

AN APPRAISAL OF THE VAST OPUS OF VINKO ŽGANEC

SUMMARY

The task of this paper is to give a brief review, from the aspect of a non-Yugoslav ethnomusicologist, of the scientific work of Professor Žganec. The author met him first in the summer of 1951, at the time of preparations for the Fourth Conference of the International Folk Music Council which was held at Opatija between September 8 and 14 that year, and which the author attended. The publication of the collection *Croatian Folk Songs and Dances*, which was edited by V. Žganec and Nada Sremec, and his accompanying paper "Basic Styles of Croatian Folk Songs" (all this with parallel English translations) shortly before the said Conference, evoked great interest on the part of non-Yugoslav experts, in particular. A big festival of songs, dances and customs of people of Yugoslavia, which took place on that occasion, was a great and unforgettable event. Successful co-operation of Yugoslav experts in the organisation of that festival resulted in the founding of the Society of Music Folklorists of Yugoslavia in 1952, with Vinko Žganec as its main initiator.

In the direct appraisal of the opus of Vinko Žganec, the author reviews the collections *Croatian Folk Songs from Medimurje* (secular and religious, 1924 and 1925), *Croatian Kajkavian Folk Songs (1950)*, *Croatian Folk Songs from Koprivnica and Surroundings (1962)*, and *Folk Songs from Hrvatsko Zagorje (1950, 1952, 1971)*. The author emphasizes the interest of Vinko Žganec for the context of the songs, at the time when many experts of his generation paid no attention to this. She points out that as early as in 1962, the renowned Croatian ethnomusicologist treated the urban song (the so-called "varoška" song) as a folklore phenomenon. He studied the works of Franjo Ks. Kuhač with particular attention, published a list of Kuhač's legacy in the Archives of Croatia, and prepared for publication the sixth volume of the large Kuhač collection *The South Slavic Folk Songs*.