

## PEER REVIEW

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Vladimirov  
Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv

for competition for occupation of the academic position  
“Associate Professor” under Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”,  
in the specialty “Bagpipe and its Teaching Methodology”  
to the Faculty of Musical Folklore and Choreography

The only candidate in the competition for “Associate Professor” in the specialty “Bagpipe and its Teaching Methodology” is Dr. Ivan Georgiev, Chief Assistant in Bagpipe at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. He has submitted all the necessary documents and materials, according to the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquisition of scientific degrees and occupation of academic positions at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts. The Scientific Jury was appointed by Order No ПД-27-067/05.09.2022 of the Rector of the Academy.

Ivan Georgiev was born in Burgas, where he took his first steps in the musical field. In 1995 he graduated with honors from Filip Kutev Secondary Music School in Kotel, and in 1999 he graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in “Folk Ensembles Conducting” at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. In the following year, he acquired an additional professional qualification in “Pedagogy of Music Education at the Academy. In 2002, Dr. Georgiev graduated with honors with a Master’s degree in “Folk Ensembles Conducting” at the Academy. In 2014, he obtained the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”, by defending a scientific paper on the topic *“Evolution of Bagpipe Style in Bulgaria”*.

He gained significant professional performance experience first as an artist-orchestrator in the State Folk Orchestra at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts (1996-2011), as an orchestrator in the accompanying instrumental group of the Mystery of Bulgarian Voices Vocal Ensemble (2002-14), and with the Nightingale Quartet, with which he has more than 100 concerts in Bulgaria and abroad. Since 2008, he has been a member of Theodosii Spassov Folk Quintet, with which he has performed over 200 concerts all over the world.

As a performer, he has won some prestigious awards: Second prize at the Second All-Bulgarian Academic Competition for Instrumental Performance and Artistic Creativity – Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, 1996; Grand Prix and First Prize at the International Competition “Folklore without Borders” in Dobrich – Albena, 2004, etc. He has also participated in numerous television shows and audio recordings, the latter released on various CDs.

His pedagogical experience dates back to 2002, initially as a part-time teacher, and since 2010 – full-time Bagpipe Assistant at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts. Dr. Georgiev has prepared and published eight scientific publications.

I would like to stop here with the candidate’s professional activities with one important

clarification: I have been a direct witness to most of them for the simple reason that, by coincidence, our professional periods significantly overlap. Thanks to this, I have had the opportunity during the last 25 years to closely follow the growth of Ivan Georgiev not only as a virtuoso performer, but also as a consistent and dedicated educator, as well as a thorough connoisseur of the problems of Bulgarian bagpipes. I am convinced that professionals like Georgiev should not stop researching and studying their subjects in order to be able to provide and share their invaluable experience to others. Regarding the bagpipe and bagpipe art, the candidate for this competition clearly stands out among our folk guild with his significant contribution.

The materials presented by the candidate show that he fully meets the requirements for occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor", defined in the minimum scientometric indicators.

– **Group A:** *Defended dissertation on the topic "Evolution of Bagpipe Style in Bulgaria", Diploma No 0013, date of issue: 09.10.2014.*

– **Group B:** *The monograph "The Unachievable Sound of the Bagpipe", Zhanet 45 Publishing House, 2022, ISBN 978-619-7682-03-8*

– **Group D:**

*item 9 – Articles and reports published in specialized publications in the field of arts – three pcs.;*

*item 14 – Supporting creative expression or participation in a collective product in the field of arts – ten pcs.;*

– **Group E:**

*item 17 – Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review – three pcs.;*

*item 18 – Citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals – four pcs.;*

– **Group F:**

*item 22 – Participation in a national scientific, educational or artistic project – two pcs.;*

*item 27 – "Pieces for Bagpipes with Piano Accompaniment" – Mariya Stoyanova (author), Ivan Georgiev (author), ISBN 978-954-8824-80- 4, 2008;*

*item 28 – Guide to a master class, studio or workshop in the field of arts – three pcs.*

I would especially like to emphasize the importance and weight of the main habilitation work of Dr. Ivan Georgiev, as well as the contributions made, with which I fully agree. Here are some of them: Ivan Georgiev was the first who set himself the task of thoroughly researching the work, biography, and musical heritage of Nikola Atanasov. The presented monograph also defines the typical features of his executive handwriting. The characteristic interpretation skills of the doyen in our bagpipe art Atanasov are also described. Musical examples are deciphered and attached, which would enrich the professional repertoire and aesthetic outlook of the performers of this traditional Bulgarian instrument.

I would allow myself the following recommendation: the monograph should be translated and published in English, so that it would be accessible to bagpipe lovers outside the borders of our country. In this way, it would reach the importance of Vergiliy Atanasov's bagpipe work at an international level.

Based on everything presented so far, I confidently give my positive assessment of the pedagogical, artistic, and scientific contribution of Dr. Ivan Georgiev in our professional circles. I propose to the respected Scientific Jury to support the proposal to elect the candidate for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the specialty "Bagpipe and its Teaching Methodology" under Professional field 8.3. "Music and Dance Arts".

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Plovdiv

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vladimir Vladimirov