

Augusts Dombrovskis, iepazīšanās ar bērnu radošuma un brīvības rosinātāja Frēbela pedagoģisko konceptu, mūzikas skolotājas Marijas fon Žilinskas ietekme un, protams, mācības pie Emīla Žaka-Dalkroza. Tādējādi izveidojusies spilgta un daudzpusīga personība – sieviete, kas guvusi panākumus gan uzņēmējdarbībā, gan mākslā un sabiedriskajā dzīvē.

Raksta tapšanas gaitā ir izkristalizējušās vairākas turpmākas izpētes vērtas tēmas – Žaka-Dalkroza viesošanās Rīgā, viņa metodes izplatība citviet Latvijā, Ašmanes-Sietiņšones sadarbība ar Dalkroza metodes sekotājiem visā pasaulē.

ANNA AŠMANE-SIETIŅSONE (1885–1967) – MUSIC AND EURHYTHMICS TEACHER, THE FIRST LATVIAN ‘DALCROZIAN’

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Summary

Keywords: Émile Jaques-Dalcroze, musical education, Music and Eurhythmics School in Riga, students by Anna Ašmane-Sietiņšone

The article aims to present the contribution of pedagogue Anna Ašmane-Sietiņšone to the development of musical education in Latvia and discover the fate of a vivid personality and emancipated women of the 20th century in the context of Latvian society.

On July 26, 2015, 130 years elapsed since the birth of Anna Ašmane-Sietiņšone. There are several reasons to commemorate her:

- she was the first Latvian who, after being invited by Professor Émile Jaques-Dalcroze, acquired an education in eurhythmics;
- Ašmane-Sietiņšone was the first to familiarise Latvian society with the world-famous Jaques-Dalcroze method – music playback through motions; understanding and presentation of music by involving the entire body;
- Ašmane-Sietiņšone was also the first to found a private school of music and eurhythmics in the territory of Latvia, where studies were based on a consistent methodology, namely, Jacques-Dalcroze’s eurhythmics;
- Ašmane-Sietiņšone was a pioneer in special pedagogy, providing musical education for children with special needs to assist with their integration into society.

Anna was born July 26, 1885, to a wealthy family in Riga. She received her first vocational education in courses for kindergarten teachers, where she became acquainted with the Friedrich Fröbel method. Ašmane-Sietiņšone acquired her musical education at the Riga School of Music, founded by the Russian Imperial Music Society, where Marie von Schilinzky was among her teachers. Émile Jaques-Dalcroze personally invited Anna Ašmane-Sietiņšone to study at his institute, first in Hellerau (from ca. 1913 to 1914), then Geneva (1922) and Paris (1926 and 1931). Ašmane-Sietiņšone began offering her own eurhythmics courses in Riga in 1914, and founded a Music and Eurhythmics School after World War I in 1922.

In 1944, Ašmane-Sietiņšone went into exile, where she worked as a teacher of music in Offenburg (Germany) and Santa Barbara (USA). Students of Ašmane-Sietiņšone became world-famous 'dalcrozians': founders and managers of music and eurhythmics courses and schools, teachers at higher educational institutions of music, ballet dancers, actors, musicians, etc.

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