

## **PEER REVIEW**

**by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zhan Stefanov Pehlivanov**

Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv

in relation to the documents submitted by

**Assistant Dr. Petar Dimitrov Salchev**

regarding a competition for the occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor” under Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts,” Specialty “**Pop and Jazz Singing and its Teaching Methodology**”

at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy, Classical and Pop and Jazz Performing Arts Department at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, by Order No ПД-27-116/21.09.2023 of the Rector and Decision of the Faculty Council at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy (Protocol No 13 dated 19.09.2023).

Assistant Dr. Petar Dimitrov Salchev is the only candidate, who submitted documents for this competition. The documents and materials presented by him are in good order and meet the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation, as well as the Regulations for the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and Holding of Academic Positions at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

Assistant Dr. Petar Salchev was born in 1969 in the City of Plovdiv. Initially, his musical interests were focused on the classical guitar, but as early as 1990, he began to engage intensively in singing, working, and collaborating with one of the most popular jazz formations in Bulgaria – “White, Green and Red.” In 1994, he won the award for the best young performer from the “Youth Jazz Meeting” in Plovdiv. In the same year, he continued his musical education at the Faculty of Pop and Jazz at the National Music Academy, today Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music, in the class of Prof. Georgi Kordov. In 1997, Dr. Salchev won a scholarship and went to the Boston Conservatory at Berklee.

After returning to Bulgaria, the candidate became a part-time lecturer at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, where he obtained a Master’s degree with a specialty in “Pop and Jazz Performing Arts.”

Since 2008, he has been appointed as an Assistant at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv and lecturer in “Pop and Jazz Singing” and “Methodology of the Training in Pop and Jazz Singing,” which was the beginning of his academic educational career.

In 2023, he successfully defended his dissertation on the topic: “**SHORT VOCAL FORMS IN DIFFERENT HISTORICAL CONTEXTS FROM OPERA TO CONTEMPORARY**”

## ***POPULAR MUSIC.”***

The list of ensembles, performers, and festivals, with which Dr. Salchev works and performs, is impressive.

He also participates with his own projects in all prestigious jazz forums in Bulgaria. In 2009, the Greek label Ano Kato Records released his project with Kostas Maginas – “The Call.” He also does concerts in England, Germany, Austria, Denmark, USA, Türkiye, Greece, and Romania. Dr. Salchev participates in concert programs throughout the country and has managed to prove himself as a responsible concert soloist and professional. In 2023, he released “LIFE LINES” Project – a CD with original music and lyrics.

**In the competition for occupation of the academic position of “Associate Professor” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv in the specialty “Pop and Jazz Singing and its Teaching Methodology”, Assistant Dr. Petar Salchev participates with:**

- *Group A: Dissertation work* on the topic “**Short Vocal Forms in Different Historical Contexts from Opera to Contemporary Popular Music**” and diploma for awarding the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”/No 081, dated 16.11.2022/.

- *Group C: 3 leading creative performances in the field of arts*; 1. “Life Lines” – CD with author’s music and text by P. Salchev; 2. **Solo concert** – presentation of the “Life Lines” Project, Plovdiv, 02.03.2023, Bee Bop Club; 3. “**Come Fly with Me**” – Historical Museum, Pazardzhik, 27.06.2022.

- *Group D: 1. Published book based on a defended dissertation work*, with publisher the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, 2023, ISBN: 978-619-7682-22-9 (print), ISBN: 978-619-7682-23 (PDF); 2. **Leading creative performance** – “Sting The Opera,” where he is a soloist of the Stara Zagora Opera Orchestra (Summer Stage, Koprinka Dam, 09.09.2021); 3. **Accompanying creative performance** – Festive concert “I Love You, Pleven”, 21.12.2022.

- *Group E: 2 reviews* of realized author’s products or creative performances in specialized editions in the field of arts: 1. “The Strengthening Connections with Life are in the Songs from the Life Lines Album by Petar Salchev,” Author: Svetoslav Nikolov, ART Spectrum Magazine, Issue 60, ISSN 1314-0000, 13.04.2023; 2. “Impressions from the Song of the Clown Concert,” Author: Assoc. Prof. Malina Malinova, Art Spectrum Academic Cultural and Information Publication, Issue 35, March 2015, ISBN 1314-0000, p. 2.

**2 citations** in peer-reviewed monographs and collective volumes:

1. By Senior Teacher E. Mateva – “DANSE MAKABRE – COMPOSITIONAL AND SOUND IMAGING PERSPECTIVES.” Spring Scientific Readings, 2023. In print; 2. By Chief Assistant

Dr. S. Ruseva – “METRORHYTHMIC APPEARANCE OF KOTLEN’S HUMOROUS FOLK SONGS.”  
Spring Scientific Readings, 2023. In print.

- *Group F:* **1. Management of a national scientific, educational, or artistic project:** “Chamber Stage Plovdiv” – International platform with a series of 10 chamber concerts in 2022; **2. Management of an international scientific, educational, or artistic project:** “Sonata 57” – International concert-performance, presentation of music from the last album of maestro M. Leviev. An international project with the participation of the orchestra of the Plovdiv Opera, with conductor K. Dobroykov, 15.06.2022; **3. Award** – “Best Young Performer” from the Plovdiv Jazz Festival, 1996.

**It can be seen that for his participation in the competition for “Associate Professor” Assistant Dr. Petar Salchev meets the national scientometric requirements.**

The candidate’s professional biography in the field of artistic, concert, and project activities is highly respectable. Knowing the development of his creative career, I must note that Dr. Salchev has indicated a minimal part of his concert activity. I would like to add: “One Ballad Night Symphony” Project with the orchestra of the Plovdiv State Opera in 2014; Concert with Octet Plovdiv at the Bansko Jazz Fest in 2020; A number of concerts within the Apollonia Festivals: 2000, 2001, 2004, 2018, 2022, and many more within the same Festival; Concerts with Milcho Leviev in Bulgaria and Greece. I have direct impressions of Dr. Salchev’s impact on the development of the overall artistic image of his students and of his scientific and pedagogical activity.

Everything mentioned so far gives me reason to assess the contribution of the materials presented, as well as the minimum scientometric indicators fulfilled in relation to the educational, scientific-theoretical, and artistic activities for acquisition of the academic position of “Associate Professor.” I believe that his candidacy fully complies with the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation.

On the basis of the cited high-level artistic activity, **I give my positive assessment and would like to recommend to the respected members of the Scientific Jury in the competition for occupation of the academic position of “Associate Professor” to elect Assistant Dr. Petar Salchev to the same position under Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts,” Specialty “Pop and Jazz Singing and its Teaching Methodology” at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy, Classical and Pop and Jazz Performing Arts Department** for the needs of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

21.11.2023

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zhan Pehlivanov**