

## OPINION

by **Assoc. Prof. Ralitsa Mircheva, PhD, Department of Fine Arts, New Bulgarian University** regarding the materials submitted for participation in the competition for occupation of academic position '**Professor**' in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'

in Area of Higher Education 8. Arts;

Professional Field 8.2 Fine Arts (Painting and Colour Theory)

In the competition for the academic position '**Professor**', announced in State Gazette No 96/20.11.2018 and on the web page of Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' for the needs of the Department of Aesthetic Education within the Faculty of Pedagogy, **Assoc. Prof. Daniela Todorova Markova, PhD**, from the Department of Aesthetic Education within the Faculty of Pedagogy, Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski', participates as a candidate - the only candidate.

By Order No. P33-1121/05.03.2019 of the Chancellor of Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' I was appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury of the competition for occupation of the academic position 'Professor' in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' in Area of Higher Education 8. Arts, Professional Field 8.2 Fine Arts (Painting and Colour Theory) announced for the needs of the Department of Aesthetic Education within the Faculty of Pedagogy, Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'.

The materials submitted for the present opinion fully satisfy the requirements for occupation of the academic position 'Professor' according to the rules and regulations of the Faculty of Pedagogy, Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'. Documents for participation in this competition were submitted by **the only candidate** - Assoc. Prof. Daniela Todorova Markova, PhD.

The candidate Assoc. Prof. Daniela Markova, PhD presented for review a total of 57 published works, 42 independent and 15 in co-authorship: 4 independent books /2 monographs; 2 textbooks for university students/; 1st part of a students' handbook in co-authorship; 6 textbooks and school aids /2 fine arts textbooks in co-authorship for pupils; 4 educational books for fine arts training in kindergarten/; 6 teacher's books /2 in co-authorship; 4 - independent/; articles and papers - 40 scientific publications /30 independent; 10 - in co-authorship/; 1 - in a scientific edition, referenced and indexed in a world-known scientific database (No. 33); 3 - in English language; 1 - in Russian language.

Associate Professor Daniela Markova, PhD participates in the competition for academic position 'Professor' with an impressive list of research, creative and teaching activities. She stands out with elaborate developments of a number of monographs, textbooks, publications, as well as participation in prestigious exhibitions and workshops in Bulgaria and abroad. Her recognition in the academic and cultural circles is associated with interesting and varied research and creative identification as an outstanding pedagogue, creative teacher and painter. The pedagogical experience gained during the 16 years of teaching at the Faculty of Pedagogy with a significant contribution as an associate professor among her students is impressive.

For the period 2003 - 2018 Assoc. Prof. D. Markova participated actively in the development and improvement of scientific courses and programs, among which are university courses in Pedagogy, Graphic Design with Advertising, Special Pedagogy, Pedagogical Interaction in Preparatory Group and Preparatory Class, as well as many other important for the development in the field of theory of fine arts, with an emphasis on methodology of fine arts and colour theory. Developed and advanced curricula and training for students in bachelor's and master's programs in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski', in its branch in the town of Kardzhali and in the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts - Plovdiv.

Associate Professor D. Markova, PhD performed responsible administrative activity and participated in accreditation procedures, as well. During the period 2008 - 2011 she was Vice Dean of the Faculty of Pedagogy, in 2008 - Chairman of the Quality Committee of the Faculty, and in 2018 she was a member of the Evaluation and Accreditation Committee of the University. In the period from 2003 to 2018 she supervised 55 graduates, 3 successfully defended doctoral students and 1 still in process of training.

The candidate's scientific interests are in the field of theory and methodology of fine arts, development of the creative abilities of children, pupils and students. The contributions in the submitted documents are of a theoretical and applied nature and emphasize the development and introduction of:

- theoretical and methodological issues related to fine arts;
- methods for analyzing the child's drawing content;
- new methods and approaches in the training of children in preschool and primary school age, as well as of fine arts students;

Associate Professor D. Markova, PhD analyzes the innovations in fine arts training as current tendencies in **modern pedagogy**. She examines the issue of educational alternatives, guiding principles and specifics. She suggests methodological guidelines for application of innovative learning approaches - introduction of interactive methods. She studies the opportunities for application of virtual reality technology in fine arts training.

Methodological models of teaching and fine arts lessons, corresponding to the new normative documents, the contemporary development of science, fine arts and to the interests of contemporary children and pupils, are developed in an interesting way.

Two of the latest works of Assoc. Prof. Daniela Markova, PhD deserve special attention, namely:

The presented textbook for students 'Colour Theory Handbook', University Publishing 'Paisii Hilendarski', Plovdiv, 2018, ISBN 978-619-202-330-0, is a thorough scientific work on the peculiarities of colour perception, classification and characteristics. The focus is on general laws of colours, aimed at students studying fine arts. A methodological system, introduced in the process of teaching painting and colour theory, is developed with the help of depiction tasks, which contribute to gaining knowledge about the visual and expressive function of colour, as well as about depiction skills related to the use of colours. A fundamental and very important point is the 'entanglement' of the teaching practice and activity of Assoc. Prof. Markova, PhD with the theory in this field of study.

Another important accent is the monograph 'The Art of Seeing', 'Iztok-Zapad', Sofia, 2019. ISBN 978-619-01-0335-6. The presented monograph is one of the few scientific papers devoted to issues related to the ways of preserving sensuousness and rediscovering the contemplation ability; the state of consciousness, allowing the artist to perceive the things that surround him/her in an unusual way. An educational model of fine arts is developed with forms of training such as contemplation, visualization, meditation, the inclusion of which helps to form a culture of senses and complements one-sided rational training. The exploration of the interdependence creativity - spirituality contributes to the development and validation of the principle of humanism in arts.

In the presented paintings and materials for the competition there is a serious, gradual growth in her pedagogical, professional artistic and creative activity. Assoc. Prof. Markova, PhD is a prominent painter who works in the field of painting, illustration, drawing and decorative applied art. Her painting style is original and bright as colour, sensation and temperament. She manages to

bring the viewer into an imaginary environment, into the plot of her paintings with her descriptive pictorial style.

As an artist she is an active participant in 55 exhibitions in Bulgaria and abroad, 3 solo exhibitions, many workshops and art forums.

She is an honoured member of Plovdiv Artists Association, 'Group Colour' - Bulgaria and the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria.

In conclusion, all the contributions and merits analyzed and presented in this Opinion are sufficient to recommend with absolute conviction to the competent Scientific Jury **to award** to Assoc. Prof. Daniela Todorova Markova, PhD the academic position '**Professor**' in the field 8.2. Fine Arts (Painting and Colour Theory) in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' for the needs of the Department of Aesthetic Education within the Faculty of Pedagogy.

30.04.2019

Reviewer: .....  
(Assoc. Prof. Ralitsa Mircheva, PhD)