

PEER REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Toni Shekerdzhieva-Novak
Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, Plovdiv
Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”

regarding the proposed contributions by

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova, Associate Professor at Prof. Asen Diamandiev
Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv

for her participation in a competition, announced in State Gazette, Issue 40 of 17.05.2019 for occupation of the academic position “Professor”, specialty: “Classical Guitar”, Faculty of Music Pedagogy, Department of Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing, in Professional field: 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”, in accordance with the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts

The following has been attached: a detailed biographical report, a reference for the scientific contributions of the creative and artistic activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Blagoeva Miteva-Dinkova, presented as habilitation work, a reference for the fulfillment of the minimum scientometric national requirements, in accordance with the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation, amended and supplemented with State Gazette, Issue No 56 of 06.07.2018, a reference to additional materials, realized in the period from 2009 until 2019 after the acquisition of her degree of “Associate Professor” (25.02.2009), presented in the sections: research, creative and artistic and pedagogical activity, a book based on a defended dissertation work for the award of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” – **“Theoretical and Performing Aspects of Guitar and Orchestra Concerts by Joaquin Rodrigo” (Concierto de Aranjuez, Fantasía Para Un Gentilhombre, Concierto Para Una Fiesta)**, FastPrintBooks2019, ISBN: 978-619-236-118-1, works of Fundamental Importance for the development of Guitar Performing Arts.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova was born in the family of musicians. Her initial training in classical guitar began under the supervision of her father Blagoy Mitev, and later continued at the Dobri Hristov Secondary Music School in the City of Varna in the class of Lyuben Haralambiev. In 1992, she was accepted at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, where in 1996 she graduated with a Bachelor’s degree. She received her Master’s degree in Performing Arts in 2012. Miteva-Dinkova perfected her performing skills in the master classes of Abel Carlevaro, Martin Rennert, Nikita Arnoldovich Koshkin and Georgi Vasilev and others.

In 1996 Stela Miteva-Dinkova was appointed as Assistant of Classical Guitar at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. In 1999 she was promoted to Senior Assistant and in 2003 to Chief Assistant. The scientific title of “Associate Professor” she obtained in 2009, after which in 2016 she received her educational and scientific degree “Doctor” after a successfully defended dissertation work.

Her performing activity characterized by a wide style and genre range is very impressive. She has performed as a Soloist and member of chamber ensembles at festivals in the US, UK, Greece, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Tunisia, Poland, Germany, Serbia, Macedonia, Turkey, Spain, France and more. Miteva-Dinkova is a Soloist at the symphony orchestras in Plovdiv, Pleven, Pazardzhik and Blagoevgrad. From these appearances I would like to highlight her recitals in the Grand Hall of the Lausanne Conservatory, Sion (Switzerland), in the Molyvos Conference Hall, Molyvos (Lesbos, Greece), in the Concert Hall of the Music Department at the Los Angeles Valley College, California (USA), in the Papa Nicolaou Hall, Komotini (Greece) and more. “Classical Guitar” magazine defined her as an extremely talented and charismatic performer.

An accent in her repertoire are newly created works by Bulgarian authors (some of whom are dedicated to her), which she promotes with particular piety in Bulgaria and abroad. Dinkova has made recordings for the Bulgarian National Television and the Bulgarian National Radio. She has won first places at the Hopes, Talents, Masters International Music Festival in Dobrich, Albena in 2002, at the Classical Guitar Interpretation International Competition, Plovdiv in 1994, and at the Young Musician Competition in Chirpan in 1985 and 1987.

The candidate meets the minimum scientometric indicators prescribed by the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for the occupation of the academic position “Professor”, which is of particular importance to the current competition, as follows:

By Group A indicators – **necessary 50 points** /defended dissertation work/:

“Theoretical and Performing Aspects of Guitar and Orchestra Concerts by Joaquin Rodrigo (Concierto de Aranjuez, Fantasía Para Un Gentilhombre, Concierto Para Una Fiesta), Diploma No 0034, issued on 26.09.2016

By Group C indicators – **necessary 100 points**:

By Indicator 5, leading (independent) creative performance in the field of Arts:

Solo recitals and chamber concerts, performed independently and jointly with prominent musicians such as Borislav Yasenov, Rosen Idealov, Yosif Radionov, Rosen Balkanski, Boyan Doychev, Georgi Vasilev and others, as well as performances as Soloist of orchestra, are presented for review. Assoc. Prof. Stela Miteva-Dinkova has self-assessed herself with

only six concerts, although she has presented twice as many, which exceeds the required 100 points repeatedly (presented **210 points**)

By Group **D** indicators – **necessary 150 points**:

By Indicator **9**, Articles and reports published in specialized editions in the field of Arts, 9 articles are presented. **9x15 = 135 points**.

By Indicator **14**, Supporting creative expression or involvement in collective productions in the field of Arts, 17 productions are presented. **17x10 = 170 points**.

The total number of points from the Group D indicator is 305 points.

By Group **E** indicators – **necessary 80 points**:

By Indicator **19**, Pier reviews of realized copyright works or creative appearances in specialized editions in the field of Arts, 11 pier reviews are presented. **10x11 = 110 points**.

The total number of points from the Group E indicator is 110 points.

By Group **F** indicators – **necessary 120 points**:

By Indicator **22**, Participation in national scientific projects, **2x15 = 30 points**.

By Indicator **24**, Management of national scientific projects, **7x30 = 210 points**.

By Indicator **27**, Published university textbook or school textbook used in the educational institutions, **2x20 = 40 points**.

By Indicator **28**, Teaching of a master class or workshop in the field of Arts, **16x20 = 320 points**.

The total number of points from the Group F indicator is 600 points.

Associate Professor Dinkova participates systematically and deliberately in national and international conferences with interesting and useful presentations and reports that find their place in specialized publications. She has also published in edited and peer-reviewed publications in the field of Arts, such as the Yearbook of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, the Spring Readings collections, compilation of reports from the Science, Education and Innovation in the Arts International Scientific Conference, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, 2017, etc.

She is compiler and publisher of the first school of its kind with a CD “Guitar Pieces by Bulgarian Composers” and of the collections:

- “Guitar Pieces” by Vasil Belezhkov and Vladimir Vlaev;
- “Selected Sonatas for Violin and Guitar” – Nicolo Paganini;
- “From the repertoire of the Academica Guitar Ensemble – Plamen Arabov – Lele Mome”.

She is the editor of the edition “Folklore and Guitar” by Plamen Arabov.

Dinkova has been an invariable member and chairman of the juries in a number of national and international competitions in Bulgaria and abroad, including Acad. Marin Goleminov International Guitar Competition Festival in Kyustendil, Tremolo Festival in Skopje, Macedonia, International Guitar Festival in Belgrade, Serbia. She also organized and contributed to the implementation of the first European Classical Guitar Platform, a project under Creative Europe Programme by the European Commission and others.

The teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Stela Dinkova should also be highlighted. The number of prestigious awards from national and international competitions that her students had won is an impressive testament to her high level of teaching. Particularly valuable achievement for the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Art is the Academica Guitar Ensemble, which was created and managed by her and which has won more than 10 prizes from competitions in Bulgaria and abroad. In 2015, Dinkova 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 is actively involved in the creation and implementation of innovative projects, combining different arts and performing teams.

Dinkova’s public activity is also significant. She is the founder and artistic director of the Crossroad Youth Guitar Festival, which has been held at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts since 2010, and is a member of the management team of the Orpheus Fire Foundation, which organizes a number of national and international art events. As of 2017 she has been the President of the Guitar-Plovdiv Association.

My personal impressions of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova are related to our common concert, international, research and teaching activities. She is an active, talented, consistent and demanding, first and foremost to herself, young person who contributes to the strengthening of the high level of the educational process at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts. Dedicated to her profession and students, Stela Dinkova is a valuable member of the academic staff of the higher institution.

On the basis of all the above, according to the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, I give my positive assessment and propose to the honorable members of the Scientific Jury of the competition for “Professor” to choose Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova for the academic position “Professor” in the Professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Arts, specialty: “Classical Guitar”, at the Department of Orchestral Instruments and

Classical Singing, Faculty of Music Pedagogy at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

Date: 30.08.2019

Prof. Dr. Toni Shekerdzhieva-Novak