

Contextualizing Eleonora Fedosova's theory of лад [lād] in the music of Dmitri Shostakovich
Sarah Marlowe (Eastman School of Music)

The concept of лад [lād] (loosely translated as mode) is considered to be one of the most important subjects in the history of Russian music theory. It is also very complex: there is no one theory of лад [lād], but in fact several differing, sometimes conflicting theories on the topic. My current project investigates the work of a single theorist, Eleonora Petrovna Fedosova (b. 1931) and her book *Diatonicheskiye ladi v tvorchesstve D. Shostakovicha* [Diatonic Modes in the Musical Works of D. Shostakovich] (1980). The first part of my presentation provides a brief overview of important developments in Russian music theory and the various approaches to the study of лад [lād] in the 20th century. I will then show how Fedosova's work fits into this broader context and present some preliminary findings about her work.