

PEER REVIEW

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Metev Petkov

Department of Music, New Bulgarian University – Sofia, Professional field

8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”

for the scientific contributions of the works and citations

of

Chief Assistant Dr. Vasil Milchev Vasilev,

for participation in a competition announced in State Gazette, Issue 18 of 04.03.2022 for the academic position of “Associate Professor”, specialty “Shepherd’s Pipe and Chamber Instrumental Ensembles”, Faculty of Musical Folklore and Choreography, for the needs of the Musical Folklore Department under 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

Vasil Vasilev is a hereditary shepherd’s pipe player. His grandfather is the famous soloist of the Folk Music Orchestra at Radio Plovdiv, Vasil Milev. The family’s traditional musical environment significantly contributed to the development and professional orientation of Vasil Vasilev. During his studies at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, his talent was noticed and he was appointed as a soloist-artist to the State Folk Orchestra at the Academy. After graduation, he continued to work in the Orchestra, and at the same time is a part-time lecturer of shepherd’s pipe in the specialties “Instrumental Art – Folklore” and “Pedagogy of Music Education”. In 2015, Vasil Vasilev defended his dissertation on the topic “Characteristic Features of the Contemporary Shepherd’s Pipe Performance Art”. In 2017, Vasilev was appointed as Chief Assistant in Shepherd’s Pipe and Chamber Instrumental Ensembles at the Musical Folklore Department after a competition.

Vasil Vasilev gained considerable experience with his teaching activity in shepherd’s pipe at Lyuben Karavelov Secondary School. The candidate has performed dozens of concerts in Bulgaria and abroad as a soloist of the Academic Folk Orchestra, the Academic Folklore Ensemble and the Mystery of Bulgarian Voices Vocal Ensemble. He has made numerous recordings for the Bulgarian National Radio together with the Folk Music Orchestra, and recordings for the Bulgarian National Television. Dr. Vasilev participated as a soloist in the instrumental pop and jazz formations Lamico Band and Ethno Folk Jazz. He is the winner of numerous awards from competitions and festivals, among the most prestigious of which are: Grand Prix from Folklore without Borders International Youth Competition – Albena/Dobrich and First prize from the New Bulgarian Folk Music competition – Chepelare.

Chief Assistant Dr. Vasil Vasilev meets the minimum requirements, determined by the scientometric indicators, required by the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor, as follows:

Indicators by group A – 50 points

Indicators by group C – 100 points

Indicators by group D – 145 points, upon necessary 120

Indicators by group E – 50 points, upon necessary 40

Indicators by group F – 70 points, upon necessary 50

The candidate meets the minimum requirements in sections A and C and exceeds the minimum in the other sections.

Upon a requirement for occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor” of a total of 360 points, Chief Assistant Dr. Vasil Vasilev presents an activity on scientometric indicators corresponding to a total number of **415 points**.

The submitted evidentiary material to the overall documentation for the competition illustrates sufficient and high-quality scientific and artistic production for occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor” and presents the candidate in many ways as an educator, performer and researcher.

The author’s reference of the candidate describes in detail the overall activity that is submitted for habilitation materials. The scientific contributions of works and citations are presented correctly. The applied scientific contributions of the habilitation work are the personal work of the candidate Vasil Vasilev. The topic of the habilitation thesis: “The Shepherd’s Pipe in Bulgarian Musical Practice” is naturally dictated by the accumulated practical experience and theoretical knowledge of the virtuoso shepherd’s pipe player Vasil Vasilev. He presents a theoretical development combining various research angles tested in his practice, as well as a theoretically presented system on the application of the shepherd’s pipe instrument today. The monograph fills some gaps in the research on shepherd’s pipe in traditional and contemporary musical practice and is useful from its practical side, as a valuable resource and source of scholarly information for students, teachers, and all those concerned to the shepherd’s pipe performance in Bulgaria.

I believe that the presented activity is of contributing importance to the development of professional folk music performing practice related to the folk instrument shepherd’s pipe and is more than sufficient for a worthy defense of the academic position “Associate Professor” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

Recommendations and notes on the applicant’s documentation, activities and achievements: I do not have any.

On the basis of the above, I give my positive vote and suggest to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to support Chief Assistant Dr. Vasil Vasilev in the competition for “Associate Professor” in specialty “Shepherd’s Pipe and Chamber Instrumental Ensembles” at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv under Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”.

19.06.2022

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(Assoc. Prof. Dr. Georgi Petkov)