

## Diplomový koncert/Diploma Concert

### Oponentský posudek DK/Review of Diploma Concert

#### Wanshu Zhang: Sólový zpěv/Solo Singing

Vedoucí DK/DC Supervisor: Mgr. et MgA. Markéta Štefaniková

Oponent DK/DC Reviewer: MgA. Petr Špaček, Ph.D.

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The final graduation singing concert of student Wanshu Zhang took place on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 6 pm in the auditorium (C5) of the Faculty of Education at the University of Hradec Králové. This finalised and finished her study. The piano accompaniment was divided between PhDr. Hana Přibylová and Mgr. Karel Koldinský.

At the beginning, it should be emphasised that the graduate student joined the master degree studies after the recognition of her previous study of popular singing in the PRC. Therefore, she had no experience with the classical singing before.

The concert dramaturgy was conducted a bit strangely, from **folk songs by J. Malát** (*Až já pojedu přes ten les, Čí to husičky na tej vodě*) through the **artificial songs by R. Quilter** (*Under the Greenwool Tree, Take, O take Those Lips Away, It was a lover and his lass*), followed by the **aria antiche Gaspirini** (*Caro laccio, dolce nodo*), **G.F. Händel's Theodora aria** (*Che colpa é la mia*) from the opera Flavio and the **Veruna aria** (*Aj, zlý to čas*) from Blodek's Opera In Well. Afterwards, the songs by **Chinese composers** Wang Ming (*Rong Hua*) and Yin Yigong (*Xiao He Tang Shui*) were sung. Then, the **popular English song** by F. Ande and W. Scheandt (*Dream of My Dream*), C. Porter (*Don't Fence Me In*) and G. Miller (*I Know Why (and So Do You)*) were included.

The student's diligence is admirable. It reflects the effort to manage the transformation of the demanding Czech language into a singing form. Unfortunately, the effort of singing tone distorted the concretisation of the vocal series no matter the language in which the graduate sang. Especially for the non-professional public, it was very difficult to identify whether she sang in Italian, English or Czech. It is also necessary to mention the graduate's obvious relationship to the way of popular music singing, which intertwined with its style and negatively influenced the effort to perform the classical singing. The latter includes the specific way of the singing phrases characteristic for the western style of classical singing (intonation, glissando, musical phrases etc.). This happened mostly in the first half of the concert. However, I was impressed by the student's effort to be relaxed and to grasp the expression, which, especially in the second half of approximately 40 minutes long performance, grew in intensity, along with the popular melodies.

Wanshu Zhang performed a concert well. Nevertheless, it is necessary to consider the previous inexperience with completely different music culture and the western style of singing technique which is extremely important to master the classical repertoire. Moreover, there is an enormous language barrier between the Chinese and Czech language, especially within the vocal articulation.

Wanshu Zhang is very diligent student and I believe that she will continue to improve and develop her singing skills.

For the final defence, I would like to raise a question if the student has found a relationship to the Czech music and whether she will try to promote Czech songs in the PRC after she returns back.

In Hradec Kralove on April 23, 2019

MgA. Petr Špaček, Ph.D.