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Instrumental Department
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Theme of dissertation: *Spectralism, minimal music or postmodernism? In search of new lingua franca in French solo saxophone music in the example of pieces by Thierry Alla, Thierry Escaich, Christian Lauba, Philippe Hersant, Pascal Zavarro, Karol Beffa.*

Summary of doctoral dissertation

The subject of this doctoral dissertation is an presentation of contemporary French solo music for saxophone written in past 25 years and searching the answer for questions concerning its condition and future development.

This thesis consists of two parts. First part is recording of six solo compositions for saxophone listed below, which are in my opinion, highly representative for various styles and trends of past 25 years:

- Christian Lauba – *Steady Studies on the Boogie* (1995)
- Thierry Alla – *Digital* (1995)
- Thierry Escaich – *Lutte* (1994)
- Phillippe Hersant – *Chant Hassidique* (2009)
- Pascal Zavarro – *Rush* (2009)
- Karol Beffa – *Obsession* (2008)

Second part of this thesis is an approach to the subject from various perspectives, organized in five chapters. Starting from the presentation of a historical sketch, focusing on French music, pointing to its undisputed primacy in building valuable literature for the saxophone (Chapter I), following by the description of current trends to which it can be classified (Chapter II), and the classification of contemporary techniques that can be found in almost every modern solo miniature with analysis of performance issues in selected compositions (Chapter IV), finishing with the opinion of the international environment of performers and my reflections based on the available literature (Chapter V).

Preparation of the systematic classification of the so-called contemporary saxophone techniques resulted from the lack of available comprehensive sources in Polish language.

Chapter V as well as my reflection presents the results of the research, based on a questionnaire survey carried out on a sample of 49 saxophonists. More than 60% of them believe that in the 21st century one trend in solo music will emerge. Most of them also assume that current aesthetic trends will continue. Thus, they assume the possibility of foundation of a "great fusion", the new *lingua franca*.