



H.F.R.I.
Hellenic Foundation for
Research & Innovation

Description of the funded research project
2nd Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects
to Support Post-Doctoral Researchers

Title of the research project: Pedagogical Guide for teaching Contemporary piano Music

Principal Investigator: Eleni Liatsou

Reader-friendly title: Teaching Contemporary Piano music

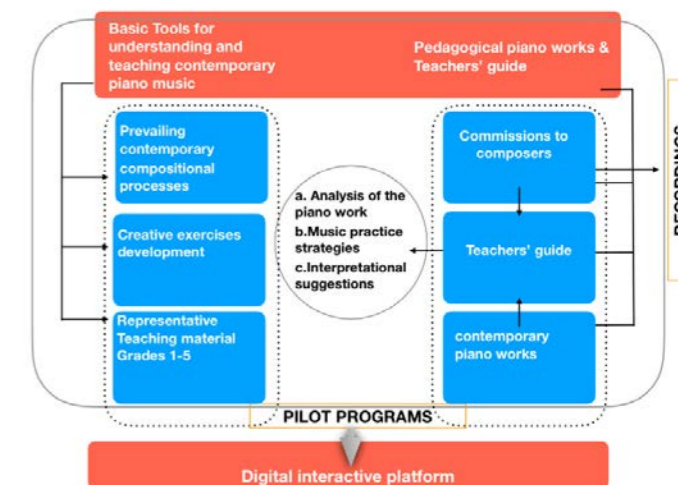
Scientific Area: Humanities & Arts

Institution and Country: Greece

Host Institution: University of Macedonia

Collaborating Institutions: Thessaloniki State Music Conservatory, Music College of Thessaloniki, Cultural Centre of Thessaloniki

**Project webpage:
<http://lenioliatsou.com/home-2>**



Budget: 134,910.00€

Duration: 36 months

Research Project Synopsis

The objective of CONTEMPUS is to develop an innovative pedagogical guide for teaching and performing contemporary piano music, written after 1950. It addresses piano educators at all levels of music education including Music Schools, Conservatories, and Universities and it is an interdisciplinary research that attempts to link music composition, musicology and interpretation, proposing an applied perspective of the contemporary piano repertoire in music education.

The content of the Contempus is based on commissions to composers in Greece and abroad, music recordings, and a complete pedagogical repertoire suggestion coupled with a *Teacher's Guide*.

The exported results will be available on a digital platform in order to be shared and enriched by the music community worldwide.

Project originality

Contemporary piano music often challenges piano teachers as it is bound to go beyond codified performance practices and conventions. The technical and musical characteristics of this repertoire such as the preparation of the piano, the complex rhythms, the new sounds and aesthetics are still little adopted (if at all) in the piano curriculum. This fact, apart from depriving pianists from the music experience of the last seven decades during their studies, it also deprives them from being familiarized with a different approach to the act of composition and nature of performance that would expand their artistic horizons.

It could be argued that, teaching contemporary music to the future generation of musicians influences the direction of music creation, as young performers learn how to become an active part of it, rather than in its service. This role leads them to innovation and originality and raises their prospects in a profession that is highly competitive.

CONTEMPUS aims to bridge this existing gap between music education and contemporary music by offering a complete guide to piano educators without any former training and experience in this repertoire. Furthermore it will create a firm basis of an educational resource from which new insights and pedagogical approaches to interpretive performance will evolve. The design and content of CONTEMPUS can also provide “a model” for new pedagogical contemporary music guides addressing other instruments.

Expected results & Research Project Impact

CONTEMPUS aims to contribute to the *status quo* of music education by providing a *complete* teaching guide, consisting of didactic tools, repertoire and recordings, suggesting the introduction of contemporary piano repertoire into the *formal curriculum* of music education. Through the digital interactive platform CONTEMPUS will be open and globally accessible, thus enforcing its international appeal and influence.

The importance of this funding

The H.F.R.I award has given me the unique opportunity to pursue my academic goals in Greece, to coordinate an independent self-sufficient research and cooperate with distinguished composers and colleagues.



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COMMUNICATION

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