

Manifold Identities. Studies of Music and Minorities.

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The meeting was open to all scholars interested in the topic Music and Minorities, but mainly ethnomusicologists responded to the call for papers. So the publication is to be seen clearly in the tradition of ethnomusicology. A widening of the geographical areas is to be noticed, compared to the Ljubljana conference (see Pettan/Reyes/Komavec 2001), due to the fact that the phenomenon of minorities is international and ethnomusicologists tend to become aware of it more and more. But the approaches to the topic are quite differentiated. Not only different national research traditions come to the fore, but also different positions of “in- and outsiders” as well as methodological differences. So the broad variety of our discipline is also mirrored in this volume.

There were four themes for the conference:

1. Theory and method in the study of music and minorities, definitely essentials for a young study group
2. Interethnic problems of borderlands are discussed from different points of view: general historical considerations, case studies of distinct regions, problems in borderlands characterised by cultural survival crisis and assimilation aspects and boundaries in the widest sense as state, ethnic and musical boundaries representing a specific cultural heritage
3. The role of music for migrant societies is presented by two quite different case studies dealing with a French minority in France and Turkish youth migrants in Germany.
4. Representing minorities in music covers a wide range of meanings, including self-representation, public presence in media, as well as “camouflage” of minority musics.
5. A fifth one appeared unintentionally, but its impact seemed so strong in seven of the papers, that we decided to make up a whole section of it:

Minority music and religious identity. Focusing on different religions (Jewish, Protestant, Catholic, Greek rite, Karaim and Islamic) in different states (Poland, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Italy, Sumatra and Azerbaijan) the papers highlight different situations of these religious minorities in the way they see themselves.

The audio examples provided by some of the authors can be found on the accompanying CD. Due to the fact that much of the editing work was done in Vienna and that the connection between the Study Group and the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien has been close from the beginning, there is a German section to be found in this book.

The volume “Manifold Identities: Studies on Music and Minorities” presents the papers of the second Study Group meeting, which was held in Lublin/Poland, August 25-31, 2002. It is now available. Ordering facilities:

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