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| Book Name: | [**New Ideas Concerning Arts and Social Studies**](https://www.bookpi.org/bookstore/product/new-ideas-concerning-arts-and-social-studies-vol-1/) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_5889** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Nostalgia for Progress: Chronicles of the First Ever Railway Song** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | This chapter makes a meaningful and original contribution to the intersection of cultural studies, ethnomusicology, and the history of technology. By closely examining Glinka’s *Travelling Song*—widely acknowledged as the first railway-themed art song—it sheds light on how technological innovation inspired deeply personal and cultural forms of expression in 19th-century Russia. The author’s approach, which combines historical analysis with narrative storytelling and art-based research, offers an effective model for interdisciplinary inquiry. This manuscript opens up a valuable line of research connecting music history to societal transformation and emotional experience. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | Yes. The title *“Nostalgia for Progress: Chronicles of the First Ever Railway Song”* is both accurate and evocative. It captures the dual themes of emotional retrospection and cultural reaction to technological change. No revisions are necessary. |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | The abstract successfully outlines the article’s scope, historical grounding, and methodology. However, I suggest two small improvements:   * First, consider adding a clearer thesis statement that articulates the central claim—namely, that *Travelling Song* is not only a reaction to the novelty of the railway but also rooted in a personal romantic and emotional context. * Second, briefly clarify the term “art-based research” to make the methodology more accessible to readers from other disciplines. These additions would further strengthen the abstract’s clarity and scholarly reach. |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.** | Yes. The manuscript is historically accurate and methodologically appropriate for its field. The timeline (e.g., the 1837 railway inauguration vs. Glinka’s 1840 composition), biographical details, and references to musical works and artists are correct. Interpretive claims are clearly distinguished from established fact, especially in the sections involving Glinka’s relationship with Ekaterina Kern. The chapter balances narrative with academic rigor in line with best practices in humanities research. |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.**  **-** | Yes. The references are comprehensive and well-chosen, including both historical documents and recent scholarship (e.g., Winterson 2021, Slobin 2019). Russian-language sources are used effectively and add important depth. Optionally, the author might consider adding a comparative reference from Western European train music (e.g., Honegger’s *Pacific 231*) to contextualize Glinka’s contribution within a broader frame—but this is not essential. |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Yes. The language is fluent, clear, and well-suited to academic publication. The writing style combines narrative and analytical modes effectively. There are no major grammatical or structural issues, though some minor editing at the copyediting stage (punctuation, word spacing, typographic consistency) may be beneficial. |  |
| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)* |  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Yang Liu, United States of America**