

# From Digital Editions to Interpretive Insights: Reimagining Čiurlionis's Music Legacy

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**Summary:** This study presents the culmination of a 2022-2024 project dedicated to creating a comprehensive digital critical edition of Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis's (1875-1911) piano music, along with plans for future research and development work (2025-2028) incorporating vocal music and creating a separate analysis module.

## LEGACY OF ČIURLIONIS

Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis is internationally recognized more as a painter than as a musician, largely due to exhibitions after his 1911 death and recent exhibitions in major cities. His musical contributions, including early serial music examples, remain underappreciated globally because publication began 50 years after his death, with limited distribution during Soviet occupation of Lithuania (1944-1990).

- c. 500 music compositions (including drafts)
- early period is influenced by romantic style while late period had features of modern music
- musical works are closely tied to paintings (it is speculated that he had synesthesia)
- all forms of symmetry used in structure and texture of late compositions as well as experiments in serial compositional technique are unique in the European music history of XX century

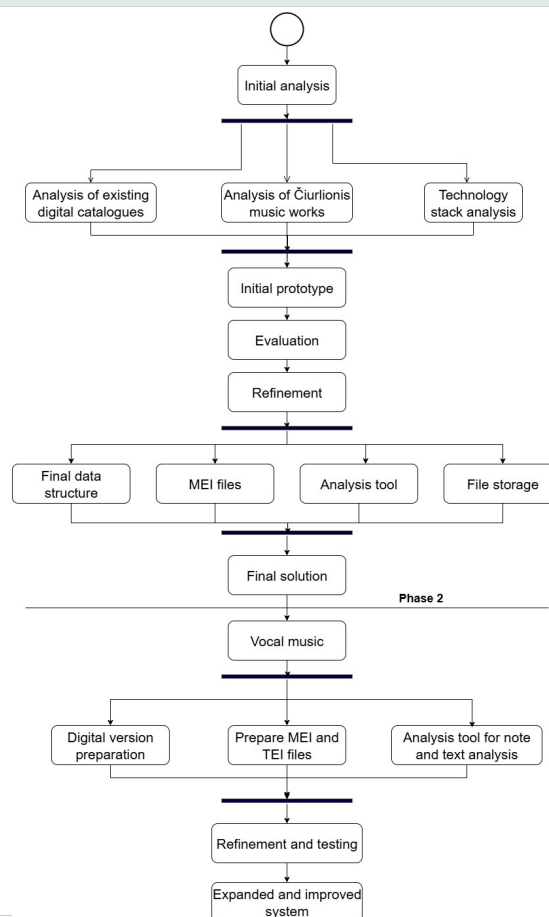
## PROBLEMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Different cataloguing systems
  - Composer's opera system – MKČ
  - Jadvyga Čiurlionytė's opera system – JČ
  - Valerija Karužienė's system – KJŽ
  - Vytautas Landsbergis's system – VL
  - Darius Kučinskas's system – DK
- Manuscripts and editions in multiple archives and museums in Lithuania and abroad
- No existing online digital critical edition

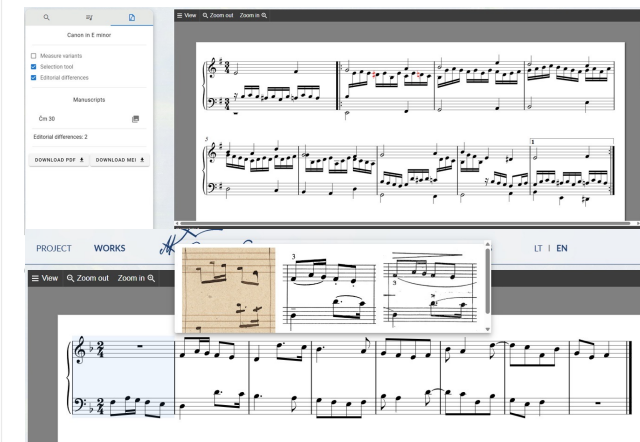
## Goals:

- To form a digital corpus of all manuscripts and editions
- Prepare an integrated database with \*.mei files
- Develop an online digital critical edition
- Create an analysis tool for further musicological research

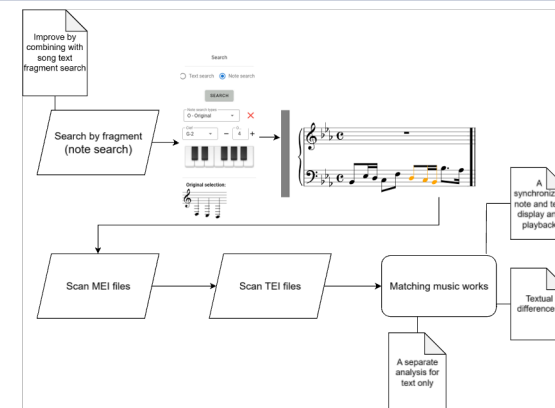
## RESEARCH PROCESS



## ANALYSIS TOOL



## INCORPORATING VOCAL MUSIC



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research was funded by Research Council of Lithuania (Projects "Critical Text and Digital Interactive Database of Čiurlionis's Piano Music" No. S-LIP-22-75, and „Database of Čiurlionis's Vocal Music“ No. S-LISm-25-7)