

## **PEER REVIEW**

for the educational, research and artistic activities

### **of ASSOC. PROF. DR KRASIMIRA GEORGIEVA FILEVA-RUSEVA**

regarding the competition for occupation of the academic position “PROFESSOR” in Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts under Professional field 1.3 “Pedagogy of Training in...”, specialty “Methodology of Compulsory Piano Training”, announced in State Gazette, Issue 52/05.07.2022 for the needs of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Fine Arts

#### **Reviewer: Prof. Dr. Tsvetanka Kostadinova Kolovska,**

Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Professional field 1.3 “Pedagogy of Training in...”, specialty “Methodology of Music Training”

The present peer review was prepared according to the documents submitted for a competition announced by Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv/State Gazette, Issue 52 dated 05.07.2022/ for the needs of the Fine Arts Department, Faculty of Fine Arts. The documents submitted for the competition correspond 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 only candidate in the announced competition for occupation of the academic position “Professor” is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Georgieva Fileva-Ruseva, whose documents meet all the requirements. The materials presented by the candidate are in accordance with the terms and conditions for occupation of an academic position at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts and are sufficiently comprehensive to cover the minimum national requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Associate Professor Dr. Krasimira Fileva-Ruseva was born in 1960 in the City of Varna. She graduated from the Secondary Music School in Plovdiv with a gold medal in the specialty “Piano”. She graduated from the Bulgarian State Conservatory in Sofia in 1983 with honors in the same specialty. From 1984, after passing a competition, she was appointed to work at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in the City of Plovdiv, where she is currently working. Kr. Fileva participated (1985) in an international piano course – “Interpretation of works by Leoš Janáček and Bohuslav Martinů” at the Academy of Music in Brno, Czech Republic. She defended her

doctoral dissertation on the topic *“Overcoming Stage Fright”* and received Diploma No 24419 dated 09.10.1996 for the scientific and educational degree “Doctor of Psychology” from Sv. Kliment Ohridski Sofia University.

In parallel, as a PIANO teacher (mandatory instrument) at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Fileva-Ruseva conducted lecture courses on “Computer Animation” in the period 2000-2005, as well as on “Musical Psychology” (2006). She also completed an advanced English course.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Fileva-Ruseva participated in the competition with a significant number of materials – monographs; a published book based on a defended dissertation; textbooks, articles, scientific announcements, and other musical events that document her multifaceted research, artistic, and pedagogical activities.

The main criteria that the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria provides for selection are the quality and type of scientific publications, artistic achievements, participation in the educational process of higher institutions, as well as awards and honors for professional and pedagogical work.

In order to be awarded the academic position “Professor”, Associate Professor Dr. Krasimira Fileva-Ruseva submitted a habilitation thesis – monograph *“The Concept of a Pianist-Performer for a Musical Work”*, 2019,

4 more published monographs, which were not presented as the main habilitation thesis ,

as well as a published book based on a defended dissertation work for the award of an educational and scientific degree “Doctor” – *“Overcoming Stage Fright”*, 2019, 233 pages.

The monograph *“The Concept of a Pianist-Performer for a Musical Work”* was realized in 2019. The work consists of a 145-page text part, organized into five sections, and is the main emphasis in connection with the competition. In the focus of the research interest is the essentially fundamental problematic of establishing the pianist’s performance concept of the musical work. The author analytically and thoroughly offers a methodological toolkit aimed at enriching the interpretive horizons and expanding the concept of a work of art. The construction of the pianist’s own interpretation of the work is dealt with in a strict logical sequence, with appropriate notational-illustrative material in the developed themes. With a contributing emphasis, I can point to the fifth section of the book, the most extensive and diverse in terms of content, where non-traditional methods for enriching the piano performance concept are presented. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Fileva’s considerable professional teaching experience from higher schools – 38 years – is reflected in an analytical and scientific summarizing manner.

The book has a marked contribution nature, because along with the theoretical aspect, the applied aspect is also very prominent, supported by numerous analytically

presented examples, which makes it really applicable to pianists in particular, and also to performers in general.

An additional four monographs created in the period 2016-2021 are also subject to scientific evaluation and review: *"The Development of the Imagination of the Music Learning Artist"*, 2021, 157 pages; *"Analysis of Piano Interpretation"*, 2019, 145 pages; *"Creativity in Electronic Music Textbooks"*, 2018, 166 pages; *"Bulgarian Folk Music in the Chamber Work of Nikolay Stoykov"*, 2016, 163 pages.

The in-depth analysis of the books shows that the author, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Fileva-Ruseva, has multifaceted research interests, in-depth fundamental knowledge in various areas of musical art and music pedagogy, as well as analytical skills and abilities to capture the new, the upgrading and the progressive in the researched areas.

A diverse list of scientific publications (over 200) is also presented – articles, reports from scientific conferences, scientific announcements, as well as studies in the field of piano methodology, piano interpretation, musicology and music education in the Bulgarian general education school with a huge scope of the international scope of the publications – Bulgaria, USA, Japan, Russia, Greece, Türkiye, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, Republic of North Macedonia, India, Germany, Ukraine, and United Arab Emirates.

In summary, I can state that all of them consider current issues in the relevant problem area and discover and direct attention to promising long-term solutions. In this sense I positively assess their consistency, methodicality, and analyticalness.

Special attention should be paid to the participation of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Fileva-Ruseva in the author's team, which created teaching sets on music for the general education school at the Prosveta Publishing House – Sofia. Carrying out such a serious project as a music study kit for school is extremely responsible team work. Assoc. Prof. Fileva's participation in the creation of textbooks, books for teachers, study notebooks and CDs for music for the grades from first to seventh, as well as her role as the author of the electronic textbooks for the sets, I rate as an extremely high achievement in personal and professional terms with a contribution nature.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Fileva-Ruseva is also active in national and international scientific forums. In the period 2014-2017, she was invited as a compiler, guest editor-in-chief, and reviewer of 3 special issues of the International Journal of Literature and Arts, USA.

Directly related to the direction of the announced competition is the artistic activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Fileva: Third prize at the International Moscow Music Online-Competition, Russia, 2020; First prize and gold medal at Sopravista International Online Festival-Contest "Future Stars", Italy, 2021, in a duet with the student Damyan Yordanov from the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts; First

prize and gold medal at the Bulgarian Soul of the Holy Land International Competition Arts Festival, Israel, 2022.

The knowledge and reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in Bulgarian and foreign literature is evidenced by the significant number of citations of her works.

I would like to emphasize that the educational, research, and artistic activity carried out by the candidate completely exceeds the minimum national requirements for occupation of the academic position "Professor".

I do not have any critical remarks about the candidate.

### **CONCLUSION**

**Based on the presented materials, I give a categorically positive assessment of the scientific research, artistic, and pedagogical achievements of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krasimira Georgieva Fileva-Ruseva and recommend to the honorable scientific jury that she be awarded the academic position "PROFESSOR" under Professional field 1.3 "Pedagogy of Training in...", specialty "Methodology of Compulsory Piano Training".**

28.10.2022 .....

Plovdiv Prof. Dr. Tsvetanka Kolovska

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