

## EVALUATION OF TRAINING SESSIONS IN GREECE

### INTRODUCTION

The training took place in Piraeus, Greece in collaboration of IDEC SA with the Music High School of Piraeus from September 17<sup>th</sup> till September 24<sup>th</sup> 2017.

Trainers were 2 teachers of the Music High School of Piraeus and trainees 16 teachers of the same school. In-class training lasted for 20 hours covering the use and functionalities of music text processing software FINALE NOTEPAD plus 10 hours for writing music using this software.

Trainees completed 3 questionnaires, all of them asking for qualitative feedback. Specifically, participants completed:

- one in the beginning of the seminar exploring the expectations of participants,
- one mid-term (formative evaluation) indicating what participants spotted that they liked most and what they disliked most and
- one at the end of the seminar, expressing their opinion if the seminar met their expectations and if they have any suggestions.

At the end of the seminar there was a small Ceremony, in which IDEC has given participants their certificates.

In the following we show the results of the three questionnaires.



## Questionnaire 1

### What are your expectations from this training?

- To learn in a fast and effective way how to use music software FINALE.
- To learn how to write and how to process a music text-score.
- To compare tie FINALE software with analogous software programs of music semiology.
- I expect to learn better how to use a software through training and practice.
- To learn how to produce a music score by using Finale.
- Initial aim was familiarization with the music software.
- We live in the digital era, where music, its acoustics or production changes every day due to the introduction of new technologies. New music technology through computer applications and digital musical instruments is available for students, teachers and schools. Yet, it is not enough used in music education and this is primarily due to the lack of training of teachers. After that there is another cycle for finding resources for buying infrastructure, organizing etc.
- To learn the program in order to use it in the music school and elsewhere
- To learn more about music software.
- To acquire a general idea about the way of functioning of Finale.
- To be able to write a simple music score and with a few words.
- To learn a part of the menu.
- To enhance my learning and studying broadly the software in order to compose music and process it in an electronic way.
- This software may meet the expectations of any student in music education.
- To learn the software and work together with colleagues with greater knowledge and experience.
- To learn the software in order to be able to give to my student music scores not handwritten.
- To attend a course that meets mine and my colleagues' needs.
- To learn the software and to be able to use it as an educational tool.
- To be able to compose scores for solo instruments as well as for big orchestra ensembles.
- To be able to orchestrate a melody.

## Questionnaire 2

**Please write 2 things you liked most and two you liked less in the training course.**

**I liked most:**

- Adaptability of practical training to the specific needs of each trainee
- Sufficient teaching skills of the trainer
- Effectivity of training
- Trainer's transmissibility
- I consider as a plus practice on subjects related to our everyday teaching tasks
- New information on music technology
- Especially friendly and collaborative climate
- High level of training
- Facing directly practical issues of the operation of the software
- Collaborative spirit and good communication between the trainer and trainees
- Good contact with the trainer, his good training and good atmosphere
- Good and loose learning climate
- The trainer was accessible, he had a positive attitude and we had a good cooperation
- The use of abbreviations that made the use more interesting and facilitated it
- Pleasant learning climate, optimum communication with the trainer and his direct resolution of problems
- There was nothing I liked more or less, I liked everything
- Good and studied teaching of the trainer
- Team climate and collaboration with colleagues
- I liked most listening to the music text and processing it to pdf format
- The effort and transmissibility of the trainer
- I liked most the possibilities of the specific software that can cover all needs of music signs and that we worked as a team

**I disliked most:**

- I would have liked more practice hours
- Restricted time of training leaves gaps of knowledge
- Few hours of training
- Heterogeneity of the group of trainees
- Small duration of the course
- Big number of available choices of the specific music software
- Lack of team projects
- Not sufficient infrastructure
- Not adequacy of the room
- Poor infrastructure of the course
- We did not have a projector in order to be better coordinated
- Time dedicated was not enough to learn all functions of the music software
- The course could be longer
- I would like better that there is a kind of video-recording which would facilitate the task of the trainer



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- The course could be longer. I couldn't take full advantage of it because other trainees were beginners and others advanced
- I liked less difficulties of the software and lack of technical infrastructure.

### Questionnaire 3

#### **Did the course meet your expectations?**

- Yes, because it gave me the knowledge to use the software in a more friendly way and it resolved different questions I had on the possibilities of the software.
- Partly, because of the short time and heterogeneity of participants.
- Of course, because it contained a learning program with clear objectives and results.
- Yes, because it was very relevant and useful regarding our music subjects.
- Training met my expectations and further advanced them. It was clear that participating in common actions with colleagues gave me the chance for self-improvement.
- FINALE is a complex software, as far as its use is concerned and needs a lot of practice. However, I acquired enough knowledge to be able to continue and build with the time a more solid understanding and skills.
- I managed to learn perhaps more than I will need.
- To a big extent, because we have learnt most functions of the software. I have an overview of the software, which will permit me to work further by myself in the future.
- Yes, because I learnt what I was looking for.
- Yes, because it is a tool as far as ensembles are concerned.
- Yes. It met my expectations. I learnt how to write and process a music text to a good level.
- Partly. I found it a bit difficult myself, as I was a complete beginner.
- Yes, because I learnt enough things to successfully use Finale.
- It did meet my expectations as I learnt to create and process various music texts.

#### **Do you have any suggestions for improvement?**

- More time for practicing
- Additional modules in regular intervals
- The course could be longer
- Perhaps, if there was more time, if we had the opportunity to listen more music samples.
- It may be positive to have tasks in specific time (less than 10') and presentation-discussion of results in front of everybody. This would permit exchange of ideas and direct familiarization with the music software.
- It would be good if the trainer had an LSD projector in order to show to everybody different movement he did on the computer. Of course, individual questions might be resolved separately.
- An improvement might be a better infrastructure in order to be able to print actually, not just extract parts.
- Mainly concerning technical infrastructure. A projector and central screen would allow better coordination of participants.
- It would be useful if byzantine semiology was added to the fonts.
- None.
- More training in the future.



## Using ICT In Music Education

Agreement n° 2016-1-TR01-KA204-034579



- I would have liked more adequate infrastructure (projector, more computers in which the software runs).
- More courses. Classification of participants against their level of previous knowledge.
- Maybe more hours of training.

## CONCLUSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP

As a conclusion participants are satisfied with the training seminar but they pointed out that it would be more beneficial if:

- The group of participants could be more homogeneous as far as their knowledge in music and their ICT literacy are concerned.
- It would last for a longer period.
- The infrastructure used was not enough, nor adequate.

Furthermore, they asked for more seminars like the one in the framework of the ICT in music Education.

Examining this feedback IDEC has asked the Music High School of Piraeus their further needs in infrastructure and ICT equipment and it has donated them 2 PCs, a wireless access point, a dehumidifier and a tape recorder.

