

## STATEMENT

by Prof. Dr. Veselin Ivanov Koychev, Paisii Hilendarski University,  
dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree "**Doctor**",  
field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of..., doctoral  
programme Methodology of Music Education

**Author:** Tsvetana Ivanova Karageorgieva

**Topic:** "Pedagogical technologies for the improvement of sound production in the upper register of the saxophone".

**Scientific supervisor:** associate professor Diana Stancheva, Paisii Hilendarski University.

The set of paper materials submitted by the PhD student is in accordance with Article 36 (1) of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of PU, and includes the following documents:

1. Application to the Rector of PU for the disclosure of the procedure for the defense of a dissertation;
2. CV in European format;
3. Minutes of the Departmental Council relating to the reporting of the readiness for the opening of the procedure and the preliminary discussion of the thesis;
4. Abstract;
5. Declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents;
6. Opinion of the supervisor for admission to public defense;
7. List of scientific publications on the topic of the dissertation;
8. Dissertation;
9. Copies of scientific publications;

Doctoral student Tsvetana Karageorgieva graduated from SMU in Shiroka Luka in 1994 with a special instrument tambura, Bachelor's degree at AMTII, Plovdiv, in 1999, majoring in Music Pedagogy and Master's degree in Art Management in 2014. From 2003 to 2006 she specialized in jazz saxophone at the Music Academy in Bern. He has worked in the Big Band Plovdiv, Wind Orchestra - Plovdiv, State Opera - Plovdiv, Big Band of Swiss Jazz School, Bern, as a freelance musician in Austria, Switzerland, Germany, lecturer in a special subject of saxophone at AMTII "Prof. He is a professor of saxophone at the University of Music "Asen Diamandiev" and the University of Music "Paisii Hilendarski". I know her personally and have wonderful impressions of her as a precise professional in her work, an excellent performer and a sociable positive person with fresh and creative thinking.

The dissertation is structured in an introduction, three chapters, conclusion, references and appendices. The total volume is 189 pages of which the main content is spread over 147 pages A significant number of 101 sources are used, of which 8 in Cyrillic and 93 in Latin and 23 internet sources. The formatting of the sources is clear and correct. Included are 18 diagrams illustrating the results of the experiment. The appendices include 35 figures and 4 tables containing photographs, notes appendices. The volume of the dissertation meets the requirements for scientific papers at Paisii Hilendarski University of Science and Technology.

In the introduction the object, subject, aims, objectives and hypothesis of the study are clearly formulated. **The subject of** the dissertation is a specific problem in the field of saxophone teaching methodology, namely mastering the fundamentals and improving the sound production in the saxophone and in particular in the altissimo register. **The object of the** research is the process of saxophone teaching of students studying a special subject saxophone. **Methods of the research are:** pedagogical observation, analysis (of theoretical, visual and sound information), abstraction, comparison, generalization, pedagogical experiment. The **aim** of the present study is to formulate pedagogical technologies that, in the process of training, on the one hand, improve the technical competencies of saxophone learners to improve the sound production in the upper register of the instrument, and on the other hand, expand the possibilities of learners to perform prominent solo passages and their application in the improvisational parts in the interpretation of musical works.

**The tasks** are adequately tailored to the stated goal. **The basic assumption** is that mastering the fundamentals and perfecting the technique of sound production in the saxophone, and in its upper register in particular, is carried out according to certain, clearly formulated rules that should be known and followed.

**Chapter One** traces the historical aspects and evolution of the saxophone from its inception to the present day. The doctoral student examines the application of the saxophone to different styles in music. Citations and footnotes are clear and correctly formatted. The most important individuals who contributed to the development of the instrument are discussed historically. The problem of upper-register saxophone voicing in the methodological literature and in practice is examined with particular precision. Doctoral student Karageorgieva concludes that the results of the study firmly establish the absence of a system of pedagogical technologies for improving the upper register of the saxophone in Bulgaria, which justifies the need for the development of such in the present work.

**The second chapter** is devoted to this very problem, namely, the creation of pedagogical technologies for the improvement of sound production in the upper register of the saxophone. Tsvetana Karageorgieva also examines the problem of staging in physiological terms in order to clarify which factors influence proper sound extraction. The materials are illustrated with 28 figures and 2 tables. The chapter collects and systematizes various criteria, components and reasons for producing better and qualitative sound. The issue of performance breathing and the importance of breath control and articulation for proper musicianship in the altissimo register of the saxophone is also addressed. Attention is paid to finger shapes and a concept is formulated on the use of vowel sounds and their relationship to the extraction of tones from the high register of the saxophone, which represents an original contribution of the doctoral student. Basic parameters are given in the selection of an appropriate mouthpiece and cloth, the placement of the correct embouchure, including explanations of the facial muscles involved, the position of the larynx, tongue, throat, and last but not least the notion of the pitch of tones in the high register of the saxophone. Exercises on dynamics, phrasing and rhythmicity have been developed and proposed, which is also a contribution to the study. Doctoral student Tsvetana Karageorgieva makes her own comparisons, conclusions and cause-effect relationships, which helps to build a system of pedagogical technologies for improving the upper register of the saxophone.

In **Chapter Three**, a pedagogical experiment was conducted to examine the effectiveness of technologies for improving upper register saxophone voicing in pedagogical practice. It was implemented in three stages - initial ascertainment, formative (developmental) and final. The results are presented in Table 3 and Table 4, where, along with the scores of each student on each indicator, the calculations of the average score - of the student and of the respective group in which he/she participated - are presented. An analysis of the results on various indicators, such as instrument placement and fingering technique, embouchure, breathing, dynamics and phrasing, and sonority in altissimo, has been made. The scores were summed into a student's average score. Conclusions are drawn proving that even with a good technical command of the instrument in the working range, there is no guarantee that mastery of the high register will be easy. An individual approach was used in the selection of technologies and the sequence of their introduction into the learning process, due to the different level of development of performance technique in each student.

In conclusion, the doctoral student summarizes that the application of technologies from the saxophone high register improvement system in the teaching of a special advanced subject contributes to the effective technical development of the students and to the improvement of their artistic performance.

The dissertation is well designed technically; it contains collected and systematized information proving the claims. The work can be useful in practical and applied aspects to students of saxophone at beginning and advanced stages, as well as to teachers and amateurs.

The publications on the dissertation (3 articles) are related to the research problems, complementing and developing it.

The research is of a contributory nature. A large number of theoretical publications and teaching aids related to mastering the high register of the saxophone have been studied. The approach of prominent performers and teachers in mastering the high register has been studied. The

positive aspects of their methods are systematized and analyzed. For the first time in this country, a system of technologies for perfecting the high register of the saxophone is applied, contributing to the effective building of the basics of the ambuchur, finger technique, and performance breathing, as well as to the overall technical development of students. Rules and algorithms are defined in the learning process, which should be known and followed, with clear and precise instructions from the teacher and systematic work on the altissimo register during the lesson and in independent preparation. The hypothesis that the mastery and improvement of the technique of sound production in the upper register of the saxophone is carried out according to certain, clearly formulated rules, which should be known and followed, is proved.

The abstract has been prepared according to the requirements of the relevant regulations, and reflects the main results achieved in the thesis, giving an accurate picture of the quality and level of scientific thinking.

I recommend that the system of technologies be revised and published in the form of a theoretical manual.

On the basis of my overall positive evaluation of the conducted research on the topic "Pedagogical technologies for improving the sound extraction in the upper register of the saxophone", abstract, achieved results and contributions, **I propose to the honorable scientific jury to award the degree of Doctor of Education and Science to Tsvetana Ivanova Karageorgieva** in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of..., doctoral programme Methodology of Music Education

**Author.**

09.04.2024

**Prepared by:** .....

Prof.

Dr. Veselin Koychev