

Andrea van der Smissen:

Ferenc Szabó's compositions in the proximity of the Hungarian historical avant-garde
and the MoMaMu in the twenties

Ferenc Szabó, as a member of the young composer generation existing on the periphery of the public musical life in the twenties, got attracted by the progressive Hungarian historical avant-garde. At the same time as a founding member of the Association of Modern Hungarian Musicians, Szabó stayed in intense relationship with its fellow composer for several years and implemented successfully under Otto Gombosi's patronage a platform, even if in small frames, for new music in Hungary. The compositions of Ferenc Szabó in the period between his graduation at the Academy of Music and the involuntarily emigration are to be studied under the exposure of these two artistic surroundings. Above all, because the assessment and inclusion of the twenties by the communist musicology as well as in Hungary but also in other Eastern European countries was subjected to an ambivalent perception through many decades. So too many questions left open regarding this period and its musical works.