

**How will anyone understand what you are talking about
if your message given in strange tongues is not clear?
Tongue and music in the worship of God**

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Psaltic art is an unbreakable unity of the word (the verses of the hymns) and the melody. Music has the purpose to express the meaning of the hymns just like the ekphonic system has the purpose to emphasize the meaning of the excerpts of the Holy Gospels and the Epistles of the Apostles. According to these, the ecclesiastical musicians don't only have the duty to be the experts in the art of the various musical modes, but also to be the specialists of the liturgical rite, the hymns, the tongue of the ecclesiastical Services, and must have a solemn attitude and a comprehension of the worship. In the present paper I will do some practical observations on the aforementioned references, based also on scientific research.

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- *Emmanouil St. Giannopoulos was born in Thessaloniki-Macedonia, Greece. Primarily a musicologist and elected as a lecturer at the Department of Music at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and as an assistant Professor in the city of Ioannina, in 2001 Giannopoulos was awarded 'Excellent' for his thesis *The flourishing of Psaltic Art in Crete (1566-1669)* (supervisor Professor: Gregorios Th. Stathis), a book which has been edited in 2004. This publication was completed following study of Byzantine Music ("Psaltic Art") at the Department of Music, University of Athens. Prior to this Giannopoulos had gained a degree in Physical Education (1984-1988), a second degree in Theology (1990-1994) and in 2000 a Postgraduate Diploma titled *Christian Archaeology and Liturgics*. He also holds a degree in Hellenic Palaeography. In parallel he has studied Byzantine Music at the Music School of Metropolis of Thessaloniki, at the New Conservatory and finally at the Municipal Conservatory of Thessaloniki. Giannopoulos taught for 25 years in a High School, at a Conservatory, at the Department of Theology, and at the Department of Music Studies, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. In 2008 he systematically started teaching Byzantine music in Yekaterinburg-Russia, where now his students have achieved an excellent ecclesiastical music level, both in Greek and Slavonic language. He has written many books, articles, essays on Psaltic Art -its handwritten tradition, history, hymnography, theoretical treatises- and papers on the work of famous musicians. He takes part in the prestigious International Musicological Congress and his papers are published in the Proceedings and on the web. He has also edited numerous important music books and he has given many performances with his students' choir. He is a protopsaltes (first chanter) in the famous Byzantine Church of the Saints Apostles in Thessaloniki.*