

PEER REVIEW

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Todorka Malcheva Ivanova

in connection with a competition for occupation of the academic position **“Professor”** announced in State Gazette, Issue 35/18.04.2023, under Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts” specialty “Folk Choir Singing” and “Conducting a Folk Choir from the Piano” for the needs of the Musical Folklore Department at the Faculty of Musical Folklore and Choreography of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

Only one candidate – Associate Professor Dr. Rada Borislavova Slavinska, participates in the competition for “Professor” under Higher education field 8. “Arts”, Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”, specialty “Folk Choir Singing” and “Conducting a Folk Choir from the Piano” for the needs of the Musical Folklore Department at the Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. All the necessary documents are presented, which undeniably meet the scientometric requirements. This confirms that Associate Professor Dr. Rada Slavinska definitely meets the conditions for participation in the competition according to the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

The candidate is a long-time lecturer at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. She is also author of scientific and artistic literature: 4 monographs, a textbook on conducting, five teaching aids, collections of songs, works and arrangements for mixed and single choir, the Bulgarian Mass “Messa Liliun”, as well as “Rumelia Concerto for Piano and Orchestra”.

Assoc. Prof. Rada Slavinska has also performed artistically: as an Assistant Conductor in the Angel Bukoreshtliev Singing Society (1986-1988), Accompanist and Second Conductor in the Detska Kitka Representative Choir (1986-2003), as well as Conductor of the Philippopolis Ensemble. She was also the founder of the Evmolpeya Girls’ Choir Formation in 2006. She has participated in numerous concerts and concert performances in the country and abroad, foreign tours, as well as festivals.

2. Brief introduction in accordance with the National Center for Information and Documentation

All scientific and artistic production of the candidate fully meets the scientometric requirements.

According to Indicator A, the candidate submits a defended dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”.

According to Indicator C, Assoc. Prof. Slavinska participates with a monograph – habilitation work: “Ivan Deliradev and His Chrestomathies for the Folk Choir”.

In this direction, the candidate also applies a second monograph **“Let’s Be Silent”**, which is not presented as a main habilitation thesis.

Assoc. Prof. Slavinska documents two realized author's products, as well as three creative performances in the field of arts.

Indicator D highlights a published book based on a defended dissertation work for the awarding of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" – "The Songs of Krasimir Kyurkchiyski for Folk Choir – Specificity and Significance"; 9 articles published in specialized publications in the field of arts; 4 creative performances, 2 author's products.

Under Indicator E, the candidate documents 48 citations of her scientific publications. Citations are realized in monographs and non-refereed peer-reviewed journals.

Indicator F presents participation and leadership in national scientific projects, as well as 4 university teaching aids.

3. Contributions of the habilitation work/leading creative performances

The monograph "Ivan Deliradev and His Chrestomathies for the Folk Choir" is presented as the main habilitation work. This is the first scientific study of the life and activities of the conductor and pedagogue Prof. Ivan Deliradev. The author aims to prove the importance of his teaching aids and arrangements for folk choir.

The work is structured in an introduction, two parts, and a conclusion.

The first part is biographical. It follows the life of Ivan Deliradev. Extremely resourceful, the author realized this based mainly on interviews and stories from his colleagues and students. The section "A Few Winks by Deliradev" is impressive, which very fascinatingly complements the biographical description.

The second part is research and is structured in three sections.

The first section presents the creation and development of folklore specialties at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts and primarily the specialty "Folk Ensembles Conducting".

The second section examines the 4 volumes "Folk Choir Chrestomathy" by Prof. Ivan Deliradev and his theoretical-methodological heritage. The significance of the 4 volumes of "Folk Choir Chrestomathy" for the development of folklore education in higher education institutions is highlighted. The author's research work leads to conclusions for realized high-value methodological guides on folk choir conducting.

The third section presents an analysis of the habilitation work of Professor Ivan Deliradev "Problems of the Folk Choirs Repertoire". The author realizes this, in view of her personal conviction that the analytical presentation of the work is a necessary component for finalizing the biographical and professional portrait of Prof. Ivan Deliradev, since the monograph summarizes his methodological heritage for the specialty "Folk Ensembles Conducting".

An essential point in the monograph of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska is the analyzes and conclusions with a teaching-methodical focus. The consistent presentation of Ivan Deliradev's legacy is carried out by tracking its content in unison with a penetrating analytical view and methodical orientation.

The fascinating style of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska, who captivates with her fascinating narrative, cannot be overlooked, and in this way the author keeps the reader's attention in the center.

4. Contributions of the other presented habilitation materials and citations

The work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska "Rumelia Concerto for Piano and Orchestra" is outstanding. The work reveals a connection with Bulgarian folklore and unequal metrum. In parallel with this, a good knowledge of the piano problem, as well as that of the symphony orchestra, is presented.

Another work by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska, "Messa Liliu", which, according to the author's determination, is the first Catholic mass created by a Bulgarian composer, is again linked to our folklore – song and instrumental. The fact documenting the realization of a music film of the same name by the Bulgarian National Television is impressive.

The numerous artistic and creative performances of the candidate are distinctive – concerts of ensembles led by her, participation in festivals, as well as realization of concert and studio recordings.

The numerous citations of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska in monographs, dissertations, and other scientific works attest to her valuable performance in music-theoretical research work.

5. Personal impressions

When following the professional and creative growth of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska, the enthusiasm and activity in her work impresses. The candidate for the thus announced competition notes a continuous expansion of both her scientific activity and her creative performances. Her inspired academic development is evidence of an active creative impulse, both in the scientific and in the creative fields.

6. Conclusion

Based on the completed presentation, I believe that the candidate for the academic position of "Professor", Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska fully complies with the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. In view of this, my assessment for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" under the competition by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska is POSITIVE.

The proposed scientific works, the achieved scientific results, contributing moments, as well as artistic and creative activity, give me reason to confidently recommend to the respected Scientific Jury that we award the candidature a POSITIVE ASSESSMENT, as well as to propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Musical Folklore and Choreography at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv to elect the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Borislavova Slavinska as

“Professor” under Higher education field 8. “Arts”, Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts” (specialty “Folk Choir Singing” and “Conducting a Folk Choir from the Piano”).

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City of Shumen

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