

6th SYMPOSIUM OF THE ICTM STUDY GROUP
"MUSIC OF THE TURKIC-SPEAKING WORLD"

Trabzon, Turkey, 15 – 16 October, 2018

The 6th Symposium of the ICTM Study Group on Music of the Turkic-Speaking World took place at the State Conservatory of Trabzon University in Trabzon, Turkey, on October 15-16, 2018. The theme of the Symposium was “Dance Phenomenon: Innovation and Creativity in Studying and Performing” with the following three sub-themes: (1) Dance Traditions Through Times, Cultures and Ethnicities; (2) Forms of Accompaniment in Dance Traditions; (3) New Directions in the Study of Music of Turkic People.

The two-day Symposium comprised of two keynote presentations, eleven papers and three poster presentations. It also included two workshops, master class, video film demonstration, new books and journals presentation, concerts, and a business meeting.

The symposium attracted participants from eleven countries including Azerbaijan, Canada, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, UK, and Uzbekistan. The Programme Committee consisted of Dr. Abdullah Akat (Trabzon University, Trabzon, Turkey), Dr. Alla Sokolova (Adyghe State University, Maykop, Russia), Dr. Galina B. Sychenko (Novosibirsk, Russia / Rome, Italy). Two keynote speakers were Dr. Ann R. David (University of Roehampton, London, UK) and Dr. Catherine Foley (University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland).

After a welcome reception, the first evening involved all participants to experience Turkish and Irish dances by participating at the double dance workshop. Şerife Yılmaz introduced a Black Sea Dance Horon – a very well-known local cultural phenomenon. It was accompanied by Turkish traditional instruments *davul-zurna*, *kaval*, and *kemenche*; Catherine Foley introduced the foundation of Irish Dance traditions.

The Symposium was opened by Prof. Dr. Hikmet Öksüz, Vice Rector of Karadeniz Technical University, Prof. Dr. Atilla Çimer, General Secretary of Trabzon University, Prof. Dr. Osman Baktaş, Director of Strengthening Association of Trabzon State conservatory, Prof. Dr. Razia Sultanova, ICTM Vice President, Chair of the ICTM Study Group on Music of the Turkic-Speaking World (University of Cambridge).

Dr. Ann R. David in her keynote presentation “Migrations of Gesture and Music: Dancing Bodies and their Stories”, stressed out “how gestures migrate and the meanings they bring and of the gestures we perform in our lives, both literal and metaphoric”. Dr. Catherine Foley in her keynote presentation “Pushing Boundaries and Extending Horizons: Conformity, Creativity, and Negotiation of Ideological and Aesthetic Fields in Irish Traditional Dance” examined “diverse creative strategies utilised at local and national levels to sustain Irish dancing as an important social and cultural phenomenon.”

Participants of the Symposium in their papers discussed a wide range of issues: general view on dance as a part of spiritual culture (Alla Sokolova), Azerbaijani folk dance genres in relation to other cultures (Fattakh Khalig-zade), historical practices of body movement as a spiritual self-expression of Bashkirs (Zilia Imamutdinova), reflection of Kazakh dance in piano music of the XX century (Arailym Daulbayeva). Several articles were devoted to concrete traditions: folk dances of Adana Osmaniye region (Muzaffer Sümbül), Turkmen Dance *Kushtdepi* (Jamilya Gurbanova), outstanding figure of “Living Human Treasure” Hayri Dev (Mehmet Öcal Özbilgin). Historical research on early records of music and dance from the Turkestan collection by R. Karutz (Saule Utegalieva) and from two variants of collection by A.V. Anokhin from South Siberia and Mongolia, with particular focus on Muslim examples (Galina B. Sychenko) went hand in hand with discussing modern problems of ontological status of a national dance (Belma Oğul Kurtişoğlu) and re-emerging dance tradition in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan (Kanykei Mukhtarova).

Poster session included highly valuable materials on instrumental and choreographic folklore of the Turkic Peoples of Lower Volga Region (Adelya Usmanova), dance semantics in Kazakh culture (Gulnara Kuzbakova), Tatar dance as a national artifact (Rezeda Khurmatullina).

During the special session were presented the books “Turkic Soundscapes: from Shamanic Voice to Hip-Hop” (editors Razia Sultanova and Megan Rancier); “Turkestan Collection of Songs and Instrumental Pieces by R. Karutz (1905)” (editor Saule Utegalieva); “Atlas of the Circassian (Adyghe) *shychepshyn*” by Z. Cuchev and “Comic

dances of Adyfhes (Circassians)” by S. Kushu (editor Alla Sokolova); new ethnomusico-logical journal “Sound Ethnography”, edited by Museo Pasqualino (Palermo) and Neoclassica (Roma), Italy (presented by Galina B. Sychenko); and on-line journal “Musicologist”, edited by the Trabzon University (editor Abdullah Akat).

Business meeting of our Study Group included general report on the activity and publications of the Study Group by Chairperson Razia Sultanova, a short report on Study Group business meeting at the 2017 ICTM World Conference in Limerick, Ireland, by Zilia Imamutdinova, and also the new election of the Study Group Executive Committee. In the procedure of election with 24 Study Group members presented were nominated: Razia Sultanova (Chairperson), Galina B. Sychenko (Vice-Chairperson) and Abdullah Akat (Secretary-Treasurer). All three candidates were elected after a unanimous vote in total agreement.

Various genres were offered to the audience’s attention during the Symposium: a video film on Turkmen song-dance ritual *Kushtdetpe* (presented by Jamilya Gurbanova), a master class demonstrating a new dimensions of the traditional phenomenon by Sashar Zarif “Singing *Mugham*, dancing *Mugham*”. Concert programme included the Horon dance performance of local dancers and musicians, Concert of Turkish music performed by professors and teachers of the State Conservatory of Trabzon University (Eylem Derçin, *tanbur-vocal*, İlhan Barutçu, *ney*, Murat Burçin Derçin, *qanun*, Alper Akgül, *piano*), and big Black Sea traditional music and dance concert. Every evening was marked with workshops of various local Turkish and also Irish dances bringing real fun and joy to the Symposium’s participants.

At the closing ceremony all Symposium contributors were awarded honorary diplomas by the Rector of the Trabzon University Prof. Dr. Emin Aşıkkutlu, leaving all participants with lovely memory on the remarkable Study Group event at the State Conservatory of Trabzon University, Turkey.

Kanykei Mukhtarova,
Galina B. Sychenko

