylistic level is on par with the expectations of academic scholarship and literature. In this respect, the student is able to succeed at an English or American university.

Minor complaints, which, however, are not essential with regards to the content of the work, will be communicated to the student during the defense.

Other notes:

With respect for future work, I suggest that the candidate analyze only pivotal moments in pieces.

Musical examples that are from the middle or end of the works must be accompanied by essential musical notation.

The candidate could refer to wider academic literature on Greek music that would support and demonstrate the originality of the chosen topic.

Questions for discussion:

To what extent are you planning on continuing down this research path?

How are you planning on incorporating your findings into your future teaching?

How has your perspective on Cypriot music, especially violin literature, changed during your research and writing process?

What is the folklore scene like in Cyprus like today?

I recommend this thesis for the defense.

Date:

January 12, 2020

Signatures of Supervisor/Examiner

Gabriela Kubátová