

OPINION

Concerning the Mid-Term Evaluation of Mr. Emil Misk, Doctoral Student (Student of the Doctoral School), Regarding the Implementation of the Educational Programme and His Artistic, Scholarly, and Professional Activities

This opinion has been prepared on the basis of a review of the details of the doctoral student's educational progress and his artistic and scholarly activities completed during the four semesters of study at the Doctoral School. It is also based on the proceedings of the Mid-Term Evaluation Committee, during which the doctoral student presented the outcomes of his education and the methods by which they were achieved.

Mr. Emil Misk commenced his studies at the Doctoral School in October 2020. During two years (four semesters) of study, he successfully fulfilled all requirements related to individual courses, personal development, and the objectives outlined in his Individual Research Plan (IRP). In my opinion, he has consistently exceeded standard expectations, demonstrating impressive artistic and scholarly achievements in every semester, as well as remarkable determination in seeking innovative solutions in teaching practice (through the Experimental Jazz Combo) and in artistic activity through the realization of his own original musical projects.

In addition to the courses required within the general, specialist, and elective modules (Principal Subject – Jazz Trumpet, Artistic Presentation, Participation in International Masterclasses, Doctoral Seminar, Analysis of Jazz Improvisation, Foundations of Higher Education Teaching, Jazz Improvisation, Philosophy, Academic Writing and Publication Workshops, and Public Relations – Building the Image of an Artist), the doctoral student completed professional teaching practice by conducting classes for university students as part of his pedagogical development. These activities included teaching Trumpet and Experimental Jazz Combo courses, as specified in his Individual Research Plan.

In accordance with the objectives of the IRP, the doctoral student completed an artistic work that formed the basis of his doctoral dissertation: the composition **“Scratches for Eight Musicians.”** The work was recorded during its premiere performance at the Polish Radio Concert Studio in Warsaw and subsequently released as the album **“Scratches for 8 Musicians – Live at Polish Radio”** by **Alpaka Records**, a recording label co-founded by the doctoral student.

The documented achievements demonstrate a high artistic and scholarly standard and constitute a significant contribution to cultural development. The doctoral student has provided evidence of numerous accomplishments, including participation in recording sessions, performances in prestigious concert venues, collaborations with leading Polish musicians, achievements in the field of classical music, participation in academic conferences, awards granted by the City of Gdańsk in the area of culture, artistic scholarships, and many other distinctions.

Mr. Emil Misk's achievements are indisputable and testify to his exceptional talent and artistic creativity in teaching, research activities, and, above all, his work on stage as a leader of his own projects, arranger, and composer.

Based on the above, I offer a positive assessment of Mr. Emil Misk's accomplishments. They have been executed to an exemplary standard, in accordance with the planned schedule of the Individual Research Plan and all educational tasks assigned to him during the four semesters of study at the Doctoral School.

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Tomasz Kudyk

OPINION

Concerning the Report Submitted by Doctoral School Student of the Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk (Mr. Emil Misk) on the Implementation of Artistic, Scholarly, and Organizational Activities within the Individual Research Plan (IRP) in the Academic Years 2020–2022

Name of Doctoral Candidate: Emil Misk

Name of Committee Member: Professor Jerzy Jarosik, PhD, DSc

The doctoral student's artistic, teaching, and organizational activities have been executed through participation in a wide range of artistic events in Poland and abroad, including the Polish Radio Concert Studio in Warsaw, the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra (NOSPR) in Katowice, Musica Festival (Germany), the 3rd Festival of Early Polish Music, the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, the Gdańsk Carillon Festival, Wigrosfera Festival, Jazz Jantar, Summer Jazz Festival, Soundrive Festival, Nordic Talking Festival, and many others.

As part of his scholarly activity, the doctoral student presented papers at two academic conferences: the AEC Pop and Jazz Platform Conference in Brussels and a discussion devoted to early and contemporary music in Gdańsk, organized by the Institute of Urban Culture in Gdańsk.

Mr. Misk is a co-founder of the record label **Alpaka Records** and is actively involved in the publication and promotion of improvised music. He has participated in numerous recording sessions in a variety of musical ensembles.

Mr. Misk's artistic interests encompass a broad range of musical genres, including jazz, improvised music, early music, and contemporary music. To quote the doctoral student's motto, *"If you go slowly, you will go farther."* Every encounter with his music becomes a spiritual journey into the unknown, drawing inspiration from the music of **Krzysztof Komeda** and **Tomasz Stańko**, as well as contemporary composers such as **Bogusław Schaeffer** and **Witold Lutosławski**.

The subject of the doctoral research is **"The Structure and Formal Elements of a Musical Work as Factors Determining the Shape of Contemporary Jazz Improvisation, Based on the Original Composition Scratches for 8 Musicians."** In this work, the musicians act as co-creators and composers, with the ensemble leader leaving extensive areas open to improvisational freedom. The composition was written with specific performers in mind, including the leader himself.

The research project also serves as the foundation for the creation of a new original teaching course entitled “**Experimental Jazz Combo.**” The primary goal of the dissertation is to develop an original method of jazz ensemble work.

The doctoral student is an excellent instrumentalist, composer, and talented educator. He is undoubtedly an artist with a well-developed artistic identity—a creative musician who continually seeks new forms of musical expression through his own compositional work.

The research project reflects an attempt to characterize the author’s own musical language and to identify the areas of exploration within the framework of the investigated concept. The research and its individual components are progressing according to schedule.

I therefore offer a positive evaluation of Mr. Miszk’s report, as well as of his artistic, scholarly, and organizational achievements.

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Professor Jerzy Jarosik

OPINION

Concerning the Implementation of the Individual Research Plan (IRP) by Mr. Emil Misk and the Artistic, Scholarly, Organizational, and Teaching Achievements Accumulated During Two Years of Study at the Doctoral School

During four semesters of doctoral studies, Mr. Emil Misk demonstrated exceptionally extensive artistic, scholarly, organizational, and teaching activity. Having reviewed the reports submitted by the doctoral student, it must be stated that the amount and high profile of the events in which Mr. Misk participated over the past two years deserves high recognition.

Particular validation should be given to the remarkable versatility of the doctoral student's artistic, scholarly, and organizational endeavors. The large quantity and creativity of the activities documented in his reports—embracing jazz performance, the interpretation of early music, contemporary music practice, and the organization of numerous innovative concerts and recording projects—confirm his exceptional potential as an artist and researcher.

His outstanding activity within the local jazz community has been acknowledged by the Chapter of the prestigious **City of Gdańsk Award for Young Creators**; Emil Misk became a laureate in 2021.

I evaluate the achievements presented by Mr. Emil Misk very highly.

In my view, all activities planned within the framework of the Individual Research Plan during the four semesters of study at the Doctoral School have been executed to a very high standard and in accordance with the established objectives.

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dr hab. Paweł Kukliński