

## OPINION

**by Prof. Dr. Mariana Nikolaeva Bouleva-Petrova**

**Department of *Music* at VTU *St. St. Cyril and Methodius*,**

**Regarding the competition for the academic position**

**of *Associate Professor* in Professional field 8.3 *Music and Dance Arts – Solfeggio***

**at the Department of Music pedagogy and conducting**

**AMDFA Prof. *Assen Diamandiev* – Plovdiv**

**announced in State Gazette № 40 /17.05.2019**

**with candidate: Assistant Professor Milena Ivanova Bogdanova, PhD**

The competition for the position of an associate professor was announced on the grounds of Art. 3, para 1 of ADASRB on the request of the Department of *Music Pedagogy and Conducting* of AMDFA Prof. *Assen Diamandiev* – Plovdiv. The only applicant for it is Assist. Prof. Milena Ivanova Bogdanova, PhD. All stages of the competition have passed in the approved manner in compliance with the terms and procedures of the ADASRB and the Regulations for its implementation enforced as of 06.07.2018. The candidate for the competition fulfils the condition for meeting the Minimum national requirements for the academic position of *Associate Professor* in professional field 8.3, which was concluded at the first meeting of the scientific jury.

The pedagogical and scientific activities of Milena Bogdanova are related to the domain of solfeggio teaching and are focused on its *mission* – aural musical skills development. Ear training is fundamental to music education and in this sense **the overall professional performance of the candidate Milena Bogdanova should be assessed as significant, valuable and relevant.**

The ten publications submitted for participation in the competition impress with the authoress' comprehensive and topical view upon solfeggio. She also focuses on the genesis of phenomena and on contemporary methodological approaches to developing professional aural musical skills. At the same time, she declares her piety to the tradition of the Bulgarian solfeggio methodology represented by Prof. Assen Diamandiev and Prof. Zdravko Manolov. The outlined thematic circle demonstrates credibly enough that Milena Bogdanova is a specialist who is in very good control of her field of professional performance and is always able to keep an active presence in her entire scientific domain.

The habilitation thesis submitted for participation in the competition is the monograph *"Musical pedagogical and theoretical concepts of Prof. Zdravko Manolov in the field of aural musical skills training"*, Plovdiv, 2018. **The importance of the subject of research is remarkable** – the personality of Prof. Zdravko Manolov and his work in the field of solfeggio methodology. The authoress places his work in the broad context of Bulgarian educational tradition, which is essential for reviewing the artistic and methodological accomplishments of Prof. Zdravko Manolov in their overall cultural and pedagogical sense. The idea to propose a classification of the Bulgarian solfeggio course-book releases is **a contribution to theoretical musicology**. Thanks to this classification, the scope of the candidate's research covers not only Zdravko Manolov's authored solfeggio pieces and dictations, but also his compositions, included by other authors in the solfeggio course-books. I will also highlight another undoubted contribution – the candidate's study of archive documents and the published list of manuscripts. I was involved in the efforts of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetelina Slavova in the creation of the first monograph on Zdravko Manolov, when the composer's archive was still unknown. I am glad that now I have witnessed a new step towards preserving

the legacy of one of the brilliant figures in our national culture, which is a prestigious fact for Bulgarian musicology.

The documents submitted for the competition impress with the depth and scope of Milena Bogdanova's academic presence as a project manager, organizer of major scientific events, author of lecture cycles and workshops.

**Everything said in the present opinion is a basis to give my professional support to Assist. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD, and to confidently propose to the honourable scientific jury that she be selected for the academic position of *Associate Professor* in professional field 8.3 *Music and Dance Arts – Solfeggio*.**

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Prof. Dr. Mariana Bouleva