

PEER REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Ermila Ivanova Schweitzer

Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music

for the submitted documents of

Assistant Dr. Petar Dimitrov Salchev,

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

in relation to a competition for the occupation of academic position “Associate
Professor”

under Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”

Specialty “Pop and Jazz Singing and its Teaching Methodology”

I. Creative biography of the candidate

Petar Salchev was born in 1969 in 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 “White, Green and Red” – one of the most popular jazz formations in Bulgaria at that time. In 1994, he won the award for the best young performer from the “Youth Jazz Meeting” in Plovdiv and the same year Dr. Salchev continued his musical education at the Faculty of Pop and Jazz at the National Academy of Music, in the class of Prof. Georgi Kordov. In 1997, he won a scholarship for a Master’s program at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. Since 2005, he has been an Assistant in Singing at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, and in 2022 Assistant Dr. Salchev defended his thesis on the topic “*Short Vocal Forms in Different Historical Contexts from Opera to Contemporary Popular Music.*” The list of bands, artists, and festivals, with which Petar Salchev works and performs is impressive – with Angel Zaberski-Son, Zhivko Petrov, Hristo Yotsov, Simeon Shterev, Theodosii Spassov, Asen Doykin, Milcho Leviev, Petar Petrov, Kameliya Todorova, Hilda Kazasyan, and others. He has made a number of recordings for the Bulgarian National Television and Radio, as he is also a soloist of the Big Band of the National Radio and Big Band Plovdiv.

II. Habilitation materials

The submitted Reference for the minimum required points by group of indicators meets all the conditions and covers the required parameters, determined by Decree No 122, amending and supplementing the Regulations for the implementation of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, which entered into force on 06.07.2018, and is supported by the necessary evidentiary material.

In Group C, Indicator 4 – Realized author’s product in the field of arts, Petar Salchev presents the author’s CD “Life Lines,” 2023, with original music and text.

In Indicator 5 – Leading (solo) creative performances in the field of arts, relevant and equivalent to a habilitation work, the candidate presents two concerts: Solo concert – presentation of the “LIFE LINES” Project, Plovdiv, 02.03.2023, Bee Bop Club, and Solo concert “Come Fly with Me”, Pazardzhik Historical Museum, 27.06.2022.

The contribution nature of the author’s CD and the leading creative performances thus presented is indisputable. They single out the candidate as a significant artistic and creative presence in the field of the Bulgarian pop and jazz scene.

In Group D, Indicator 7 – Published book based on a defended dissertation work, the book “*Short Vocal Forms in Different Historical Contexts from Opera to Contemporary Popular Music*,” published by the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in 2023, 120 pages, ISBN978-619-7682-22-9, is presented.

I fully support the contributions of the research indicated by Dr. Salchev, and in addition I would like to point out the interesting perspective, from which the short vocal form and the author’s personal attitude and commitment to the subject are considered.

In Indicator 13 - Leading (or independent) creative performance in the field of arts, which is not the main habilitation work, the concert “Sting The Opera,” with soloist Petar Salchev, the orchestra of the Stara Zagora Opera, and conductor Ts. Vasilev, at the Summer Stage at the Koprinka Dam, 02.09.2021, is presented

In Group E, Indicator 17, two citations are indicated: in a report of Senior Lecturer E. Mateva – “Dance Macabre – Compositional and Sound Imaging Perspectives,” Spring Scientific Readings 2023 and in a report of Chief Assistant S. Ruseva – “Metrorhythmic Appearance of Kotlen’s humorous folk songs,” Spring Scientific Readings 2023.

In Indicator 19, two reviews are indicated: “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, Apr 13, 2023. pp. 26 – 27; Impressions from the “Song of the Clown” concert, author: Assoc. Prof. Malina Malinova, Art Spectrum Magazine, Issue 35, March 2015, ISBN 1314-0000, p. 2.

Group F, Indicators 24 and 25, the project “Chamber Stage Plovdiv – International Festival Platform”, with a series of 10 chamber concerts, in 2022, and the “Sonata 57” International Concert-Performance, a presentation of the music from the last album of maestro M. Leviev, are presented.

The contribution nature of this Project is multi-faceted – sharing experience with the younger generation by going on stage together, preserving the tradition, and continuing it, reaching the widest possible range of audiences through innovative initiatives and technologies.

Indicator 30 –Best Young Artist award at the Plovdiv Jazz Festival in 1996.

III. Conclusion

The candidacy for the academic position of “Associate Professor” is a completely logical step in the professional growth of Assistant Dr. Petar Salchev. His creative report of the

nature of a habilitation thesis impresses with its volume and rich content and has an undeniable contribution nature. He is an established name on the pop and jazz scene with a bright presence in the musical and cultural life of the country. Added to all this is his 15-year experience as a valuable and sought-after lecturer at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv.

After presenting my arguments as a member of the Scientific Jury, I strongly vote for Assistant Dr. Petar Salchev to be elected to the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the Specialty “Pop and Jazz Singing and its Teaching Methodology” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

Sofia, 17.11.2023

Prof. Dr. Ermila Schweitzer