

PEER REVIEW

by **Prof. Dr. ATANAS PETROV KARAFEZLIEV**

Lecturer in the Department of Chamber Music and Accompaniment,

Instrumental Faculty of Prof. P. Vladigerov National Academy of Music – Sofia

on the application for the academic position of “PROFESSOR” of

Assoc. Prof. Dr. BORISLAV ALEKSANDROV YASENOV

under a competition at the Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing Department,

Faculty of Music Pedagogy,

Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv

Biographical data:

The candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Borislav Aleksandrov Yasenov was born on 24.10.1967 in the City of Plovdiv.

Education and qualifications:

- 1986 – *Secondary education with specialty “Flute” at Dobrin Petkov Specialized Music School, Plovdiv (now National School of Music and Dance), with teachers Emanuil Didov and Stefan Pashev;*
- 1992 – ***Master’s degree***, *Academy of Music, Dance and Arts, Plovdiv (now Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts) in the flute class of Assoc. Prof. Kiril Grozdanov;*
- 1997 – *Fifth professional qualification degree, Trakiya University – Stara Zagora, Department of Information and Teacher Training, awarded for achievements of outstanding students-flutists at national competitions and festivals;*
- 2009 – *Specialization “Instrumental Art – Flute” with Prof. Lidiya Oshavkova, Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music, Sofia;*
- 2010 – *Specialization “Pop and Jazz – Flute” with Prof. Simeon Shterev, Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music, Sofia;*
- 2013 – *Awarded educational and scientific degree “Doctor of Musicology and Music Arts”, Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music, Sofia, for a dissertation on the topic: “Some Aspects of the Flute Performing Art in Baroque and Jazz”.*

Teaching activity:

- 1988 – 1992: *flute teacher at the Music School at Geo Milev House of Railway Culture – Plovdiv;*
- 1992 – 1998: *flute teacher at Balgarska Roza Specialized High School – Kazanlak (Arts Profile – Music);*

- 1998 – 2014: *flute teacher at Ekzarh Antim I High School – Kazanlak (Arts Profile – Music);*
- 2008 – *part-time lecturer in flute and pop and jazz formations at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv;*
- 2012 – *appointed under a labor contract, as an Assistant in flute at the Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing Department, Faculty of Music Pedagogy at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, lecturer in Pop and Jazz Formations and Theory and Improvisation;*
- 2015 – *appointed as Chief Assistant of Flute (under competition) at the Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing Department, Faculty of Music Pedagogy at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv;*
- 2017 – *appointed as Associate Professor of Flute at the Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing Department, Faculty of Music Pedagogy at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv;*
- 1989 – 2017: *Artistic Director of a jazz formation at the Student House of Culture – Plovdiv at the Department of Culture with the municipality.*

Along with the above evidence of high educational qualifications and numerous successes in teaching, the biography of Borislav Yassenov is rich in musical events – as a soloist in symphony orchestras, concerts of classical music and jazz, participation in international and national festivals, masterful flute classes in almost all music schools in the country, as well as in other countries, premiere performances of flute works, recording activities, and several CDs released.

The candidate has won numerous awards, has extremely rich research and publications, and leads and participates in national and international scientific, educational and artistic projects. All this presents us with a very active performer and educator with a wide range of genres and knowledge. It is no coincidence that his graduates have won recognition and high awards at competitions at home and abroad.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Borislav Yassenov applies a huge amount of evidence for his diverse activities in the form of numerous posters, programs, publications, editions, and more. An important contribution is his collection of “Jazz Pieces for Flute and Formations”.

I would also like to express my personal impressions of the candidate: I know Borislav Yassenov as a performer in the classical genre with one of his concerts as a soloist with the Sliven Symphony Orchestra. There he performed the extremely challenging for all flutists Jacques Ibert’s concert with the highest difficulty with a lot of virtuosity, imagination, and artistry, typical of a musician with brilliant technique, rich soul, and intellect. I am also impressed by his performances in the CD “There, where...”. In this recording, his gift as a composer and improviser ranks him among the most prominent Bulgarian jazz performers, with his own style and strong interpretive influence. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Borislav Yassenov was the supervisor of Asen Tsvetanov Angelov, whose dissertation I had the opportunity to review and to highlight the mature scientific language, the exact structure, and the significant contribution of the scientific work of the doctoral student under the expert guidance of his supervisor.

In the context of what has been said so far, taking into account the fact that the candidate has an important contribution to the development of the Bulgarian flute school and performing arts and taking into account the high scientific and artistic level of his scientific, pedagogical, and performing activities, I give my positive assessment. I propose to the esteemed scientific jury to approve the candidacy for the academic position “Professor” of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Borislav Aleksandrov Yasenov, the only candidate in the competition at the Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing Department, Faculty of Music Pedagogy at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

Sofia, 27.07.2020

Prof. Dr. Atanas Karafezliev