

Kostas Nikitas: A missing puzzle piece from 20th century Greek music

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Abstract

The emergence of essential idiosyncratic characteristics of the work of the Thessalonician composer Kostas Nikitas (1940-1989) aids to the crystallization of the notion "avant-garde" in the localized musical society of Thessaloniki after 1950. Initially we attempt an analysis of the composer's musical material in correlation with his journey through different stages of musical activities, taking also into account his interaction with the artistic and social environment. A discretization of the composer's lifetime musical material (using as indicative criteria the composer's compositional texture, musical structures, musical forms, etc.), provides the basis for comparative evaluation of his work with contemporary works of others, in local as well as in more extended scale. In parallel, by suggesting a group of functional criteria, we set a framework of possible usages of the term "avant-garde" in Thessaloniki from 1970 up to 1990.

CVs

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Graduated from the Department of Music Studies of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Her diploma thesis titled "A Study of the Motet : the evolutionary process of the musical genre from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance", guided by Prof. Evi Nika-Sampson, responds to her main interest in vocal music and aspects of performance and analysis. She has additional diplomas in Piano Performance and Theory Studies.