UKRAINIAN FOLK SONGS IN NOTATIONS
AND ADAPTATIONS BY VINKO ŽGANEC

SUMMARY

In 1946 in Zagreb, Dr. Vinko Žganec himself published his collection, Pjesme jugoslovenskih Rusina (Songs of Yugoslavian Ukrainians /Russines). As far as is known, this was the first collection of songs and music of Ukrainians from Bačka, Srem and Slavonia, who settled in these regions after the mid-eighteenth century. The collection contains 116 "numbers" (102 songs and 14 "doubles") with Žganec's arrangements for choirs (for female, male, and mixed choirs). The arrangements were based on melographic notations made by Mihailo Kovač, who was the main initiator of this collection. Then a young teacher in Blišće Do, and now one of the doyens of Ukrainian (Russine) literature, Kovač sent Žganec 58 of his own notations of folk songs with the request that Žganec arrange them for the choir, "as he had done with songs from Medimurje" - and that he adapt them for everyday occasions and requirements - primarily for amateur groups. The remaining songs were melographed by Žganec at the Greek Catholic Seminary in Zagreb, noted down from various singers.

On the basis of Kovač's notations, the correspondence between Kovač and Žganec, comparison with the melographic notations of Omurfić Timko, analyses of Žganec's arrangements and comparison with notations made today in the same region, this study endeavours to penetrate to the essence of Žganec's melographic and arranging work, and to point out its characteristics.