

This dissertation is a result of the author's great interest in contemporary music and especially musical "styles" known as "Holy minimalism", "New simplicity", etc. In a way, this work is an extension of my master thesis that dealt with the music of Arvo Pärt which only deepened my interest for this kind of music. Here I also deal with the music of Henryk Mikolaj Górecki whose name very often appears beside that of Arvo Pärt's and he is usually characterized as his Polish counterpart. As a student of the Pedagogical Faculty of the Charles University I realize that the music education students of this university are not familiar with the musical output of the post-modern era, a fact that means that they will not be able to teach anything about contemporary music in their role of music teachers. Undoubtedly, the music of the second half of the 20th century and 21st century is an integral part of the history of music and I strongly believe that it has a very high artistic value. Consequently, it is essential that pedagogues know and understand this music. This is the main reason for choosing this topic.