

In Memory of a Colleague

Personalities

About Liudmila Shaymukhametova (1951–2025)

On January 31, 2025 the outstanding Russian musicologist, Doctor of Arts, Merited Activist of the Arts of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Bashkortostan, Professor Liudmila Nikolayevna Shaymukhametova passed away.

During the course of 15 years, from 2007 to 2022, Liudmila Nikolayevna held the post of the editor-in-chief of the Russian scholarly journal *Problemy muzykal'noi nauki / Music Scholarship* (presently titled as *Russian Musicology*). Under her leadership, the editorial team of this publication carried out a significant modernization of the journal, having implemented contemporary international standards of formatting the scholarly content and IT-technologies. Longstanding instruction in the seminars and conferences of the ASEPANRI (Association of Science Editors and Publishers) has made it possible for the editorial staff to master progressive methods of publishing activities. An advanced approach toward the organization of publication of mass media and the implementation of digital instruments were conducive to the journal's acknowledgement in the word scholarly community. As a result, it entered the leading international databases of scholarly citation and reviewing databases: Web of Science Core Collection (ESCI), SCOPUS. The advancement of the quality of the published research works led to a significant expansion of the geographic whereabouts of the journal's authors. Due to the professionalism and broad experience of Liudmila Nikolayevna Shaymukhametova's



editing and publishing work, the journal acquired a high academic standing in Russia and in other countries.

Liudmila Nikolayevna Shaymukhametova's international recognition as a music scholar took place in the 1990s and the 2000s. She made an inestimable contribution to the development of the fundamental research of musical content, having focused her scholarly interest on the issues of musical semantics. In 1994, at the dissertation committee of the Russian Institute for Art Studies, Liudmila Nikolayevna defended her dissertation for the degree of Candidate of Arts, "The Migrating Intonational Formula and the Semantic Context of the Musical Theme" under the tutelage of Mark Aranovsky, and in 2000, she defended her dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Arts on the subject of "Semantic Processes in a Musical Theme."

In 2001, on the basis of the Ufa State Academy of Arts (presently — the Zagir Ismagilov Ufa State Institute of Arts), Liudmila Nikolayevna founded and assumed the lead of the Laboratory for Musical Semantics, which subsequently became the leading Russian academic center for the studies of musical semantics. Having developed the field of structural-semantic analysis of musical content on the basis of the semiotic approach, she made a study of migrating intonational formulas with fixed meanings reflecting the object-related and emotional world of the human being. The adherence to the conception of musical lexemes made it possible for her to overcome subjectivity in her analyses of actual musical compositions.

Liudmila Shaymukhametova had a number of her monographs and compilations of articles published; she was a participant of a number of published collective monographs and numerous other types of scholarly materials. The musicologist was the initiator and organizer of a large number of international and Russian seminars devoted to the issues of the theory of the musical text, musical thinking, methodology of semantic analysis, as well as innovational pedagogical technologies. Her theoretical developments were successfully transformed by her into applied research, having found practical application in the sphere of semantics, performance and the pedagogical process.

Of special significance is her research of the historical keyboard urtext musical scores and their semantic organizations, which has brought to the creation of innovational technologies of creative instruction. The methodology of creative work with the musical text formed by her has received broad elucidation in the scholarly-methodological gazette *Kreativnoe obuchenie v DMSH* [Creative Instruction at Children's Music Schools], which was published during the period between 2008 and 2013.

Liudmila Shaymukhametova wrote numerous textbooks and tutorial manuals designed for both professional and general musical education, bearing the seal of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation. Shaymukhametova's semiotic conception of creative education received international recognition and has been successfully applied not only in Russia, but also in other countries, in particular, in music schools in Austria, Germany, Bulgaria and the United States.

For over 40 years, Liudmila Nikolayevna taught a set of music theory disciplines originally interpreted by her at the Music Theory Department of the Ufa State Institute of Arts. She has developed a set of courses, among which are: "The Bases of Musical Intonating," "Contemporary Musical Pedagogy Systems," "The Methodology of Music-Making and Improvisation," "The Poetics of the Musical Texts," and a number of others. During the time of her teaching, she prepared over 50 graduate music theory students; under her guidance over 12 dissertations for the degrees of Candidate of Arts and 4 Doctor of Arts have been defended. Among her students are notable musicians holding the titles of Merited Activist of the Arts, Merited Worker of Education and Culture, Professors and Associate Professors — notable musicologists who at the present day continue to develop her musicological ideas.

From 1983 to 1990, Liudmila Nikolayevna was the chair of the Music Theory Department, and during the 1989–1990, she held the post of Vice-Rector for Academic and Research Work of the Ufa State Institute of Arts. She made a significant contribution to the development of this educational institution.

Liudmila Shaymukhametova's professional reputation was acknowledged and recognized throughout Russia: through her work at the Commission for Awards of State Premiums in the Sphere of Literature and Art affiliated with

the President of the Republic of Bashkortostan, her participation in the United Dissertational Board on the basis of the Magnitogorsk State M. I. Glinka Conservatory, and her regular invitations to conduct master-classes in various cities in Russia.

Shaymukhametova's contribution to Russian music scholarship was marked by honorable diplomas from the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Russian Academy of Sciences, and the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Bashkortostan, as well as by the Honorary Diploma and Gold Medal from the European Chamber of Science and Industry.

Liudmila Nikolayevna's colleagues and students remember her as a responsive person of encyclopedic knowledge with a remarkable ability of finding non-standard solutions in the most difficult situations. She possessed a rare gift — the ability to elucidate the most complex ideas in a most accessible manner,

transmitting her enthusiasm to everybody around her. Her academic school, based on a profound understanding of musical semantics and innovational methods of tutelage, continues to develop in the present day, creating a significant impact of contemporary music scholarship and pedagogy.

The editorial board of the journal *Russian Musicology* wishes to express its deep and heartfelt sorrow about the untimely decease of Liudmila Nikolayevna Shaymukhametova — an outstanding scholar, pedagogue and educator, whose creative path has become an example of unselfish service of the art and science of music.

We wish to express our sincere condolences to Liudmila Nikolayevna's family and friends. Her cherished memory shall always be preserved in our hearts.

**The editorial team of the journal
*Russian Musicology***