

Renewing Traditional Tamboura Style in Individual Performance

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(Summary)

The traditional tamboura performance style is part of the folklore culture of Southwestern Bulgaria and, more specifically, of the Velingrad district. This style is deeply tied to the specifics of the musical dialect of this region. The preservation of tamboura performance style into modern times is characterized by interaction with the modern tamboura and the combination of traditional techniques with new instrumental means of expression. This article traces the renovations and changes in the traditional style in relation to its basic parameters, such as bourdon playing, the specifics of splitting note durations, metro-rhythmic patterns, ornaments, sound lines, morphologies, and the functions of the instrument in accompanying mostly male solo singing. The complex relationships and the way in which they have interacted have been traced to the individual performance manner of a particular musician.

Keywords: traditional and contemporary tamboura performance style; modern tamboura; instrumental accompaniment; stylistic devices; individual performance style

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