

Summary of doctoral dissertation

Name and surname of the author of the dissertation: Weronika Molińska

Scientific title and names and surname of supervisor: Ph.D. Joanna Rajchert, prof. APS

Topic of doctoral dissertation: *Who will play first violin? - self-efficacy and choosing a solo career path vs. band musician*

Keywords: self-efficacy, self-efficacy in music, music education, self-efficacy at work, choice of profession, Polish adaptation

The doctoral project examined the role of self-efficacy in the professional decision-making processes of musicians, with a particular focus on the factors influencing the choice between pursuing a solo career and joining a band. The hypotheses proposed that self-efficacy may be a pivotal factor in the formation of a musical career trajectory. The research project examined the influence of individual and situational factors on musicians' self-efficacy and its relationship with professional decision-making. The research was conducted in five studies. The findings of Study I indicated that soloists exhibited a higher level of self-efficacy and narcissism compared to band musicians. Study II, which employed a scale of efficacy tailored to the musical context, corroborated the findings of Study 1 for the general efficacy scale, 49indicating that solo musicians and those playing the first desk in the orchestra exhibited greater efficacy than musicians occupying subsequent positions. Additionally, the structure of the efficacy measurement tool was validated in the context of a performance. Study III corroborated the pivotal influence of the teacher-student relationship on the development of musicians' self-efficacy and career trajectory. Study IV demonstrated that social exclusion diminishes the general sense of efficacy, whereas the sense of control and belonging serve as mediators of this effect. Study V revealed that negative information regarding performance quality reduced self-efficacy, whereas positive information increased the likelihood of selecting a solo performance. However, general self-efficacy did not mediate this relationship. Collectively, the findings of the study substantiated the relationship between self-efficacy and career choices and the psychosocial functioning of musicians. The findings of the project may facilitate a more comprehensive understanding of the decision-making processes that influence the trajectory of a musical career. Furthermore, they have the potential to enhance psychological theories pertaining to career development and personality. Furthermore, the project developed an initial Polish adaptation of the instrument for measuring the development of self-efficacy in music performance.