

PEER REVIEW

for the scientific and educational activity of
Assistant Dr. Petar Dimitrov Salchev

by Prof. Dr. Toni Shekerdzhieva-Novak,
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regarding the participation in a competition for occupation of the academic position of
“Associate Professor” under
Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts,” Specialty “Pop and Jazz Singing and its
Teaching Methodology”
for the needs of the Classical and Pop and Jazz Performing Arts Department, at the
Faculty of Music Pedagogy at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine
Arts – Plovdiv, announced in State Gazette, Issue 63/25.07.2023

1. General presentation of the candidate

By Order No ПД-27-116/21.09.2023 of the Rector and the Chairman of the Educational Commission and Decision of the Faculty Council at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy (Protocol No 13 dated 19.09.2023) of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, I have been selected as a member of the Scientific Jury in a competition for occupation of the academic position of “Associate Professor” in Higher education field 8. “Arts”, Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts” for the needs of the Classical and Pop and Jazz Performing Arts Department, Faculty of Music Pedagogy”. Assistant Dr. Petar Dimitrov Salchev is the only candidate, who has submitted documents for participation in the announced competition.

I have been presented with a set of materials on an electronic medium, which is in accordance with the Higher Education Act, the Regulations for the implementation of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the relevant Regulations of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv. They contain documents and references concerning the education, educational degree, teaching, research, and administrative activities, as well as the entire scientific and scientific-applied production of the candidate Dr. Salchev.

2. Brief biographical data

Petar Dimitrov Salchev was born in 1969 in Plovdiv. His interest in music began at a young age and focused on the classical guitar. His vocal career began in 1990, when he began his collaboration with “White, Green and Red” – one of the most popular and established jazz formations in Bulgaria. 1994 is the year, in which he won the award for the Best Young

Artist from the “Youth Jazz Meeting” in Plovdiv. In the same year, he continued his musical education at the Faculty of Pop and Jazz of the National Academy of Music, today Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music, in the class of the prominent singer and vocal pedagogue Assoc. Prof. Georgi Kordov. In 1997, Petar Salchev won a scholarship for a Master’s program at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee.

Dr. Salchev has participated with his own projects in all prestigious jazz forums in Bulgaria. In 2009, the Greek company Ano Kato Records released his project with Kostas Maginas – “The Call.” 2005 is the year, in which he began his educational career as an Assistant at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, and since 2014 he has been enrolled in doctoral studies with the thesis on the following topic *“Short Vocal Forms in Different Historical Contexts from Opera to Contemporary Popular Music.”*

He has made a number of recordings for the Bulgarian National Television and Radio, is a soloist of the Big Band of the National Radio and Big Band Plovdiv, and has worked with Angel Zaberski-Son, Zhivko Petrov, Hristo Yotsov, Simeon Shterev, Theodosii Spassov, Asen Doykin, Milcho Leviev, Petar Petrov, Kameliya Todorova, Hilda Kazasyan, Oliver Yosifovski, Kostas Maginas, Marius Pop, Dorina Markova, Boris Tonkov, Tashko Tashev, and Ana Dimova. He performs on the stages of all jazz festivals in Bulgaria, and does concerts in England, Germany, Austria, Denmark, USA, Türkiye, Greece, and Romania.

3. General characteristics of the activity

“If we do not see the movement in the dance and the colors in the picture; if we do not hear the melody harmonized with beautiful touches; if our receptors for hot and cold and for sour and sweet do not function; if we cannot breathe in the aroma, surely our way to art would be difficult, almost impossible,” says Petar Salchev. He is an educated and gifted person, one of the leading jazz performers in our country, but also a proven authority in vocal pedagogy. As an Assistant in the Classical and Pop and Jazz Performing Arts Department, he provides methodological and logistical assistance in the preparation of diploma theses, as well as preparation of the graduation concerts of the students graduating with Master’s and Bachelor’s degrees. He gives open lessons, concerts, and lectures in music schools and specialized classes in Stara Zagora, Dobrich, Blagoevgrad, Burgas, etc. Dr Salchev has participated in international scientific conferences and doctoral meetings at the New Bulgarian University (2015), the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, etc.

He was the mediator of the master classes of Milcho Leviev and Vicky Almazidou, which were held in Plovdiv. He also organizes public lectures and concerts, promoting individuals with a special contribution to the development of jazz music.

In **Group of Indicators A**, Petar Salchev presents a diploma for the awarded educational and scientific degree “Doctor” /No 081, dated 16.11.2022/.

In **Group of Indicators C**, as a habilitation work, the following are indicated:

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

In **Group of Indicators D** the following are presented:

- published book based on 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);
- leading creative performance – "Sting The Opera," where he was a soloist of the Stara Zagora Opera Orchestra (Summer Stage, Koprinka Dam, 09.09.2021);
- accompanying creative performance – Festive Concert "I love you, Pleven," 21.12.2022.

In **Group of indicators E**, two citations and two peer reviews are proposed.

Project participations placed in **Group of indicators F** include international and national projects. The candidate was the Head of the Plovdiv Chamber Stage Project – an international festival platform with a series of 10 chamber concerts, held in 2022. The Project was implemented with the support of the Plovdiv Municipality and the Ministry of Culture.

Since I have been following Dr. Salchev's performances, I would like to point out that he has not presented much of his concert activity. I would also like to add a concert within the "Balabanov's House Music Days" Festival in October 2015; a concert with Milcho Leviev in the first studio of Radio Plovdiv, realized in November 2015; a concert with Turiyski Brass Band, Ruse, Jazz Fest, November, 2015; a concert within the Apollonia Festival, 2015, and many more. The contributing moments in his scientific and educational activity have not been brought out, but such are definitely present. I am witness to the creative and pedagogical development of Dr. Petar Salchev, which gives me reason to appreciate the contributing nature of his activity and professional realization. I also have direct impressions from his work with the students of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv. Petar Salchev builds their technical skills and provokes their interest in music and art in general. This shapes their culture of behavior on stage, their attitude to different styles and genres in music, and encourages their creative initiatives.

Everything that has been said so far gives me the reason to give my positive assessment in support of the candidacy of Assistant Dr. Petar Salchev for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, Professional field 8.3. "Music and Dance Arts," Specialty "Pop and Jazz Singing and its Teaching Methodology" for the needs

of the Classical and Pop and Jazz Performing Arts Department, at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy.

November, 2023

Prof. Dr. Toni Shekerdzhieva-Novak