

**PEER REVIEW**

by

**Prof. Dr. Svilen Raychev**

Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music – Sofia

**For the candidate: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Galya Georgieva Petrova-Kirkova**

in connection with the competition for occupation of the academic position “Professor” of  
“Folk Singing and Methodology of its Teaching”,

field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”,

according to a decision of the Faculty Council at the Faculty of Musical Folklore and  
Choreography at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv  
Protocol No 10/14.06.2023

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Galya Georgieva Petrova-Kirkova was born in the City of General Toshevo, Dobrich District. She is a graduate of *Filip Kutev Secondary Music School* in Kotel, majoring in “*Rebec and Folk Singing*”, which she graduated in 1994. From 1994 until 1998, she studied at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, in the educational-qualification degree “*Bachelor*”, specialty “*Folk Ensembles Conducting*”. She also acquired postgraduate qualification, with specialty “*Pedagogy of Music Education*” (1999). Dr. Kirkova also graduated with an educational and qualification degree “*Master*” in two specialties – “*Instrumental Art – Folk Singing*” (2006) and “*Instrumental Art – Rebec*” (2008).

In 2015 Dr. Kirkova successfully defended a dissertation on the topic: “*Musical and Folkloric Heritage of Dobrudzha – Connection with the Ethno-Demographic State and Migration Processes*”, for awarding the educational and scientific degree “*Doctor*” of “*Musicology and Musical Art*”.

Since 2018, she has been an *Associate Professor* of “*Folk Singing and Methodology of its Teaching*”.

She also teaches the disciplines “*Folk Singing*” and “*Pedagogical Practice*”.

Dr. Kirkova is the author of three monographs/books, two music-folk song collections, a number of articles (in periodicals, collections, etc.), participations in scientific conferences, internet publications, journalistic materials, etc.

She has been awarded numerous awards for high artistic achievements and excellent pedagogical work. Her graduates have a number of participations in national and international competitions. Among them there are laureates of prizes, as well as winners of special and prestigious awards.

In accordance with the requirements of Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, and the Regulations of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Associate Professor Dr. Galya Petrova-Kirkova has presented a set of materials, including the following documents:

- Creative CV;
- Higher Education Diploma, Master's degree;
- Medical certificate;
- Criminal record certificate;
- Certificate of internship in the specialty;
- Certificate of teaching activity;
- Table – reference for minimum national requirements;
- Author reference of the scientific contributions of the works and citations.

The reference covers and exceeds the minimum national requirements for occupation of the academic position of “Professor” of “Folk Singing and Methodology of its Teaching” under field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”.

**Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements:**

*Group of Indicators A /minimum required points: 50/*

- Dissertation work for the awarding of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” – *“Musical and Folkloric Heritage of Dobrudzha – Connection with the Ethno-Demographic State and Migration Processes”, Diploma No 0018/28.04.2015 /50 points/*

*Group of Indicators C /minimum required points: 100/*

- Habilitation thesis – published monograph in the relevant scientific field

*“Repertoire in Folk Singing Education”, ISBN:978-619-7682-19-9, 2023, Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, number of pages of the edition: 242 /100 points/*

- Published book based on a defended dissertation for the awarding of an educational and scientific degree “Doctor” – *“Musical and Folkloric Heritage of Dobrudzha – Connection with the Ethno-Demographic State and Migration Processes”, ISBN: 978-619-7682-07-6, 2022, Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, number of pages of the edition: 240 /75 points/*

*Group of Indicators D /required points: 150/*

Articles and reports published in specialized publications in the field of arts:

- 5 articles and reports /75 points in total/
- Leading (or independent) creative expression in the field of arts, which is not a major habilitation thesis
- Soloist-performer in the *TV show on the Bulgarian National Television "Since the Dawn of Time", 17.04.2021 /35 points/*
- Supporting creative expression or participation in a collective product in the field of arts
- Soloist-performer in the *TV program on the Bulgarian National Television "Our Music is Coming", 10.04.2021 /10 points/*
- Soloist-performer in the *Concert-performance "With Soul...", 15.12.2022, Pirdop /10 points/*

*Group of Indicators E /required points: 80/*

- Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review: 2 x 10 points /20 points/
- Citations or reviews in non-refereed journals with scientific review: 11 x 5 points /55 points/
- Reviews for realized author's products or creative performances in specialized publications in the field of arts: 4 x 10 points /40 points/

*Total for Group of Indicators E – 115 points*

*Group of Indicators F /required points: 120/*

- Management of a master class, studio, or workshop in the field of arts: 8 x 20 points /160 points/
- Prizes of competitions for creativity and performance, given by national professional forums and organizations: 3 x 10 points /30 points/

*Total for Group of Indicators F – 190 points*

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Galya Petrova-Kirkova is a memorable concert performer, but also a zealous defender of the interpretive tradition in the vocal-staging process and on how young singers should prepare for their performances. Her multi-spectral activity – pedagogical, scientific, artistic-creative, and social is distinguished by intelligence and professional competence, ethics and social commitment. It is clear from her scientific research activity

that she is very well acquainted with theoretical literature and has a command of the peculiarities of different genres and styles. The position of “Professor”, for which Associate Professor Dr. Galya Petrova applies, also implies a certain pedagogical attitude. I am pleased to state that the candidate has a serious, long-standing teaching practice at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, with significant contributions to the development of the Faculty of Musical Folklore and Choreography. She also works successfully to realize the connection between the learning process and the professional stage realization of the students, an age-old educational tradition, tested by time and with visible respectable results.

I am convinced of the contributions of the references and documents presented as a habilitation work. With her overall activity and contributions, the candidate meets the requirements for acquisition of the academic position “Professor” of “Folk Singing and Methodology of its Teaching” under field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”, and I recommend to the respected Scientific Jury to elect her for this position.

30.01.2023  
Sofia

Prepared by:  
*/Prof. Dr. Svilen Raychev/*