

## OPINION

by

**Prof Lyudmil Borisov Petkov, PhD**

of

dissertation work for awarding educational and scientific degree **Doctor**

Professional field **8.3. Music and dance art**

Doctoral program **Music Studies and Music Art**

Department of Classical and pop and jazz performing arts

Faculty of Music Pedagogy

AMDFA "Prof Asen Diamandiev" – Plovdiv

Titled:

*The Relationship between the Bebop Idiom and the Scat Improvisation in the Musical Language of  
Jazz Vocalists*

**Author:** Marina Ivanova Gospodinova

**Academic supervisor:** Prof Borislav Yasenov, AMDFA Prof. Asen Diamandiev

### **1. General presentation of the procedure and the materials presented for review**

The documentation of the procedure for the defense before a scientific jury of a dissertation work with author Marina Ivanova Gospodinova is completely in order. The following statutory mandatory documents are presented:

1. Order No RD-27-001/04.01.2024 for the appointment of a scientific jury by the Rector of AMDFA "Prof Asen Diamandiev" - Plovdiv.

2. Order No RD-27-119/14.12.2022 for discharge, based on the decision taken by the faculty council at the Faculty of Music Pedagogy - Protocol No 4/14.12.2022.

3. Dissertation work consisting of 180 pages. The structure of the work is Introduction, four chapters, Conclusion, Contributions, Bibliography, scientific publications on the topic of the dissertation work, Appendix.

4. Abstract of 50 pages with subsequent Conclusion, Contributions, Bibliography and Internet sources.

5. List of the author's publications related to the dissertation, two in number.

6. CV

8. The author's publications of the candidate in the relevant edition

9. Reference for the contributions of the dissertation work

### **2. Brief biographical data**

Marina Gospodinova is one of the most popular jazz singers in Bulgaria. In 1996 she receives Bachelor's degree in major Pop and Jazz Singing at the National Academy of Music "Prof Pancho Vladigerov" - Sofia (Vocal Faculty). There she also receives her Master's degree (2015) - at the

Faculty of Theory, Composition and Conducting, majoring in Pedagogy of Music Education, defending her thesis with honors.

M. Gospodinova is the leader of numerous projects, including the one that makes her especially popular - Jazz in Bulgarian, in which she partners with Antoni Donchev (piano), Ventsislav Blagoev (trumpet) and the poetess Maria Doneva.

M. Gospodinova is the winner of the Second Prize for a young artist at the Golden Orpheus International Festival (1996). She is a songwriter and a frequent guest on the studio albums of famous musicians and bands. She has a number of records with the Bulgarian National Television and Radio. In 2014, she was a special guest on the European tour of the Grammy-nominated virtuoso bassist Juan García-Herreros (Colombia).

She combines his concert activity with her work as a vocal pedagogue in pop and jazz singing at AMDFA "Prof Asen Diamandiev" - Plovdiv.

### **3. Relevance of the topic**

Taking into account the permanent need for a knowledge-organizing approach and consistency and informativeness in mastering the voice instrument brought out in their applicability in the educational process, as well as the way of improving the jazz singer in mastering two key idioms in modern improvisational jazz practice, while in detail constructed methodologically, the fulfillment of this requirement is present.

### **4. Expediency of the research methods used to achieve the set goals**

This necessary rationality combined with academic utility, which makes the link between the educational process and a fixed source tracking methodology, covering the needs of jazz vocalists to acquire and build improvisational skills fundamental to their expressiveness and musical language, are deployed with enviable rigor in terms of clarity, consistency, argumentation, and articulate comprehensiveness of the steps toward a pedagogic outcome in the foreseeable horizon.

### **5. Evaluation of the dissertation**

The thesis is structured in a very detailed, revealing the objectives of the design plan. The movement in its instructive part is smooth and homogenizes the processes in their continuity and reflexivity. The jazz styles until the appearance of Bebop and its vocal incarnation - scat, the vocal-stage work in its modern achievements, the bebop idiom with its professional characteristics and the theoretically instrumentalized direction (possibility) towards methodical inclusion in the educational process of the higher education, are brought out as a result in precisely and analytically created model with the advantages of today's information environment. M. Gospodinova's rich concert experience and her affinity for understanding and illuminating sustainable and not so sustainable classifications pushes forward the originality of the artist's image-emotional setting and technique and distinguishes them through their cultural-historical, theoretical and physiological regularities (with creatively liberated, traceable in their interconnected consequences) in a comprehensively built professional and scientific concept.

## **6. Contributions and significance of the thesis and the relevant publications**

I accept in its entirety the attempt for a systematized methodical guide in Bulgarian, as well as of studying vocal improvisation using the scat technique, as a contribution, of high theoretical value and practical applicability.

## **7. Recommendations and critical remarks**

I recommend that Bibliography be replaced by Literature, as a term used in the modern context of scientific developments, and that this valuable work be published in a book.

I congratulate Marina Gospodinova and her supervisor Prof B. Yassenov for the result of their joint work.

## **Conclusion**

I believe that the dissertation work of Marina Ivanova Gospodinova is defended at a high professional level. Therefore, I propose to the respected scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" in professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art, doctoral program Music Studies and Musical Art at the Department of Classical and Pop and Jazz Performing Arts, the Faculty of Music Pedagogy of AMDFA "Prof Asen Diamandiev" - Plovdiv to Marina Ivanova Gospodinova.

08.02.2024  
Plovdiv

Reviewer: .....  
Prof Lyudmil Petkov