

OPINION

**by Borislav Aleksandrov Yasenov, PhD -
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- Plovdiv**

regarding the materials submitted for participation in the competition
for occupation of the academic position '**Associate Professor**'
in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'
in Area of Higher Education 8. Arts,
Professional Field 8.3 Music and Dance Art,
Scientific Speciality 'Musicology and Music Art: technological models of teaching musical
instrument – accordion'

In the competition for 'Associate Professor', announced in State Gazette No 31/12.04.2019 and on the web page of Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' for the needs of the Department of Music within the Faculty of Pedagogy, Chief Assistant Diana Ivanova Stancheva, PhD from Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski', participates as an only candidate.

By Order No. P33-3696/10.07.2019 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 'Associate Professor' in Area of Higher Education 8. Arts, Professional Field 8.3 Music and Dance Arts, Scientific Speciality 'Musicology and Music Art: technological models of teaching musical instrument – accordion', announced for the needs of the Department of Music within the Faculty of Pedagogy, Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'.

One candidate has submitted documents for participation in the announced competition, namely Ch. Asst. Diana Ivanova Stancheva, PhD from Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'. The submitted documents and materials, in paper and electronic format, meet all the requirements of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, the Rules for its Implementation, and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff of Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski'.

Ch. Asst. Diana Stancheva, PhD has applied a total of 15 scientific papers: a monograph, 2 studies, a textbook and 11 copies of research papers - 8 published in Bulgaria and 3 published abroad (2 of the works have been published in editions with an impact factor). A collection with candidate's arrangements of 5 musical works for accordion duo with an enclosed CD. A CD with audio recordings of musical performances of accordion ensembles with artistic director D. Stancheva. The above materials are published after the dissertation and are decisive for the final result.

Diana Stancheva graduated from the Secondary School of Music - Plovdiv (currently National School of Music and Dance Arts 'Dobrin Petkov') in 1983 with a special subject - accordion, and in 1987 graduated from the Higher Institute of Music, (currently Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts 'Prof. Asen Diamandiev'), Plovdiv, speciality 'Music Pedagogy'

(Master's degree). From 2004 to 2007 she was a doctoral student, self-preparation, in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski', Faculty of Pedagogy, Department of Music. With a record of the Specialised Scientific Council in Pedagogy at the Higher Attestation Commission, Sofia, in 2010, she was awarded the educational and scientific degree 'Doctor of Philosophy' in scientific specialty 05.07.03 'Methodology of Teaching Music'.

The work experience of the candidate is related to teaching. In 1987-1988 she worked in Art School, Botevgrad, as an accordion teacher. In 1988 she started work in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski', Faculty of Pedagogy, Department of Music as Senior Assistant, and now she is Chief Assistant. In the period 1988-1992 she was a part-time lecturer in accordion in the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts 'Prof. Asen Diamandiev' - Plovdiv. In 2004 she was appointed in the National School of Music 'L. Pipkov', Sofia, as a lecturer on: Special Subject-Accordion, Chamber Music and Methodology of Teaching Accordion. In 2005-2006 she was a part-time accordion teacher in National School of Music and Dance Arts 'Dobrin Petkov', Plovdiv, and from 2008 to 2012 she was a part-time lecturer in the subjects Accordion and Methodology of Teaching Accordion in New Bulgarian University, Sofia.

The teaching work of Ch. Asst. Stancheva, PhD logically leads to active research, creative and artistic activity. The candidate participates also in a number of Bulgarian and international projects. She has enclosed honorary diplomas, diplomas and certificates of appreciation for participation in a jury from international competitions, more than 20 other honours for excellence in creative work and contributions from various organizations in Bulgaria and abroad and numerous awards of students from national and international competitions, as well.

From the described activities, supported by evidence, it is evident that the candidate for associate professor has significant achievements in pedagogical, scientific, creative and artistic activity, proving her huge contribution to the development of accordion art.

D. Stancheva's monograph 'Artistic-Interpretative and Technical Parameters of the Accordionist's Work over Musical Works' is the second revised and supplemented edition, consisting of 192 pages. It contains an introduction, 4 chapters and a conclusion, the reference works include 48 Bulgarian and foreign sources and 4 annexes. The first and the second chapters discuss the work of the accordion artist on the musical work as a technological process and interpretation. Chapter Three analyzes the technical and artistic-interpretative issues in specific musical works - the contemporary ones: 'hantasmagoria' by K. Olchak, Part III of Suite Impasse by Fr. Angelis and Part III of the Sonata by A. Vakarelov, as well as transcription for accordion of the keyboard Sonata in E major by D. Scarlatti. In Chapter Four, the author explores the specificity of performing solo polyphonic transcriptions for accordion. The contributions are expressed in proposed solutions to the problem of accordion interpretation, based on a generalized analysis of information from specialized sources related to philosophical, aesthetic, artistic and interpretive parameters in the performance of musical works.

The issues covered in the monograph contribute to the development of accordion pedagogical and performing practice. The work could serve as a basis for other, in-depth studies in the field of methodology of teaching accordion and accordion performing arts.

The research in the study 'Advantages of Cognitive Learning of the Music Work in Accordion Performance' was provoked by the author's desire to look for the negative influencing factors in stage performances and to find a practical possibility for overcoming them. The advantages of the cognitive type of learning over the traditional for Bulgaria - reflective one, are presented. Some approaches for its implementation are proposed. The contributory character of scientific development is indisputable.

In the study 'Origin, Technical Development and Application of Accordion in Music Art. Part I. From Ancient Asia to Modern Chromatic Button Accordion' a chronological collection of information that creates a true picture of the history of the accordion and gives a clearer idea of the evolution of the instrument, its modern arrangement and application in music is collected. A contribution is the fact that for the first time in our literature the structure of Demian's accordion, the way the performer behaved and what could have been played on it, have been clarified. Given that the topic is part of the curriculum content of methodologies of teaching accordion, along with the accessible style of exposition and the plethora of visual material, the study could serve both teachers and students in the field of professional training and anyone who is interested in the tool.

The textbook 'Technologies for Achieving a Quality Tone in the Initial Accordion Training. A Textbook for Accordion Teacher' contains methodological guidelines applicable to initial instrument training and is appropriate for both students in music specialities and students from secondary schools of music.

Post-dissertation publications are closely related to the subject area of the specialty. It should be noted that the content of the works presented in the reference for compliance of the scientific production with the minimum national requirements under criteria 8 and 9 does not duplicate any of the content of the complete works.

The relevance of the collection 'Five Beautiful Pieces for Two Accordions in Arrangement by Diana Stancheva' - a book and a CD, enclosed as part of the habilitation work, is justified by the need for such sheet music for accordion ensembles on the Bulgarian market. Plus is the enclosed CD with performance of the works.

The CD 'Balloonists' - classical music for accordion, contains audio recordings of 12 music works, 9 of which - arranged by D. Stancheva, performed by student accordion ensembles led by her. This CD reflects the instrumentalist's search for sound design and arrangements creation, allowing the use of accordion articulation techniques.

The professional activity of the applicant includes the selection and arrangement of music for the theatrical production 'The Sexual Neuroses of Our Parents', presented by Plovdiv Drama Theater (2005-2006 season).

Indicators for minimum national requirements are covered, even to a greater extent than necessary.

In view of the above, I note the high achievements and contribution of the overall active and rich pedagogical, research, artistic and creative activity of Ch. Asst. Diana

Stancheva, PhD. The theoretical developments of the candidate have practical applicability and are student-oriented. Diana Stancheva's scientific and teaching qualifications are indisputable. Her educational and research results are fully in line with the specific requirements of the Faculty of Pedagogy, adopted in connection with the Rules of Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' for the implementation of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act (DASRBA).

After getting acquainted with the materials presented in the competition and analysis of their importance, scientific and applied contributions, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment before the Honorable Scientific Jury and to support the application of Ch. Asst. Diana Ivanova Stancheva, PhD for occupation of the academic position 'Associate Professor' in Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' in Professional Field 8.3 Music and Dance Art, Scientific Specialty 'Musicology and Music Art: technological models of teaching musical instrument – accordion'.

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This opinion is prepared by:

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