

Research proposal

Student: Benjamín Falces Vaquero

Student number: 3115631

Classical Department (Saxophone)

Supervisor: Jarmo Hoogendijk

Title: **Baroque violín pieces in soprano saxophone**

Subtitle: Baroque style in saxophone through the transcription of the Caprice from the "Sonata in D minor" Op.6 No.12 by Pietro Locatelli.

Research questions:

Main questions:

- How should a violin baroque transcription and interpretation be done in soprano saxophone?
- Why is the soprano saxophone a good choice for to play Baroque pieces for violin?

Other questions:

- How did the composers transcribe their own pieces in the baroque?
- Why there are so many baroque pieces transcribed for soprano saxophone?
- How a soprano saxophone can play the violin effects or resources?
- How were transcribed pieces for violin in a wind instrument in the Baroque period?
- What kind of instruments are there more Baroque transcriptions for wind instruments?
- Why there are so many violin pieces transcribed for soprano saxophone?

Description:

At first, I will transcribe the Caprice from the "Sonata in D minor" Op.6 No.12 by Pietro Locatelli, a piece which have many violin resources and effects. Through this transcription I will explain how solve the differences between violin and soprano saxophone in terms of tonality, register, breathing, articulation, etc. The most important part will be transcribe all the effects written specifically for violin in other effects you can play in a soprano saxophone for to sound like a violin. Then, I will make a list of all this resources and effects and I will explain how to play it. After that, I will play the transcription for to show how works this effects in a saxophone and how should be done a performance of this kind of pieces in soprano saxophone.

To be faithful to the original version of the piece, I will analyze how the Baroque composers transcribed some pieces and how they understood the transcriptions, because I will analyze a piece of this period. For this reason, I need to find transcriptions for other instruments done by their own composers in this period. Also is important to know which was the importance of transcribe for other instruments during the Baroque. Because that, I will try to find out of which kind of instruments had more transcriptions for wind instruments, for to observe the importance (or not) of imitate the original instrument in this kind of transcriptions. Then, I will observe also how they solve the problems about the tonality, register, effects...

There are many opinions about how to transcribe Baroque and violin pieces in saxophone and also many ways of to do it. This happen because there are many ways of to play pieces written in this period. Then, for to have a clear idea of how transcribe and play it, I need to know how other great saxophone players have done it and specially, how they have transcribed all the violin effects. For to achieve it, I will ask a few questions through a questionnaire to many great saxophonist who have played or transcribed enough violin Baroque pieces. Then, I will compare the answers and I will try to play in all the different ways I will know and I will find out which is the most right way for me, through a reflexion of all the information I will have. I will prepare the questions focused in a problematic things for transcribe and play this pieces like the use of the vibrato (with the air is different than a string), the attacks of the notes, the articulation... for to do an approach to the Baroque and violin style. In the other hand, I will ask them and I will use all this answers for to reflect on if is a good choice to play Baroque violin pieces in a soprano saxophone and if is possible to achieve a performance to close to the original version.

This research will be really important for me and for my goals for the future. I am really interested in to know how the string instruments players understand the music because as a performer, I need to play some pieces by the greatest composers of the whole history that have not composed for saxophone because is a too new instrument. I want to focus myself in the violin because they have many pieces written by great composers. Also the sound, vibrato and many others violin characteristics are too close to the saxophone, specially the soprano saxophone. In the other hand, I think the music written in the Baroque period works really nice for the saxophone characteristics and is one of the styles I would like to improve a lot as a performer.

The form of my research will be a paper. The research will have also the comparisons of the answers of a questionnaire. In the other hand, I will play my own transcription of the Caprice from the "Sonata in D minor" Op.6 No.12 by Pietro Locatelli.

Planning for the coming months:

During June I will get the score of the piece and then I will make a transcription. I will make a list of all the problems I have for transcribe the piece and how I have solved it and I will reflect on it when I have the answers of the questionnaires and more information of how were they made transcriptions in the Baroque. I thinks is important to have at first just my own vision of the transcription and also I need it for to start with the research and to practice the piece. Also I will study the piece for to be able to play it.

During July I will prepare the questions for the questionnaire based on all the problems I had when I transcribed the piece and also with all things I need to know before to continue with the other points of the research. Also I will make a index with all the parts of the research for to have a organized work for the coming months. During the lasts weeks of July I will start to make a list with all the effects I had to transcribe.

During August (and maybe September) I will explore how to play the effects of the list and which is the best way for to play it, and then, I will put it in the list. Also I will check and search pieces transcribed in the Baroque period by their own composers and specially, pieces transcribed during this period for wind instruments. I will try to find out how they solve the problems I had when I transcribed the piece.