

PEER REVIEW

by Velislav Zaimov

Professor Doctor of Score Reading in the Department of Conducting and of Composition in the Department of Composition at the Theoretical Composing and Conducting Faculty at Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Academy of Music, and a member of a Scientific Jury in a competition, announced in State Gazette, Issue 40 of 17.05.2019 for the occupation of an academic position “Professor” under Professional field 08.03 “Music and Dance Arts” (Classical Guitar) in the Department of Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv

Only one candidate participates in the competition for occupation of the academic position “Professor of Classical Guitar” announced by the Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts. This candidate is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova.

Stella Miteva-Dinkova graduated from the Dobri Hristov Secondary Music School in the City of Varna with a specialty “Guitar”, and in 1996 from Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv. She has specialized in the master classes of Abel Carlevaro, Martin Rennert, Nikita Arnoldovich Koshkin and Georgi Vasilev and others. She has won awards from national and international competitions.

After completing her higher education, Stela Miteva-Dinkova started teaching at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv and in 2009 received the scientific degree “Associate Professor” with habilitation work and high artistic and creative achievements as a performer.

Stella Miteva-Dinkova has developed a successful concert activity in Bulgaria and abroad. She has performed in the USA, Greece, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Tunisia, Poland, Germany, Serbia, Macedonia, Turkey and Spain. She has participated as a member of juries in various international competitions. She has a special merit as a performer and publisher for the distribution of guitar works by Bulgarian composers, especially from the younger generation. She continues this activity as a member of the Orpheus Fire Foundation and as an initiator and leader of the Youth Guitar Festival at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

In 2015, Stela 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".

As a habilitation work, Stela Miteva-Dinkova presented her artistic and creative achievements for the period from 2009 until 2019 after acquiring the scientific position of "Associate Professor". These are her concert performances, grouped in several directions:

Solo recitals abroad;

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 Reference shows that the concert activity of Stela Miteva-Dinkova is too rich and diverse. She is one of the leading guitarists in Bulgaria with a rich repertoire both as a soloist and as a participant in various chamber ensembles with a guitar. Her biography also includes performances for guitar or orchestra. In other words, her activity covers all genres of works for classical guitar.

I would like to emphasize on the presentation of a number of works by Bulgarian composers such as Plamen Arabov, Rosen Balkanski, Vladimir Vlaev, Ognyan Valev at the Lausanne Conservatory, Sion (Switzerland) and at the Karol Lipinski Music Academy, Wroclaw (Poland), where the performance of the works was accompanied by a lecture on Bulgarian guitar music. This broadened our knowledge of Bulgarian musical culture abroad, since guitar literature produced by our composers is relatively small and has only been around for the last three or four decades. As a contribution to the distribution of Bulgarian guitar music, the performance of Rosen Balkanski's „Fantasia Concertante” – a concert for three guitars and chamber orchestra in 2016 at the Second International Guitar Festival together with the guitarists Georgi Vasilev and Boyan Doychev and with the Pleven Philharmonic Orchestra and the conductor Slavey Tinchev should be noted.

The repeated performances of works such as the concert for guitar and orchestra "Fantasia Para Un Gentilhombre" by the Spanish composer Joaquin Rodrigo present Stela Miteva-Dinkova as prominent instrumentalists, of which there are very few in Bulgaria.

Considering the place of the classical guitar in our musical life and the performing and pedagogical activity of Stela Miteva-Dinkova, which has led to relevant contributions, I would most strongly like to propose to the distinguished members of the Scientific Jury to select Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova for the academic position “**Professor**” under Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”.

Sofia, 28.07.2019

Prof. Dr. Velislav Zaimov