

Establishing and Functioning of a Poliphonic Center in the Area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece

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Abstract

In times that we are living, it is becoming more careful are more interesting the preserve of making art and culture part regarding the cultural heritage. For their own social and political stages, no initiative or objective can be in school life by any means. Consequently, the designed strategy cannot approach reality spontaneously.

Seen in this perspective, today it is presented as an important priority to rise at the institutional level of state, central or local policies, through which can be protected the most defining values of the heritage of the Balkan peoples. Regarding this idea, in my work I have tried to analyze in detail the phenomenon where Polyphony stands out and prevails in Albanian culture and art, as well as by harmonizing it with state policies, to build the first centers of Polyphony concentrated mainly in the South of Albania, as well as in the North of Greece, exactly where the greatest concentration of the delivery and interpretation of Polyphony is located.

No goal can be achieved if we will not be able to draft strategic plans or sound studies aimed at preserving or even continuously generating the values of our society.

Therefore, since art and culture in themselves do not aim to emphasize in an extreme way the differences between peoples but their approximation, the establishment of polyphonic centers between the two countries Albania and Greece, with the right tools, legislation and infrastructure, would make possible, the preservation and continuous strengthening of this heritage, without compromising in any means or way the peculiarities or even their distinctive characteristics in creativity and interpretation.

Keywords: *Polyphony, Albania, Greece, State, Strategy, Art, Culture, Legislation, Purpose.*

Overview of the current situation of the countries where polyphony is interpreted

As a unique structure of that kind, the “Polyphonia” Centers, which will can be erected in will elaborate in the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece and their functionality according to their profile, in order to maintain and continuously generate one of the most stable values of the communities, where this genre’s kind is cultivated. The establishment of these Centers in both Greece and Albania will continue with the process of building an action plan, which will help their function. This development plan will have at its center an analysis of their functionality, consequently the purpose of increasing the spread and increasing their role and impact on social life based on the potential they possess in the respective territories. For this reason and purpose, the recruitment of qualified staff will be needed as a very important step in order to meet the standards of establishment and well-being of these institutions.

Accordingly, those institutions will establish an action plan based on the following objectives:

- Setting up a national database of groups and polyphonic soloists, interpreters of polyphonic music.
- Creating a database with different creators, poets and rhapsodists who deliver this artistic genre.
- The maps used are in accordance with the Polyphonia Thematic Route, covering the entire Project Intervention Area
- These centers where lab and tosk polyphony are interpreted and inherited will contribute to the overall development of the areas through the information and continuing education they will provide. The extension and expansion of their activity in these areas will arouse a significant interest of the local and foreign public, which over the years has shown sustained attention to this enduring value of our cultural heritage.

Signing cooperation agreements with individuals, groups of interest, central, local and foreign institutions, in order to create a convenient climate for the successful progress and preserving of that important part of the spiritual heredity.

Polyphonia Centers at the in the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece (WP5) will provide tourist information to the visitors in the intervention area, as well as knowledge & information about the cultural heritage of the region to all target groups. Moreover, the Center established in Dropull will serve as a recording studio to be used by polyphonic groups. The Centers Action Plan will be elaborated by PB3, who will also, in collaboration with the LB & PB4, conduct Workshops in polyphonic music tradition; part of those will be addressed to students to initiate the new generation into polyphonic music. For the establishment of the Centers & their Operational Services responsible will be LB & PB5, while PB3 will be responsible for the CB Polyphonic Caravan.

The Polyphonia Center at the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece side of the borders will be established in existing infrastructures of PB5 and no design, license, permit or land acquisition are required. For the Center established in Epirus, for which responsible will be the LB, LB will sign a Programming Agreement with the Filiates Municipality, in order for the Centre to be established within the premises of Filiates, in an existing infrastructure.

The polyphonic music scene in Greece & Albania

The evidence, knowledge, and continuing consolidation of the stages where is performed Polyphonic centers in Albania and Greece, represents one of the main objectives of that program.

Additionally, besides the permanent work in the terrain-related to the knowledge and selection of creative and performative aspects, the overall success of that project remain the daily enrichment of stages themselves at local, and national level with groups and individuals, who would perform at Albanian and Greek's stages, aiming the dissemination and enlargement of the audience with preferences to the polyphony and its values.

Polyphony implies many periods of time. Representing an ancient tradition and culture, from early times to nowadays, the stages of antique and medieval times, including the contemporary ones, will create the proper atmosphere.

From that point of view, thanks to polyphony, the combination of various periods of time, as a continuous and successive process, would be a unifying trait. Because of that, the public will not only have the possibility to know more directly the polyphonic art but at the same time he could communicate and being involved inside previous times, which represents the Albanian and Greek civilization.

It would make possible the full functioning of the stage's infrastructure, and at the same time, its renovation, thus enlarging the interest of the local and foreign people. The latest, are increasing more and more their curiosity and interest toward that ancient form of art.

Cultural tourism in Greece & Albania

Including a selective repertoire with polyphonic music inside the touristic and guide itineraries, would better orientate local and foreign tourists not only towards the knowledge of cultural monuments or archeological parks in Albania and in Greece but at the same time it would broaden the vision of foreign visitors on real dimensions of the cultural and spiritual heredity of the respective countries.

Besides, making available the antique and classic stages of the various archeological parks, or different monuments of culture for the interpretation of Polyphonic centers, it could have an impact to the growth of the touristic contingents, in order to create a wider complete view of the traditions and rites of these areas.

In addition, this touristic flux would orientate the attention toward the manufacture's productions, such as clothes, brass, or culinary products, which offer a full view of the polyphonic tradition.

As in most cases, despite the multifaceted development that Albanian tourism has undergone in recent years, including elements of culture, the fact is that in various tourist programs, in addition to many cognitive aspects, in terms of natural resources of some historical indicators and culinary peculiarities, it remains a lukewarm and incomplete dimension, as long as it does not include and unfold to the proper extent the cultural background.

In this regard, if we talk about an elite tourism mainly in the southern areas of Albania, polyphony will undoubtedly need to occupy a considerable space, as it has accompanied the previous life in every era and continues to nowadays.

Therefore, in order to know a society in more detail, it would be useful not only to provide a larger place of its most representative features, in this case polyphony, but, among others, to become a real objective, as it penetrates from one generation to the other the very prominent values of spiritual heritage, in other terms for the survival and progress of this society.

In base of "National Strategy for Culture 2019- 2025" Ministry of Culture of Albania aiming the preservation and integrated protection of cultural heritage values, as testimony of inherited values from the past, as an expression of national identity and collective tradition property, the strategic document defines the

projects package for the restoration, preservation and conservation of objects - culture monument, based on the programs and sectoral and governmental priorities. Some of the basic criteria defining the priorities for the restorations of monuments are: monuments at risk, return of the invested value, development of the administrative area where the monument is located, through tourism, establishing of new businesses and employment opportunities etc. Part of these criteria are also the projects for the revitalisation of historic centres and museum centers, in urban and rural areas of the country. This measure includes also the planned activities in the National Strategy for the Sustainable development of Tourism 2019-2025, through activities related to cultural tourism, reconstruction of characteristic architectural objects turned into cultural objects and accommodation structures, improvement of road infrastructure and signage in cultural heritage destinations. The measures and activities planned in this objective envisage close cooperation with all stakeholders, to ensure the development of historical and cultural itineraries of the cultural routes of the Council of Europe in which Albania is a part, commitment to participate in other cultural routes that traverse the region or other regional initiatives aimed at creating new cultural routes, candidates for adoption as Council of Europe cultural routes. The strategic document defines several mechanisms for creating conditions for the functioning of the market of movable or immovable cultural assets. The inventory, cataloging, digitalization and monitoring of the movements of movable or immovable cultural assets will serve not only for the registration and digitalization of funds of public institutions, but also for the regulation of the regime of circulation of privately owned cultural assets. In order to meet certain standards of quality, education, security, preservation and protection of cultural values, in accordance with the legal framework, the strategic document provides for the licensing of commercial entities and experts assessing

The main indicators and expected results of the second policy goal are: architectural heritage and landscape objects restored and maintained versus the total, increasing public access to museums, number of cultural monuments and archeological parks for cultural tourism, number of facilities registered in the National Register of Cultural Assets, number of accredited museums, number of commercial entities and licensed cultural property evaluation experts. 6.1. Internationalization of art and cultural heritage values This objective defines specific measures and activities for the promotion and internationalization of the values of Albanian art and cultural heritage in the country and in the world. This objective aims to revive the great potential, which is the intangible cultural heritage, passed down from generation to generation and created over the centuries and gives them a sense of identity and continuity, thus helping

to promote respect for cultural diversity and traditional human creativity. The measures include the organization of annual, existing and new activities, in country and abroad with the aim of preserving, promoting the values of cultural heritage and raising public awareness of the real potentials that this heritage constitutes and presents.

For the preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage of national minorities in the country will be determined the financial support for various cultural and research activities of this heritage with the aim of protecting, cataloging and digitization for preservation of culture and identity of national minorities and prohibition of practices aimed at assimilation of their distinct culture and identity. This document decision explicitly provides “ Education through culture “, it provides and creates the necessary conditions for the preservation, promotion, protection, cataloging and digitization for the preservation and development of culture and identity of persons belonging to national minorities, such as wealth, value and part of the national cultural heritage Preservation and promotion of intangible cultural heritage values, which are considered at risk will be done initially by creating a register of intangible heritage carriers and through financial support schemes as well as training to create opportunities for knowledge transfer from consolidated artisans and craftsmen to different interest groups. This activity will be implemented in close and continuous cooperation between the National Center of Traditional Activities and the National Chamber of Crafts. In order to include national cultural assets in the representative lists of UNESCO world heritage in cooperation with professionals in the field, a list of elements will be initially compiled, on the basis of which files are prepared by experts in the field. The main indicators and expected results of the third policy goal are: number of intangible cultural heritage activities organized in the country and abroad, number of researches and publications on the cultural heritage of national minorities, register of intangible heritage holders, number of trainings in order to preserve artisans and crafts at risk, the number of tangible and intangible values registered in the UNESCO representative lists, the number of participations in international activities and the number of international activities organized in the country, as well as the number of projects participating in international funding programs. 44 The Committee for National Minorities is a representative body of minorities, according to the regulations in DCM no. 726, dated 12.12.2018 which aims to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights and interests of national minorities

Increasing public interest in cultural programs by improving services, products as well as artistic quality. This objective envisages the establishment and restructuring of new institutions for art and culture, which aim to supplement and update the cultural sector with new products and services. The establishment

of these institutions is based not only on the need to create modern products and services, but also on the requirements of different interest groups. One of these institutions that is intended to be established is the Center for Research of the Cultural and Creative Industry, which will fill the large gap that exists in relation to research in the field of culture and related indicators of impact. Among other things, this center will have as its objective the organization of trainings and research, fundraising for the implementation of local and international projects, the creation of a central statistical system for data on culture and creative industry in Albania, the collection and publication of cultural data from all public and private actors, creation of promotional platforms for cultural tourism, etc. The design of project ideas for the establishment of arts and heritage institutions, as well as new cultural centers is a measure based on the government's policies and priorities for development.

Infrastructure reform policies of cultural institutions through investment in new modern buildings, as well as qualitative and technological modernization of existing buildings aim not only to increase the quality of products and services offered by cultural institutions, but also a better management of them through revenue growth. In order to continue the positive trend in increasing the quality of cultural products and financial collections, various packages of cultural services and products will be designed and implemented.

The application of digital technology to increase the quality of services, products as well as the promotion of art and cultural heritage implements government policies for digitalization of services and citizens' access to cultural institutions. Performing services through online platforms, digitization of institutional funds, promotional platforms, etc. are some of the areas where the application of technology will bring increased quality of products and services. Through the assessment of the needs for employment services and vocational training in the field of creative industry, together, we shall draft a detailed plan for training and capacity building of individuals, independent cultural operators and the creative industry for activities in the labor market. The main indicators and expected results of the fourth policy goal are: creation of new institutions, reconstruction of buildings, increase of creative and competitive capacity of cultural products inside and outside the country, number of art and cultural heritage activities in general and activities for promoting and protecting the traditions, culture and cultural identity of national minorities in particular, increasing the number of employees in the culture sector and interacting with other sectors⁴⁸, as well as the digitalization of cultural services and products. The program aims that educational and cultural institutions help the younger generation to develop self-confidence, as individuals and members of various groups within the society; encourage them to develop a wide range of their skills and interests; identify and foster their potential as well

as develop their creativity. It also aims to recognize the values of tangible and intangible heritage of the country through various projects within the program. Design and implementation of an educational platform through art and cultural heritage institutions and the pre-university system. The problem identified during the implementation of the program for several years is the concentration of activities mainly in urban areas of the country, especially in the city of Tirana, where the largest number of cultural subordinate institutions are located. This objective aims to extend the education program throughout the country starting from the existing successful projects, which in cooperation with the local level and their subordinate institutions can be implemented in other cities, but also the emphasis will be on the design of new projects according to the identified specifications. The education program will be extended to independent operators through call for proposal projects aiming to have a wider participation of young people in places where local and central cultural institutions find it difficult to expand their activities. The integration of people with disabilities and national minorities through the Education through Culture program is one of the measures taken that will be implemented not only through existing projects, but also through projects designed specifically for access according to the needs of communities. In content, the program provides and creates the necessary conditions for the preservation, promotion, protection and development of culture and identity of persons belonging to national minorities such as property, value and part of national cultural heritage. The preparation and publication of monitoring and evaluation reports will continuously affect the improvement and updating of education program projects by adapting to the field conditions, as well as the circumstances in which they take place. The main indicators and expected results of the fifth policy goal are: increasing the number of educational projects within cultural institutions at the local and central level, better geographical spread of the program in the territory, increasing the number of participants in educational programs and conducting monitoring and evaluation reports within the program

The role of the polyphonia centers

Taking into consideration the importance of traditional polyphony in Albanian culture and its place inside the world polyphony, thanks to an initiative of Albanian specialists and not only, the Polyphony Centers at the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece will be based on the project “Polyphony”, a project which is being implemented by Albania and Greece. So far, having no specialized structure for the further protection and cultivation of this considerable arsenal of our cultures, everything has remained to the inertia and spontaneous ritual, represented by any folklore activity or festival.

UNESCO's protection of polyphony contributes to face and solve the problems created by the influence of tendencies of globalization, and from various demographic movements and immigration. Actually, it is necessary to proceed with convenient policy and care, which could be consolidated by the establishment of such a center. Its specific projects and programs would create the proper climate for the preservation of that great potential, giving continuity to the further generation of the polyphonic song. Action Plan refers to the Centers developed in the entire Project Intervention Area; thus, you should not focus your analysis only to the Albanian polyphony.

The centers Southern Albania and the North of Greece will be multifunctional, it will create the opportunity to preserve this musical current, and the teaching and heredity of the polyphony to future generations, as well. It will approach more the performances of polyphonic works toward the large public, which is not the case today.

Actually, there are very few events because this musical genre has not aroused interest to the younger generations.

- The Polyphonia Centers at the Southern Albania and the North of Greece are at the local public institution, established in accordance with the legislation in force and subordinated to the local government unit.
- The object of its activity is the preservation and conservation of this musical genre, the teaching, and inheritance of polyphony towards future generations, and the realization of the performances of polyphonic works for the large public, training, seminars, etc.
- The structure, and way of organization and functioning will all be determined and coordinated by PED Epirus in collaboration with the local Municipality based on the proposal of the section of Art and Culture, after being approved by the Municipal Council.
- The way of organization and functioning of the Polyphony Centers in the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece are determined by the statute, which should be approved by the Mayor, based on the proposal of the head of the Center.
- The statute of the Polyphony Centers in the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece are proposed by the head of the institution and approved by the council of the unit of the respective local government.
- The centers in the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece are headquartered in the local administrative unit.
- The activity of the Centers in the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece are closely related to the activities of polyphonic groups in intervention areas .

Strategic development practices & tools

The various analyzes carried out by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Albania also by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, by local government bodies, or the Institute of Popular Culture and various academic instances, have created a complete picture of the situation, its escalation, progressive and regressive factors, in which polyphonic culture is actually.

Various statistical indicators, both quantitative and qualitative, dictate the design of a specific strategy to intervene and change the overall situation, mostly in areas where it is observed a significant demographic movement, which not only reduces its performance, but presents also a very high risk for the continuity of the preservation of this tradition. It is already clear that the design and implementation of a specific strategy on the preservation and continuous generation of polyphonic tradition in Albania and Greece, is the most effective tool and mechanism to keep alive this inalienable value of the cultural and artistic identity of these countries.

Following that, it is necessary to identify:

- Human resources
- Creative and artistic resources
- Traditional and contemporary repertoire
- Stakeholders
- Financial indicators
- Natural and cultural resources
- Epicenters where there is a greater concentration of artistic formations
- Infrastructure and general
- This objective will be possible by identifying, selecting, and classifying values and indicators that dominate and represent song creation and interpretation of the polyphonic song, according to various specifics. Like that, the specialized and professional expertise will have a clearer picture of better orientation towards stable and transient values along this long and uninterrupted process of generating polyphonic traditions.
- A deep knowledge based on scientific and artistic criteria regarding the overall origin traits and characteristics of marked areas, as foci of the generation of polyphonic song, would directly affect the expansion level of its efficiency. Furthermore, any strategy or project would be easier to navigate to those points where it could intervene both with financial means and with infrastructural and logistical mechanisms.
- Every Intervention on spaces where a specific study has previously been conducted would have an effect regarding the reduction of the risk's margin of any possible financial abusing, or human resources.

Selection of the Head of Centers:

- As regards the Center in Greece: The Head of the Center will be appointed by PED Epirus, in cooperation with the local Municipality will be appointed by the Councils of the local government unit and will be selected between two professional candidacies of the art sector. He will be proposed by the chairman of the local government unit.
- The criteria for the appointment of the Head of the local public artistic and cultural institution are defined in the statute of this institution, which is approved by the council of the local government unit. The juridical relations in the Polyphony Center in Albania is regulated by the Labor Code of the Republic of Albania, as well as by the laws, the statute and the internal regulation. At the same time this only concerns the Albanian Center: “The juridical relations are regulated by the appropriate Greek legal framework”

The Head of the Polyphony Center has the following competencies:

- a) He is the main responsible for the functioning and management of the Center
- b) He exercises the competencies to direct the administrative-economic activity of the Center
- c) He represents the institution in relations with third parties;
- d) He approves the regulation of the internal functioning of the Institution, after the approval of the statute by the Mayor.
- e) He approves the annual plan of the center’s activities, and he concludes contracts with the beneficiary entities of the center
- f) He selects and classifies polyphony projects from the point of view of artistic and economic values;

To achieve the above objectives, the Center uses its resources and cooperates with academic staff, specialists in the field, composers, singers, instrumentalists, etc. The staff of the center is approved through a series of instructions referring to the structure, staff selection criteria and organizational work devised on the basis of the function of this institution. Any contractual employment relationship between employees and the Center is regulated via an individual employment contract, according to the Labor Code of the Republic of Albania, by-laws, statute and internal regulations.

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Every Intervention on spaces where a specific study has previously been conducted would have an effect regarding the reduction of the risk's margin of any possible financial abusing, or human resources. Development of the polyphonia centers in the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece

The center aims to:

1. Supports the study of polyphony mainly in Albania and Greece and beyond.
2. Expands the boundaries of ethnomusicological research in terms of ethnological, cultural-anthropological, social, philosophical-aesthetic, psycho-physiological aspects.
3. Introduces the features of the local styles of local polyphony.

The objectives of the center are:

1. Cooperation with international ethnomusicological organizations, active participation in ethnomusicological life of scientific-research centers for traditional music as well as phonogram archives in Albania and elsewhere
2. Creating a map of the geographical distribution of our traditional polyphony in the country, accompanied by scientific comments;
3. Organization of symposia on traditional polyphony, publication and reflection of these activities on the website.
4. Translation of ethnomusicological publications in Greek, Albanian and foreign languages”.
5. Presentation of the polyphony of Albania and Greece in the international arena through the presentation of the works of scholars.
6. Studies on the current state of polyphony based on archival and historical-ethnographic archival data
7. Establishment and cooperation with “Polyphonia” Centers in other countries
8. Implementation of various local and international projects;

Strategic planning

Plan for sustainable operation for both countries and the Centers after the closure of the project.

The Albanian reality after UNESCO's protection of iso-polyphony, has evidenced the lack of a special structure to monitor and administer the progress and problems of protection and development of the polyphonic tradition. For this reason, after the closure of this project, the center will focus on its activities:

Establishment and updating of the national register of polyphonic groups and artists at the region level, for both LABE and TOSK polyphony.

Coordination between state and international institutions and the artistic community in regard to the participation in various artistic and cultural festivals or events, inside the country and abroad.

It will apply for various projects at UNESCO structures or EU programs for organizing various artistic activities at the national and international levels.

Among the priorities of the center will be the organization and support of various activities, such as scientific conferences or various symposia regarding the protection of this heritage and its continuity in front of time's challenges.

The center will be able to monitor the entire polyphonic territory, getting acquainted with appearing problems and innovations in the field.

The center will organize and conduct as well, various research expeditions with local and foreign researchers.

Business plan

Polyphonia Centers at the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece will build their function based on the budget provided by the Polyphonia Project. Meanwhile, other funding schemes, such as support from the Local Government, do not affect the implementation phase of this project. However, this source of funding can be useful and provide expectations and perspective for the continuity of these centers proposed for the operation of the Centers, especially in the closing phase of the project.

Financing sources of the Center during the Project's implementation phase:

- Polyphonia Project funding
- Financing sources of the Center after the Project's implementation phase:
- local government budget for culture
- revenues provided from various projects
- incomes from the sale of the artistic and cultural work

- incomes from tickets, services provided by the institution to third parties
- Sponsorships and donations other legal incomes.

The fund of Polyphony Center will be approved every year, it will develop and finance polyphonic projects, aiming to preserve the heritage and national values, in function of cultural policies for Polyphony, such as festivals, national competitions, jubilee activities, column promotions and publications; etc.

“Polyphonia” Centers will have the following competencies:

1. Implements policies in the field of art and culture, in accordance with corresponding law;
2. At the beginning of each year the Centers plans and announces the annual calendar of activities and the respective fund;
3. It administers and plans the public fund, according the areas of activity of the Center, it supports and finances, fully or partially, the activities related to Polyphony through projects presented by individuals and legal persons, in accordance with the program and policies of the Municipality;
4. Every year, it presents to the Municipality the requests for budget support, which supervises the use of that financing;

Art Gallery and Museum

The Art Gallery and the Museum of Polyphony will be another pace of the center where visitors will get acquainted with numerous materials about Albanian polyphony, and not only.

Some materials of the Museum and Art gallery could be:

1. Distribution of maps of different polyphony forms, at home and abroad.
2. Various books on polyphony
3. Manuscripts
4. Works
5. Photo
6. Archival records
7. Clothing collections
8. Musical materials
9. Musical instruments
10. Scientific works
11. Video materials
12. Transcriptions

Marketing plan

The Polyphony Centers at the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece, from the approved annual budget fund, develops and finances polyphonic projects, with the aim of preserving national heritage and values, in function of cultural policies for Polyphony, such as festivals, national competitions, jubilee activities, promotions and column publications; etc.

“Polyphonia” Centers will have the following competencies and functions:

- Implements policies in the field of art and culture, in accordance with applicable law;
- Plans and announces publicly, at the beginning of each year, the annual activity calendar and the relevant fund;
- Administers and plans the public fund, according to the areas of activity of the Center, supports and finances, in full or in part, activities related to Polyphony through projects submitted by natural and legal persons, in accordance with the program and policies of the Municipality;
- It submits annual requests for budget support from the Municipality, as well as supervises the use of financing by the entities supported by it.
- Operation of the polyphonia centers
- The Polyphonia centers in both Albania and Greece will have a construction and operation typology. They will function as independent, non-profit organization, which will exercise their activity based on initiatives or projects in order to protect and guarantee the continuity of polyphonic traditions.
- Besides, the centers will coordinate, support projects with mutual budgets, according a common calendar of activities with central and local government bodies, and with various international organizations.
- To achieve the above objectives and expectations, the centers will operate on the basis of the following parameters:

Location

The Centers at the area of Southern Albania and the North of Greece are structural unit of Municipalities, with the facilities provided by the existing infrastructure. The staff will consist of the Director and specialists, who could be employed according to the objectives and order of the Mayor.

The centers will be built on the existing infrastructure provided by the Municipalities.

The center has a bureau which creates national and international contacts;

- The centers will have a section for scientific research
- The centers will have three classrooms, where specialists in the field teach polyphony to future generations.
- The centers will have two rehearsal classes, one for instrumentalists and the other for singers.
- The centers will have a large hall for various polyphonic groups in order to perform rehearsals before the concert and to record the songs via music studio.
- The centers will have a concert hall which serves for the realization of performances by Albanian polyphonic groups and foreign ones, in the function of the activities that this center will perform.
- The centers will have its own production studio equipped with all necessary equipment for the registration and preservation of polyphonic works, and for the creation of new polyphonic works by Albanian and foreign composers. The Production Studio will be located between the rehearsal hall and the Concert Hall, in order to record the polyphonic works that take place in these two halls, both in audio and video.
- The centers will have an Art Gallery and Museum of the Greek and Albanian polyphony where all the accessories of the Albanian polyphony, clothes, photos, various videos of performances of polyphonic groups, books, documents, etc. are exhibited.
- The Centers will be headed by the Director who is appointed by the Mayor;
- The Centers will be accountable to the Mayor for its activities.

Scientific Research and Publications Office

The Research Office focuses on its research, collection, preservation of polyphonic music and its enrichment with new polyphonic materials, elements and works, trainings and seminars. Based to its scientific-research activities, the research office could be considered as a music research laboratory.

The office will be an active part of the teaching process by dint of agreements with universities in the country and abroad, and its counterpart offices, wherever the subject of polyphony is taught. In cooperation with external experts the office can propose measures, teaching curricula, training, seminars, workshops, competitions in order to make the polyphony more sensible to young researchers and musicians.

On behalf of the main promoter of growing attention and interest to the Albanian polyphony in the international arena, the office will systematically

examine different aspects of polyphonic music, it will participate in international forums, will organize scientific conferences, establishing new polyphonic ensembles, as well.

The office will invite and engage several experts, such as: folklorists, historians, theorists, composers and ethnologists. One of the other missions of the office is the registration section, where, according to a certain calendar, the office prepares all those materials to be registered by the polyphonic groups. These materials will be recorded, copied-updated, restored, processed and edited, transcribed, included in the database, audio, photos and other materials which, once identified, will be certified. The office will also occasionally publish works on polyphony, books, archival recordings, collections, articles, reviews in national and international forums, etc.

Offered services

The Center offers effective training / seminars on polyphonic music, according to selected target groups, it collects, processes and distributes valuable data to art and culture subjects in fields of production, education and promotion of polyphonic activity; it encourages, cooperates, finances or co-finances projects and programs in the field of polyphony, production and distribution of national and international polyphonic activities; it registers polyphonic entities, according to the requirements and professional criteria already approved by the Center; it provides technical assistance, in the service of quality growth and standardization of polyphonic music.

Southern Albania and the North of Greece Polyphonic Centers:

Following the parameter's details on which Southern Albania and the North of Greece the Polyphonic Centers will operate, here below there is a list of other tools needed for a more visible efficiency of this center:

- The centers will function only for protection and generation of polyphonic song. Any other activity, whether cultural or artistic, will not be the subject of this center.

The infrastructure of the center may include:

One conference hall for meetings and various seminars.

- One recording studio with the necessary equipment. The studio needs only several brass instruments, typical of the area.

- One small hall where different groups or individuals could practice or perform polyphonic song
- Requisitions with traditional clothing of the area, with which the polyphonic groups perform on the stage.

Studio Production Audio and Video

The production studio represents the central direction where the musical parts of both halls will be recorded, such as rehearsals and concerts. The production studio will also serve for the restoration of old previously recorded music materials, bringing them into the proper formats, making them accessible to everyone. The center will also have its own Youtube channel where it will be able to reflect sounds and images of all its musical activity.

The studio, like other rooms, will be acoustically isolated to enable the mixing and mastering of every piece of music performed in this studio. The isolation will be done with gypsum with the following parameters: Partition wall, Knauf W112, with UW-CW75mm structure (isolated with acoustic adhesive), with 1 white GKB tile layer and 1 Knauf Diamant Board GKF-I tile layer on both sides + Knauf Stone Wool NB VentAcusto D = 75kg / m³ = (isolation up to 70 dcB). After being isolated with gypsum, the studio will be paved with ceiling and floor parquet, while the walls will be covered with fur material curtains mixed with dock, or with acoustic sponges so that the acoustics inside the classroom are in the required parameters and the sounds do not collide with each other and create acoustic pollution. In order to have visibility between the premises, the studio will be situated between the two halls and it should have partitions in the glazed wall. The production studio will be divided into two rooms.

1- Audio part

The audio part will be professionally equipped to enable the operation of the studio, namely:

- Study table
- PC workstation with core parameters I9 9th generation
- Two 32-inch PC monitors
- Nuendo 10 software program or its relative
- Sound card p. Mixer ssl g. Microphone preamplifiers
- Headphone amplifiers
- Monitor Yamaha 2 pieces HS 8 Studio and 2 pieces HS5 Studio
- Three pairs of Sennheiser HD300PRO headphones

- 8-octave Midi testers I. VST Native Instruments Complete Control 12 full upgrade Editor
- Different cables
- UPS batteries for apparatus
- Digital converters to convert the signal from analog to digital and vice versa
- Master clocks to synchronize 2 or more signals
- Hardware Analog (equalizer, compressor, reverb, mastering, echo, etc.)

2- Video part

- The video part will be equipped to enable the operation of the studio, namely:
- Study table
- PC workstation with core parameters I9 9th generation
- Two 32-inch PC monitors
- Software program complete package of Adobe and Da Vinci
- Personalized graphics card
- Monitor Yamaha 2 pieces HS5 Studio
- UPS batteries
- A pair of ATH-M50X Audio Technica Headphones. Last Red One or DSRL camera (2 or 3 pieces)
- Static camera (2 or 3 pieces)
- Stabilizer Camera DJI Ronin-SC Gimbal (2 or 3 pieces)

The Southern Albania and the North of Greece polyphonia centers: a music hub

Following the details of the parameters on which the Southern Albania and the North of Greece Polyphonic Centers will operate, we are listing several other tools needed for a more visible efficiency of this center:

- These centers will only work for the protection and generation of polyphonic song. Any other activity, whether cultural or artistic, will not be the subject of this center.
- The centers will have an infrastructure with conference halls, meetings and various seminars.
- Recording studio with all the right equipment. In this studio it will not be necessary to equip with various musical instruments other than any pastoral wind character.

- Small hall where different groups or individuals will be able to practice or perform the polyphonic song.
- Requisites with traditional clothing of the area, with which polyphonic groups will take performing at the stage.
- Another important aspect of the function of these centers is that of continuing professional qualification. Through different platforms will be presented clear panoramas of current situations in the circuits marked as polyphonic areas. Further, specific training programs will be prepared where experts in the field will be continuously trained who will further specialize various trainees who will be interested in engaging as performers in various polyphonic song projects.

Dissemination & future development

The establishment and operation of such centers affect the final solution of this problem carried over the years, managing not only the problem of surviving of the Polyphony, but even avoiding the inevitable danger of its slowly extinguishing.

This kind of functioning typology will favor the absorption of funds and projects, it will, as well, have constant supervision and presence in the identification and reduction of many problems of extinctions, more concretely, a development process guaranteeing the future in terms of preserving and further strengthening of this culture.

Considering the Polyphony, a very important side of our cultural and spiritual heritage, we strongly support the conviction that the establishment of such centers is not only useful, but also vital in terms of protection and general development of this tradition.

Bearing in mind the above arguments, hereby there are some of the sustainable objectives:

- Creative and interpretive resources remain the main source of enrichment and continuous generation of the repertoire with new creations, in those areas where polyphonic song is used, as artistic expression and a companion of rites and traditions.
- The return of these villages to tourist spaces will significantly increase the need of local visitors, and especially foreign ones, not only treating it as an evocation of history, but as an artistic phenomenon of today's reality.
- Increasing contacts and intensifying relations with the diaspora will raise the need of setting up specific participation programs in different countries of the region, and in Euro-Atlantic areas, focusing on creative and interpretive values that the song incarnates in itself.

- Besides, in addition to popular songs of the past, enriching the polyphony with young performers will renew the fund of songs, it will bring creations that contain motifs of modernity such as, for example, the theme of immigration, or even those with the vital and social phenomena of the time we live in.
- Participation in various polyphonic song festivals organized and supported by the regions of Vlora and Gjirokastra, and the Ministry of Culture, will create the climate and the opportunity to be present in these important cultural events with new energy and new creations, new songs which respond to the form, content and ideas of the actuality, and finally representing the new generation on festival stages. in addition to popular songs of the past.

References

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