

PEER REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Zora Georgieva Yanakieva

Member of a Scientific Jury in the procedure for occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor” under Higher education field 8. “Arts”, Professional field 8.2. “Fine Arts”, specialty “Sculpture”, Faculty of Fine Arts, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts”

Only one candidate – Dr. Rusen Georgiev Doykov, participates in the announced competition for the occupation of the academic “Associate Professor” Professional field 8.2. “Fine Arts”, specialty “Sculpture”.

In 2003, he graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts at the National Academy of Arts in Sofia – Bachelor’s degree, and in 2005 at the same educational institution – a Master’s degree program in Sculpture.

He also obtained the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” in the scientific specialty 05.08.04 “Art Science and Fine Arts” based on a dissertation on the topic: “*Some Aspects of the Perception of Time in Sculpture*”, defended in 2010 before a scientific commission, and in 2011, before the Higher Attestation Commission with the Council of Ministers.

His teaching experience covers the system of secondary and higher education. In the period 2011-2019, Dr. Rusen Doykov worked as a teacher of Sculpture, Composition and Painting at Tsanko Lavrenov National Art High School in Plovdiv. From 2011 to 2014, he was a part-time lecturer of Sculpture, Composition and Painting at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, and from 2015 to the present time, he has been a part-time lecturer of Sculpture at the Aesthetic Education Department with Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University.

He has been a member of the Union of Bulgarian Artists since 2016. During the period 2005-2022, Dr. Doykov participated in numerous solo, joint, and group exhibitions in Bulgaria, including ones with international participation. His creative performances since 2012 are impressive, and for the last five years they have been saturated with a number of exhibitions, projects and workshops:

2017 – Resonance Gallery in Plovdiv: SVETLINA International Art Fest Sea Resonance, Golden Sands;

2018 – Tsanko Lavrenov National Art High School in Plovdiv: Participation in an international educational project “Wet Fresco”;

2019 – Participation in “100 Plovdiv Ateliers”, a curatorial project of Resonance Gallery;

2020 – Petko Zadgorski Gallery in Burgas, a biennial for contemporary Bulgarian fine art “Friends of the Sea”;

2022 – Petko Zadgorski Gallery in Burgas, a biennial for contemporary Bulgarian fine art “Friends of the Sea”;
2022 – Participation in “Shared Space”, Plovdiv National Autumn Exhibitions;
2022 – Workshop “Geometry as a Form-Forming Principle in Sculpture” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv;
2022 – Workshop “Abstract Sculpture”, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University.

For the announced competition, Dr. Rusen Doykov presents two solo exhibitions in the field of sculpture: the first one – in 2019, at A Cube Contemporary Gallery in Sofia, and the second one – in 2022, at Kris Gallery in Asenovgrad, as well as joint exhibition in Plovdiv in 2012 with Yordan Kalchev in the Red Pony Gallery.

He has received several prestigious awards for sculpture: in 2016 from a regional competition jointly organized by Allianz-Bulgaria, Plovdiv City Art Gallery, and the Society of Plovdiv Artists, and two awarded nominations from the biennial for contemporary Bulgarian fine art “Friends of the Sea” at Petko Zadgorski Gallery in Burgas for 2020 and 2022.

On the basis of a protected dissertation work for awarding of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” he publishes the book *“Time and Sculpture – Aspects of Perception”* published in Plovdiv in 2021, from which the candidate has 4 citations by various authors in their publications, as well as in prestigious publications.

The realization of his solo exhibition in the Kris Gallery in Asenovgrad was reviewed by Natasha Noeva. The review is entitled “Rusen Doykov’s Sculpture Exhibition” and is included in the specialized art edition – the bulletin of the Union of Bulgarian Artists in February 2022.

Particularly impressive are the candidate’s creative performances, presenting abstract sculptures in colored steel, patinated and galvanized iron, depicting compositions of planes with free irregular shapes connected on the principle of free associations; the studies of form as a result of logically connected in space rectangular base elements with a fractal nature, as well as the variations of a polyester cube tracing the relationship between the internal structure and the external manifestation of the form.

In view of the above and the impressive numerous appearances of the candidate in the current competition announced in the field of sculpture, as well as his successful teaching activity, I confidently propose to the respected Scientific Jury to elect Dr. Rusen Georgiev Doykov to the academic position of “Associate Professor” under Higher education field 8. “Arts”, Professional field 8.2. “Fine Arts”, Specialty “Sculpture” for the needs of the Fine Arts Department, Faculty of Fine Arts, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

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