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**A common cultural heritage: life, music and music theories of Giuseppe Tartini in the European context**

/bilateral research project/

The present cultural and political situation within the EU provides the best possible setting for a fruitful scholarly cooperation between Italy and Slovenia. In the particular field of historical musicology, an important topic, which deals with the musical heritage, shared between Italy and Slovenia, is most certainly the research of the life and work of the great 18th Century violinist, violin teacher, composer and musical theoretician Giuseppe Tartini (Piran, 1692–Padua, 1770).

Born in the coastal town of Piran (then part of the Republic of Venice), Giuseppe Tartini spent most of his creative lifetime in Padua, becoming renowned in the whole Europe not only for his innovative music and enlightenment views, but also for his theoretical writings on music and his historically precocious interest in folk music.

After the collapse of the Venetian Republic in 1797, Tartini and his work remained famous and the tradition he set with his views continued to grow even within the new state framework of the Austrian empire. As one of the first composers interested in folk music, both Slavic and Italian, in the past century he attracted the attention of many authors and among them famous researchers like the Russian musicologist Lev Ginzburg and the Italian musicologist Pierluigi Petrobelli. A new wave of interest in studies on Tartini has been on its way since 1992 (when the tercentenary of his birth was celebrated). For the last two decades, the Tartini studies have above all evolved within the framework of cooperation between the Slovene research programme *Researches in the History of Music in Slovenia* (Institute of Musicology at the Scientific Research Centre of Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts and Department of musicology, Faculty of arts, University of Ljubljana) and Italian research institutions (University of Padua, Conservatory of music Giuseppe Tartini Trieste). In the last few years, an important contribution to the studies of Tartini’s life and work and to the deepening of scientific and other collaboration in this field between Slovenia and Italy has been made by the EU funded project Interreg ITA-SLO *Turismo culturale all'insegna di Giuseppe Tartini – Kulturni turizem v znamenju Giuseppeja Tartinija* (2016–2019).

**The aim of the bilateral collaboration and research topics**

Building on the research already done, the aim of the present bilateral collaboration is to continue and deepen the research of Tartini’s life, music, and music theory based above all on the key (archive) sources kept in Piran and Padua. Being the consequence of Tartini’s diverse life, it is exactly the way the sources were preserved and the places where they are kept (Slovene and Italian archives), that make the bilateral collaboration absolutely necessary and inevitable when studying his life and work if one wishes to comprehend them in their whole.

Within the given context, the following *research topics* will be of special interest:

- Additional research on Tartini’s life (based on archive sources) in order to improve and complete his biography.

- Tartini’s musical-theoretical thought and his discoveries in the field of the physics of sound (especially in the light of the influence that the writings of earlier Italian theorists had on him).

- A critical edition of Tartini’s unedited theoretical writings.

- A critical edition of Tartini’s letters (and pertinent writings), which are of extreme importance for music history, music theory the physics of sound and violin pedagogy.

- Tartini as a composer, violinist and teacher in the European context.

- Connections between Tartini’s music and Istrian folk music.

The aim of the project is to learn and spread the knowledge on Tartini and make the reliable information about this great late-baroque composer, his contribution to the history of music and music theory and his place within the cosmopolitan culture of the Enlightenment period available to a broader public. The very enlightenment ideas on man and society, closely connected to his musical activities by Tartini, are today – with many challenges the modern world is facing – often forgotten.

**Project leaders**

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