

**BAGPIPES IN THE BLATA
REGION OF BOHEMIA**

By

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A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of
the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Music with a concentration in the
History of Musical Instruments

Department of Music
in the Graduate School
The University of South Dakota
May 12, 2007

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May 2007

Abstract

Blata is an agricultural area that at one time supported a rich musical tradition that included the use of bagpipes. It is located in the region known as jižní Čechy or South Bohemia in the Czech Republic. In this thesis, Blata is defined and the use of bagpipes in Bohemia and Blata, specifically, is examined through legend and first-hand accounts. What is known of two bagpipers who left Blata and immigrated to Nebraska and Minnesota is included. Bagpipes thought to originate from Blata are described. The short-necked violin, an instrument used with bagpipes in Blata and other regions of Bohemia, is presented. The construction of a replica bagpipe of the type used in Blata is documented, and five folk songs are included, arranged for bagpipe, E-flat clarinet, and violin.

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Acknowledgments

I would like to express my gratitude to the following people and institutions:

To the National Music Museum and Center for Study of History of Musical Instruments at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, to my professors and colleagues, including Dr. André P. Larson, Director; Dr. Margaret Downie Banks, Curator; John Koster, Conservator; Arian Sheets, Curator of Stringed Instruments; and, Sarah Richards, Curator, for their time, suggestions, and input into this thesis, as well as Dr. István Gombocz for serving as the outside member of the committee.

Also, to my friends and colleagues in the Czech Republic and Europe, including Irena Novotná, Katovice (Ethnographer at the Muzeum středního Pootaví, Strakonice); Jaromír Jindřich, Domažlice; Kamil Jindřich, Domažlice; Josef Kuneš, Domažlice; Ludmila Dolejší, Hartmanice; Petr Nováček, Hartmanice; Kateřina Nováčková, Hartmanice; Hana Sedláková, Brno; Irena Hájková, Městské muzeum Týn nad Vltavou; PhDr. Jiřina Langhammerová, Národopisné muzeum NM, Prague; Josef Režný, Strakonice; Pavel Číp and sons, Miroslav and Petr, Zubří; Marcela Doubková, Cheb; Alice Janotová, Strakonice; Alexius Vandrovec, Břevnov Monastery, Prague; Alexandra Zvonařová, Muzeum Jindřichohradecka, Jindřichův Hradec; Daniela Urbancová, České muzeum hudby; Martin Kovář, Blatské muzeum v Soběslavi (Blata Museum in Soběslav); Michael Vereno, Salzburg, Austria; and, Joel Blahník, Fish Creek, Wisconsin, as well as the Fulbright Program, the J.W. Fulbright Commission in the Czech Republic, and my parents, James and Elisabeth Cwach.