

PEER REVIEW
by Prof. Dr. Tsvetan Nedyalkov

in relation to a competition for occupation of the academic position “**Professor**” under field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”, specialty: “**Classical Guitar**” at Department of Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv,
announced in State Gazette, Issue 40 of 17.05.2019,
for candidate: **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Blagoeva Miteva-Dinkova**

1. Creative presentation

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova is a proven professional in the performing arts for guitar with a rich and diverse concert activity and a number of awards and honors. She completed her secondary education at the Dobri Hristov Secondary Music School in Varna, in the class of Lyuben Haralambiev, after which she graduated from the Academy of Music and Dance Arts in Plovdiv. She perfected her performing skills in the master classes of Abel Carlevaro, Martin Rennert, Nikita Arnoldovich Koshkin and Georgi Vasilev and others.

She holds the position of Associate Professor in the Department of Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, with main activities and responsibilities: preparation and implementation of lectures and control of practical exercises in the specialty “Classical Guitar”. In 2016, she defended her dissertation work on the topic: “Theoretical and Performing Aspects of Guitar and Orchestra Concerts by Joaquin Rodrigo” (Concierto de Aranjuez, Fantasia Para Un Gentilhombre, Concierto Para Una Fiesta)”. Her work explores the issues of clarification of the historical and stylistic and the formal and structural aspects of particular works, as well as certain technical and interpretative techniques associated with the guitar. It is not only a major contribution to the focus on this issue, but also to the accomplished monographic presentation of the life and work of the Spanish composer Joaquín Rodrigo and the detailed aesthetic and musical and theoretical analysis of his three works for guitar and orchestra in the context of their complete interpretation.

The teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova has been associated with numerous prestigious awards of her students from national and international competitions. In 2015, she was awarded the Rector’s Award by the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Art for “high activity in the educational process and creative achievements of students”.

She has the following articles and reports published in specialized editions in the field of Arts: “Vibrato” in Guitar magazine, Sofia: Dobrev, Issue 2, 2010, p. 22-32, ISSN: 1311-820X; “Guitar Tablature” in Guitar magazine, Sofia: Dobrev, Issue 1, 2011, p. 5-13, ISSN: 1311-820X; “The Two Perspectives of Music – Folklore and Professional Creativity Through the prism of Spanish Dance Forms” in the Yearbook of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, 2012, Plovdiv: Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts; “An Innovative Approach to Master the Specific Arpeggio in Classical Guitar Training” – in a collection of reports from the Science, Education and Innovation in the Arts International Scientific Conference, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, 2017; “The Master Class – A Current Form of Training in the Performing Arts of Guitar” – in a collection of reports from the Knowledge International Journal, vol. 26.3 – Humanities; “The Arpeggio in Didactic Literature for Classical Guitar” – in a collection of reports from the Knowledge International Journal, vol. 28.3 – Education, etc. It is clear from the above publications that the candidate is developing a rich, valuable and impressive scientific and research activity.

2. REFERENCE FOR MEETING THE MINIMUM NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The reference presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova meets the relevant minimum national requirements for scientific, teaching and artistic activities, defined in the Appendix on professional directions for the academic position “Professor” based on the indicators under Art.2b, para.2 of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

The required number of points by groups of indicators for the academic position “Professor” is 500, and in the case of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova, it is **1,350**.

They are broken down by activities as follows:

Group A: Dissertation work for the award of educational and scientific degree “Doctor” – **50** points.

Group C: Leading (independent) artistic expression in the field of Arts – **210** points. The candidate has presented 5 solo recitals and one chamber concert – flute and guitar. Apart from the rich and wide-ranging program, it is noteworthy that these concerts have taken place in prestigious halls such as: the Grand Hall of the Lausanne Conservatory, Sion (Switzerland), 17.05.2011, the Chamber Hall of the Karol Lipinski Music Academy, Wroclaw (Poland), the Molyvos Conference Hall, Molyvos (Lesbos Island, Greece), the Concert Hall of the Music Department at the Los Angeles Valley College, California (USA), and more.

I would like to make a reservation here that I will overlook some of the numerous appearances in concerts and events described below, which show the great creative activity of Stela Miteva-Dinkova.

Group D: Book published on the basis of a dissertation work for the award of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” or for the award of the scientific degree “Doctor of Sciences” – **70** points.

Articles and reports published in specialized editions in the field of Arts – **135** points.

Supporting creative performances or participation in a collective product in the field of Arts – **170** points.

With respect to Group **D**, point 14 – “*Supporting creative performances or participation in a collective product in the field of Arts*”, the candidate has 17 participations in concerts and events, such as: Concert of lecturers from the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts; Concert of Georgi Vasilev (classical guitar, Switzerland) within the Antique Theater, Sofia International Music Festival, Hall of Prof. P. Vladigerov National Academy of Music; Concert of lecturers from the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, Gdansk (Poland), Senate Hall of the Stanislaw Moniuszko Academy of Music; Chamber Music Concert of Stela Miteva-Dinkova (guitar) and Toni Shekerdzhieva-Novak (vocals), etc. These groups of activities, which are central and represent the artistic and performing activity of the performer goes far beyond the minimum indicators, but the quantitative indicators are only external. The performances of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova stand out with high professionalism and receive incredibly affectionate critical evaluations.

Group E: Peer reviews of realized author’s own products or creative appearances in specialized editions in the field of Arts: **110** points. Here are mentioned 11 peer reviews with links in specialized editions for her appearances such as: “Art Spectrum”, “Music Horizons”, “Guitar Magazine”, and more. They all emphasize the professional qualities of the candidate and her rich concert activity.

Group F: Item 22 Participation in a national scientific, educational or artistic project – **30** points. Two major projects are presented: The Fire of Orpheus International Summer

Academy, Creative Sparks Youth Academy /2014/ and The Word of the Young, where Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova is the project leader.

Item 24: Management of a national scientific, educational or artistic project – **210** points. The candidate participates in 7 projects as a leader and a performer.

Published university textbook or school textbook used in the educational institutions – **40** points.

Teaching of a master class or workshop in the field of Arts – **320** points. The presented master classes of the candidate in classical guitar are 16.

3. Contributions

The contributions of the activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova are conditionally divided into several sections: Solo concerts abroad, Solo concerts in Bulgaria, Chamber concerts with flute and guitar, Chamber concert with ensemble works for guitar, violin and clarinet, Concert for guitar and orchestra, Concert for two guitars and orchestra, Concert for three guitars and orchestra.

The activities selected and proposed in this Reference are a synthesis of the entire post-habilitation professional practice of Stela Dinkova as an Associate Professor. They most accurately characterize the direction of her creative and artistic appearances and interests.

I fully acknowledge the contributions that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova has made, namely:

- presentation of works by contemporary Bulgarian composers to Bulgarian and international audiences;
- premiere performance of little known for Bulgaria works by composers with worldwide recognition;
- concert activity in Bulgaria and abroad with a wide style and genre range;
- promotion of the classical guitar as a solo and chamber instrument;
- realization of innovative projects for combination of different arts and performers.

This peer review does not exhaust the entire scientific and practical contribution of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova, but it is clear from the above that she stands out as an energetic and creative educator and musician.

The materials under the announced competition are of high scientific and practical value, cover all requirements of the announced competition and meet the relevant minimum national requirements for scientific, teaching and artistic activity, as defined in the Appendix on professional directions for the academic position “Professor”.

In view of the above, I would like to propose to the honorable Scientific Jury to select Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova for the academic position “Professor”.

20.08.2019

Prof. Dr. Tsvetan Nedyalkov