

Opinion

by Prof. Ognyan Nikolaev Konstantinov, PhD

lecturer in IF of NMA "Prof. Pancho Vladigerov" for the dissertation work of Antoaneta Hristova Stoyanova on the topic "Children's Foreign Language Songs in Music Education at Preschool and Primary School Age - Problems of the Author's Translation and Adaptation" for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in professional direction 1.3 "Pedagogy of music education"

Biographical data

Antoaneta Hristova Stoyanova graduated with a master's degree at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" in 1995 with majors "Primary School Pedagogy" and "Radio Journalism". During the period 2002 - 2006, she studied opera singing at ENMP "Alfred Cortot" and CNR "Cergy" (Paris, France), graduating with a master's degree and a gold medal. She continued her vocal training with a specialization in "A.R.T. Musica" (Rome, Italy, 2008 – 2009).

Her professional realization over the years includes employment as a translator and manager (1999 - 2007), artist - chorister (2009 - 2014, Italy). She is currently an English teacher at "New World 2017" LTD, a company working in the field of preschool education. The professional development of the PhD student over the years is a prerequisite for a serious and thorough approach to the research, as well as for the correctness of the conclusions and conclusions made in the dissertation work.

From the proposed reference for covering the scientometric indicators, it can be seen that Atoaneta Stoyanova meets the necessary requirements.

Atoaneta Stoyanova's dissertation "Children's Foreign Language Songs in Music Education at Preschool and Primary School Age - Problems of Author's Translation and Adaptation" has a volume of 171 pages. It is well structured, contains an introduction, four chapters with numerous bullet points. Contributions, conclusion, bibliography and appendices are organized in separate sections.

The introduction sets out the purpose of the dissertation (research and analysis of children's songs in foreign languages and the approaches to their translation), lists the tasks, the object and the subject of the work (the content of the children's foreign language song translated into Bulgarian, its application in the educational activity of music in kindergarten and primary school).

The first chapter of the dissertation is entitled "Specifics of the translation song". In it, the PhD student examines in the broadest sense the problems faced by the translator - not only of songs, but also of artistic and scientific and technical literature, poetry, librettos of operas and musicals. Atoaneta Stoyanova comments on the literal and artistic translation, as well as some basic concepts. Serious attention is paid to accuracy in matching verbal and musical metrics (p. 19) and the role of prosody in text and music (p. 24).

The second chapter of Antoaneta Stoyanova's dissertation examines the works, views and recommendations of famous scientists and researcher-translators: Peter Low (p. 26), Johan Franzon (p. 27), Ronnie Apter, Mark Herman (p. 28-31) and Philip Tagg (pp. 32-33). The PhD student brings to the fore what she considers the most important theoretical contributions of these scholars: Peter Low's "Pentathlon

Principle", Franzon's formulation of various options for translating songs, the characteristic problematics of translating slang and satirical text considered by Apter and Herman, Philip Tagg's "hermeneutic-semiological method". The theoretical and methodological principles commented on in the chapter are important for the accuracy and scientific correctness of the analyses, conclusions and conclusions made in the next chapter.

The third chapter of the dissertation, in my opinion, has a special meaning and an undeniable contribution. In it, Antoaneta Stoyanova analyzes and comments on her own and foreign translations of different types of children's songs. The template used in the analysis "Original - Literal translation - Author's translation" very precisely and clearly illustrates the professional approach and understanding of the PhD student. The different approach to the translation according to the peculiarities of the text and music is shown. It should be noted that the PhD student successfully translates from different languages - English, Italian, Spanish, French. The creative attitude towards the text is evident in all translations.

The fourth chapter of the work examines the influence of children's songs on the education and development of children in the broadest sense. The PhD student conducts a series of studies, surveys and interviews in various kindergartens and schools in Sofia and Pleven, through which the children's attitude to the songs is observed depending on the language in which they are performed. The research is conducted by comparing the data and responses of two groups - control and experimental. Antoaneta Stoyanova convincingly proves that the text in the native language facilitates the perception and the desire to reproduce the songs (p. 90). In my opinion, the conclusion that artistic translation improves the skill of listening comprehension and builds a stable relationship of music is very important with memory (p.100). The fourth chapter of the dissertation has a serious contribution character.

PhD student Antoaneta Stoyanova defines eight main contributions of her dissertation. I completely agree with them, I think they accurately and correctly reflect the most important contributing merits of labor. Among them, I would single out the opportunity for Bulgarian children abroad to study the Bulgarian language using familiar foreign-language children's songs through the translated songs published by the PhD student.

The literature used includes 19 titles in Bulgarian, English, French and Italian languages. Three Internet sources were also used.

Four appendices are also part of the dissertation work. They include three interviews – with Boyko Kanev, Petya Milanova and Elena Vatrlova, a review from the Bulgarian school in Nantucket, USA and survey cards from the doctoral student's research in kindergartens and schools.

The abstract has a volume of 47 pages and repeats the structure and arrangement of the dissertation. It also mentions four publications on the topic realized in the period 2022-2024.

I am convinced that the valuable and high-quality work of PhD student Antoaneta Stoyanova also has an undoubted positive credit to her scientific supervisor Prof. Ganka Nedelcheva, PhD.

In conclusion, I would like to summarize that the dissertation work presented by the PhD student Antoaneta Stoyanova with the topic "Children's Foreign Language Songs in Music Education at Preschool and Primary School Age – Problems of the Author's Translation and Adaptation" has serious contributing qualities and relevance. The topic of work will be interesting both for teachers in kindergartens and schools in our country and in Bulgarian schools abroad.

Based on everything written so far, I confidently propose to the respected scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in professional direction 1.3 "Pedagogy of music education" to

Antoaneta Hristova Stoyanova.

----- Prof. Ognyan Konstantinov, PhD