

ABSTRACT OF THE HABILITATION THESIS

The habilitation thesis entitled *The Stylistic Fusion in Music Production, from Classical Genres to Jazz/Pop/Rock*, **follows** the path of **my** personal professional development, **describing** the **foremost** achievements in **several** fields of music creation: composition and arranging, sound engineering, scientific research, publishing, teaching, music performing and music production/management.

These activities bring together all stages of the music production, from **the** musical idea to **the** audio album, concert or show, **based on the** research needed in **developing** new projects and directions. **All of these have contributed to the enhancement of my** skills and competencies, **in guiding and leading** a scientific research **in the complexities of the musical field, with a focus on** the stylistic area of **the jazz/ pop/rock** genres.

Chapter 1, entitled **Professional Path prior to the Doctorate**, **focuses on** details about my training, **my teaching activity between** 1999 and 2013 in **the non-regulated, secondary** musical education, as an associate professor and then assistant professor in the specialization of *Jazz Composition and Pop Music*, **culminating with my** most important achievement - **the implementation of two courses:** *Computer-assisted Sound Processing* and *Sound Engineering*, as well as **my work as** a sound engineer/music director within the Romanian Broadcasting Society - Radio Iași Studio.

Chapter 2 focuses on my personal activity, with **the** doctoral studies **as a starting point**, in the fields of teaching, musical composition and arranging, music **performance**, sound engineering, research and publication of studies and books, musical production - each one being presented in a dedicated subchapter. **As** in most cases I had **a substantial** activity in these fields before and **concurrent** with the university career, each subchapter **also** includes **my achievements** before the doctoral studies.

Subchapter 2.1 details **my** research and **work** within the doctoral studies in composition with the theme "The Modern *Musical*. Research and Original Composition", **followed by** the **teaching** activity, starting with the year of 2013, consisting in the complete reorganization of the *Music Arrangement and Music Ensemble* courses (**notably**, splitting the initial course into *Jazz* and *Pop Ensemble*

respectively, each one with a dedicated curriculum) within the specialization *Jazz Composition and Pop Music*, establishing and designing new courses: *Jazz Ensemble* for classical saxophone, brass and percussion **students**, *Music Technology*, **as well as** the establishment of new ensembles **such as**: *FICS Jazz & Pop Orchestra* and *UNAGE Big Band* - the jazz orchestra of the "George Enescu" University of Arts in Iași.

Subchapter 2.2 presents **my** activity as a **music performer** - bass guitar player - in various bands, ensembles and projects - and as a conductor of *OPIS Big Band* and *UNAGE Big Band*. **Subchapter 2.3** presents **my** activity as a sound engineer both within **the** Romanian Broadcasting Society and as an independent engineer, **my** most notable achievements being the recording of albums with renowned jazz musicians such as Nicolas Simion and Sorin Romanescu.

Subchapter 2.4, entitled **Activity as a Composer and Arranger** is the most **extensive** one, because this is my main activity in the field of music. The most important works and achievements are presented, starting with 2001: those that materialized in the form of stage productions, such as musicals *Cabotinul*, *Interesul poartă fesul*, **as well as** the most extensive and complex work of this kind - the rock opera *The One Born from a Tear*, which was staged across the country, **was** broadcast on radio and television and was also awarded *The Union of Romanian Composers and Musicologists Prize* in 2015. Other works are albums such as *My World* and the *Famous Tangos 2*, released by *Roton* record label, arrangements/songs commissioned by important bands or groups: such projects **as** those **produced** in partnership with **the** alternative rock band - Byron - *Byron Electric Marching Band*, consisting in arrangements for wind orchestra, rock band and choir, performed on the stage of the Cluj National Theatre, broadcast on HBO and released as a DVD by *Universal Records*; also, **the** Byron 100 ALTOchestra project, or pieces/arrangements commissioned by the a cappella vocal group *Blue Noise* and/or acquired by UCMR. In their analysis, I aimed in particular to highlight various ways of approaching the stylistic fusion between the classical genres and those of the jazz/pop/rock family, which is a stylistic feature of my own creation and also an element of originality.

Subchapter 2.5 details **my activity as a music producer**, starting with 2001, in producing music albums as well as in the production of concerts and shows, the most notable achievements being the concerts and video clips of the *FICS Jazz & Pop Orchestra*, the *UNAGE Big Band* concerts in Târgu Mureș, culminating with the stage

productions of *The One Born from a Tear* rock opera. The latter are **analysed** in detail due to their national uniqueness and their **vast** complexity, **with a focus on those performed by** singers, **a** rock band and **a** mixed choir, **accompanied by a full** symphony orchestra, (performed in Iași, Bacău, Ploiești and Brașov), as well as those with **a** hybrid orchestra, consisting of 9 singers, **a** rock band and **a** virtual orchestra, probably a national premiere in the opera show productions, (performed in Piatra Neamț and Iași), where, during the *Independent Opera Festival*, organized by *The Iași Athenaeum*, **it** was awarded *The Prize for Originality* in 2017.

Subchapter 2.6 addresses my research and scientific activity in the field of musicology and sound engineering as well **as my** activity as a writer, describing studies and books published in the field of musicology - *A Stylistic Approach to the History of the Musical Genre*, Artes Publishing House, Iasi, 2016 - **a premiere in** our country, **which** researches and **analyzes** in depth the genre of **the** musical (awarded the Bronze Medal at the *International Salon of Euroinvent*), the books *The One Born from a Tear*, **a Modern Musical in the 2010s Romania**, Artes Publishing House, Iași, 2018, which analyses in detail the work **with** the same name, *The One Born from a Tear - the general orchestra score*, Artes Publishing House, Iași, 2018 (awarded the Gold Medal at the *Euroinvent Salon*), as well as the book *Music Technology - Sound Reinforcement Equipment and Techniques*, Eikon Publishing House, Bucharest 2017, the first book in Romania **on the subject of** modern equipment, including **the** digital **one**, and processes in the field of sound engineering used in sound reinforcement, in **an** accessible to the general public **approach**, a book that covers a gap of about 40 years in Romania (the **latest** books in the field **having been** written in the '70s).

Chapter 3 - illustrates **the perspective of my career in the future, following** the same 4 directions: teaching, research/writing, music composition/arranging and music production, **with a focus on** some stylistic directions **that have already** proved successful, and **adding up** new works, **developing further** publishing projects (i.e., the extension of the *Music Technology* **book into** a series of publications covering all areas of application of this technology), **or designing** new courses in a modern, digital format.

The last section of the thesis contains the bibliography.