

OPINION

by

Assoc. Prof Monika Popova, PhD

(New Bulgarian University)

on

Habilitation Work of

Dr Dinka Zhorova Yakimova-Kasabova, PhD

in competition for awarding academic position Associate Professor,

professional field 8.2 Fine Arts

announced in the State Gazette No 59/ 726.07.2019 by

Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts “Prof Asen Diamandiev”, Plovdiv

Faculty of Fine Arts

Department of Applied Arts

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Dinka Yakimova-Kasabova is a graduate of the National High School of Stage and Film Design, Plovdiv. In 1998 she is admitted in major Textile at the National Academy of Arts, Sofia, where in 2004 she receives a Master's degree in the same major. From 2004 until 2006 she is a teacher at the Professional High School of Applied Arts “Dechko Uzunov”, Kazanlak. In 2006 she is co-founder of the group and fashion brand CHOCOLATE, and since 2009 she has been a lecturer at AMDFA “Asen Diamandiev”, Plovdiv in major Clothing Design. She teaches Clothing Design, Fashion History and Textile Decoration.

Her professional and artistic work is in the field of the textile and fashion design.

From 2006 to 2018, she has individual and group participations in the country and abroad, and in 2018 she defended her doctoral dissertation on the topic *The garment under the influence of space*.

The presented habilitation materials are in the following sections:

1. Artistic activity
2. Cultural events, lectures, workshops
3. Pedagogical and teaching-methodical activity

4. Scientific and research activity

In her artistic career, Dr Kasabova demonstrates an admirable creative and professional dedication. She is an author with vast experience and dynamic artistic behaviour. She possesses the qualities of a contemporary artist, and her sense of aesthetics and harmony is particularly evident in one of her recent projects - *Immersion*. The three-dimensional objects are in the form of a conceptual installation consisting of textile objects that recreate underwater clothes.

In section Cultural events, lectures and workshops, Dinka Kasabova is a very active author with a constant creative commitment to the idea of continuity of the traditional textile art practices, as well as in her ambition not only to create contemporary fashion visions through traditional technologies, but also to advertise them through workshops and lectures.

In terms of her academic and methodological activity, Dr. Kasabova teaches Clothing Design, Fashion History and Textile Decoration to students in major Clothing Design. In addition to the continuity, Kasabova relies on the artistic relevance, as well as experiment. She is a dynamic teacher with focus on the individual training, with dozens of her students already accomplished authors working in the fashion and textile industries.

Especially praiseworthy is her contribution for the creation of more than one Bachelor's and Master's program, as well as in the constant upgrading of the Clothing Design major at the Department of Applied Arts, Plovdiv.

In Section 4, Kasabova presents her published scientific work, which is essentially a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between the garment (and its design) with time and space, as factors for change. Dr. Kasabova's monographic work is one of the most useful, fascinating and constructive works written on the fashion design in Bulgaria.

The information and documents, submitted as materials for the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor", professional field 8.2. Fine Arts, in relation to the competition, promulgated in State Gazette No 59/ 26.07.2019, completely meet the requirements, and I give with full responsibility and respect my positive /excellent/ evaluation in support of Assistant Professor Dinka Zhorova Yakimova-Kasabova, PhD.

10.11.2019

Respectfully yours,

Assoc. Prof Monika Popova, PhD