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**PHONETIC ENVIRONMENT EFFECT ON /r/ ARTICULATION
IN FRENCH SUNG SPEECH**

Abstract

This study analyses occurrence of the uvular and alveolar /r/ in French sung speech; its material includes Art Songs written by French composers of the late 19th – early 20th century. At the first stage of this study the uvular consonant occurrence in different age groups of singers is compared, the main /r/ articulation model is considered for every singer. Then deviations from the alveolar articulation model, i. e. changes to the uvular /r/, are analyzed in various phonetic environment. The current study's results enable to conclude that (i) most of the alveolar [r] are maintained after the breath pause and before the semivowels, (ii) the uvular articulation exists in the Art Songs interpretation by French operatic singers representing different age groups.

Keywords: sung speech, French language, phonetic environment, rhotic consonants, articulation.

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