

PEER REVIEW

by **Prof. Dr. Daniela Dikova**

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in connection with a competition for occupation of the academic position “**Professor**” in the specialty “Conducting a Folk Orchestra from the Piano” and “Folk Choir Singing” at the Musical Folklore Department at the Faculty of Musical Folklore and Choreography of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, based on Art.29, para.1 of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”

The only candidate in this competition is **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Borislavova Slavinska**.

Biographical data:

Born in Gabrovo, Rada Slavinska has connected her personal and professional life with the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv. Formed as a person and a musician in the classes of such masters in their professional fields, as Prof. Georgi Kanev – piano, Assoc. Prof. Krikor Chetinyan – choral conducting, and Prof. Ivan Spasov – orchestral conducting), she also worked on her development as an Assistant Conductor in the Angel Bukoreshtliev Singing Society, and accompanies and conducts Detska Kitka Representative Choir and Philippopolis Ensemble.

Acquired in 2012, the scientific and educational degree “Doctor” in “Musicology and Musical Art” enabled the candidate to win a competition and be appointed as the Chief Conducting Assistant at the Musical Folklore Department at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts (2016), and later to take the position of Associate Professor of “Folk Choir Singing with Choral Studies” (2020).

In 2006, R. Slavinska founded Evmolpeya Girls’ Choir Formation and, together with her participation as a conductor of other choirs, realized an impressive number of concert performances.

Her scientific activity is bright and numerous: conducting textbook “Choral Conducting Technique” – 2002, monographs and teaching aids, as well as an impressive number of articles and reports in specialized publications. She is the author of the first Bulgarian mass – “Messa Liliu” (first performed in 1997), the “Rumelia Concerto for Piano and Orchestra” (2006), more than 150 works and arrangements for mixed and homogeneous choirs, as well as a cycle of songs for children “Obarkvatsiya”. Rada Slavinska is also the author of the collections “Eastern Orthodox Chants from the Repertoire of the Evmolpeya Choir” – 2010

and “Songs by Russian Composers from the Repertoire of the Evmolpeya Choir” – 2011. The information that R. Slavinska also writes in prose and poetry is surprising!

I don't have the pleasure of knowing the candidate personally, but her recognition has won me over: **“My creative interests are diverse – from creating music and speech, to stage interpretation of choral and piano works, to scientific research of interesting phenomena, to educational activities. I really like the things I do and try to devote myself fully to them”.**

Indicative of the development of R. Slavinska's personality are her membership as a musicologist in the Union of Bulgarian Composers (2022) and her administrative work as Secretary of the Musical Folklore Department (2020).

Creative activity:

The materials submitted by the candidate for the competition are properly documented and show her activities in detail. After my acquaintance with all the activities reflected in the Report on the fulfillment of the national minimum requirements and after comparing them with the scientometric table, I believe that the candidacy of R. Slavinska according to the announced competition is in full compliance with them, even significantly exceeding the required volume.

According to **Indicator A**, which requires the completion of **50 points**, the candidate proposes a dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” on the topic **“The Songs of Krasimir Kyurkchiyski for Folk Choir – Specificity and Significance”**, 520 pages.

According to **Indicator C**, R. Slavinska offers **305 points**: **1.** Habilitation thesis – published monograph in the relevant scientific field, 216 pages, **“Ivan Deliradev and His Chrestomathies for the Folk Choir”**, Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Plovdiv, 2023; **2.** Two author's works: **“Messa Liliun”** and **“Rumelia Concerto for Piano and Orchestra”**, **3.** Two concerts; **4.** CD **“Gloria in Excelsis”** of Evmolpeya Girls' Choir Formation.

According to **Indicator D – 510 points**: **1.** **“Let's Be Silent”**, the monograph, **“The Songs of Krasimir Kyurkchiyski for Folk Choir – Specificity and Significance”**; **2.** Book on dissertation work, **author Rada Slavinska**, Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Plovdiv, 2022 – 310 pages; **3.** Articles and reports published in specialized publications in the field of arts; **4.** Two author's choral songs – **“Your Nativity”** and **“Rhytmos Primus”**; **5.** Four choral concerts.

According to **Indicator E – 440 points**: **34** Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review, **14** Citations or in non-refereed journals with scientific review, and **3** reviews for realized creative performances in specialized editions in the field of arts.

According to **Indicator F - 240 points**: **1.** Two participations in a national and an international artistic project; **2.** Three guides of national, educational projects; **3.** Publication of a university textbook "Choral Conducting Technique"; **4.** Publications of 4 collections of folk songs for chamber ensembles.

Conclusion

The presented activity is a contribution and qualitative, which is more than sufficient for occupation of the academic position "Professor" of "Conducting a Folk Orchestra from the Piano" and "Folk Choir Singing" under Professional field 8.3. "Music and Dance Arts".

The peer review may conclude with the following assessment:

Based on everything stated above, as well as the conclusions drawn on the proposed scientific, concert, applied and teaching activities of **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska**, bearing in mind her great activity, the contributing nature of the proposed teaching and scientific performances, and their quality, I would like to give my **categorical positive assessment** and to offer to the respected members of the Scientific Jury for the competition for occupation of the position of "Professor" under Professional field 8.3. "Music and Dance Arts", as well as to propose to the relevant Faculty Council of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, to elect Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rada Slavinska for the academic position "Professor" of "Conducting a Folk Orchestra from the Piano" and "Folk Choir Singing" in accordance with the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

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