

## **OPINION**

by Prof Antoaneta Ancheva  
on awarding educational and scientific degree Doctor  
in scientific field 8. Arts,  
professional field 8.2. Fine Arts  
AMDFA "Prof A. Diamandiev", Plovdiv  
dissertation on the topic  
**TIME AND TRANSFORMATION IN PHOTOGRAPHY**  
Doctoral candidate Mariana Todorova Kamburova  
Academic supervisor Assoc. Prof Boris Minkov, PhD

The doctoral candidate Mariana Todorova Kamburova presents a dissertation on topic *Time and Transformation in Photography*, consisting of a textual part of 139 pages and a bibliography. There is also an Appendix that contains color and black-and-white images thematically related to the study.

The dissertation was discussed and approved for public defense after a meeting of the department, and with a decision of the Council of the Faculty of Fine Arts, a scientific jury was appointed, and a date was set for defense.

The topic of the work is suitable for scientific interpretation and it is therefore appropriate for dissertation. The thesis, as can be seen from the list of content, is focused on the problem of time and transformation in photography, which according to the author has always been the focus of "research of the nature of the photographic image".

The text of the dissertation is structured in Introduction, three chapters, Conclusion, Contributions of the dissertation and Bibliography. In the introduction, the doctoral candidate presents and substantiates the subject, goals and objectives, the relevance of the research, the theoretical and practical significance of the work and establishes the scope of the research and the methodology used. It is noteworthy that she follows her tasks, demonstrating systematicity, consistency and methodological correctness.

The topic of the dissertation is problematized in several main lines, discussed in the three chapters of the work. Following the research on time and the transformation in photography, the candidate earnestly notes the existing publications, which are in the perimeter of the this work. It is noteworthy that in the exposition of the text the author demonstrates professional knowledge of the problems. I believe that the dissertation will definitely contribute to the enrichment in this direction.

Mariana Kamburova's dissertation examines a relevant issue, showing very good theoretical training with knowledge "from the inside", as well as good handling and systematization of the material, appropriate citations of authors, examples, etc. The relevance and the new moments in the research are supported by the presented studies and analyzes and by the author's view and attitude to the considered problems.

I express my agreement with the contributions indicated by the doctoral candidate. She knows the problem and is well versed in the material, which allows her to freely tackle the theoretical basis and the various examples on which she builds her analyzes and judgments.

I consider as significant contribution the fact that the dissertation is the first such theoretical study in our country on this topic. It offers a selection and systematizes authors in whose works time is “set as leading theme”. In this regard, I believe that thesis would be useful in teaching photography. Moreover, for the needs of the dissertation, the candidate has provided photographic material with works by a number of Bulgarian and foreign authors, who successfully support and enrich her theories.

Based on all this, I believe that the dissertation *Time and Transformation in Photography* presented for review, as a formulated problem, has contribution value.

The abstract of the dissertation fully corresponds to the structure and the text of the whole work. The dissertation demonstrates own reasoned research opinions and conclusions.

My assessment of the dissertation, the abstract and the scientific contributions is positive and I believe that it fully meets the requirements of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Bulgaria.

Considering all of the above, I give my positive assessment and recommend to the esteemed Scientific Jury to award Mariana Todorova Kamburova the educational and scientific degree Doctor in the professional field 8.2. Fine Arts, scientific field 8. Arts.

29.12.2021

Prof Antoaneta Angelova Ancheva