

OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Vesela Ivanova Geleva, PhD (choral conducting lecturer at the Department of Music Pedagogy and Conducting at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts 'Prof. Asen Diamandiev' - Plovdiv)

for Ch. Asst. Diana Ivanova Stancheva, PhD - candidate in the competition announced in State Gazette No 31/12.04.2019, 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 (Musicology and Music Art: technological models of teaching musical instrument - accordion).

Diana Ivanova Stancheva graduated from the Secondary School of Music - Plovdiv /National School of Music and Dance Arts 'D. Petkov'/ and higher education in the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts 'Prof. A. Diamandiev'. In 2010, she defended a dissertation on topic 'Opportunities for Development of Bellows Technique in Accordion Training' and she was awarded the scientific and educational degree 'Doctor of Philosophy' in scientific specialty 05.07.03. 'Methodology of Teaching Music'. She has worked in art school in Botevgrad, in the National School of Music and Dance Art 'D. Petkov', in New Bulgarian University - Sofia. Now she is Ch. Asst. in the Department of Music, Faculty of Pedagogy, Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' and an accordion, chamber music and methodology of teaching accordion teacher at the National School of Music 'L. Pipkov', Sofia.

The materials presented by the candidate are impressive in terms of volume and content and represent her extensive musical activity in its diversity - a pedagogue, author of scientific works, textbooks and teaching aids, author of arrangements and artistic director of various types of performing ensembles.

The list of publications, besides the dissertation, is impressive - the monograph 'Artistic-Interpretative and Technical Parameters of the Accordionist's Work over Musical Works', both studies 'Advantages of Cognitive Learning of the Music Work in Accordion Performance' and 'Origin, Technical Development and Application of Accordion in Music Art. Part One - From Ancient Asia to Modern Chromatic Button Accordion', the textbook 'Technology for Achieving a Quality Tone in the Initial Accordion

Training', 11 articles and reports in magazines and collections from conferences in Bulgaria and abroad. All of them illustrate an in-depth knowledge of the studied subject matter, rich performance experience, a lasting interest in the accordion art issues and its evolution, as well as a precise, clear and meaningful scientific language. The teaching materials offer methodological solutions to a number of specific problems and they are illustrated with a variety of visual materials, which significantly facilitates the work of pedagogues, their pupils and students.

Among the printed music, the collections of author's arrangements for two accordions, as well as two CD recordings, stand out. Extremely valuable from a pedagogical point of view are the accompanying recordings which provide valuable insight into the interpretation of ensemble accordion music of different styles and genres. The collection is highly appreciated and it is used in accordionists' chamber music classes in the stages of their training and musical development.

The list of musical works arranged by Diana Stancheva for accordion ensembles /21/ is a valuable contribution to the accordion literature. They present a different view of classical popular works, they present the ample opportunities of the instrument and enrich the chamber music repertoire. The different styles provide a new perspective for accordionists and extend their professional horizons as interpreters.

The participation of Ch. Asst. Diana Stancheva, PhD in numerous national and international projects, master classes and workshops related to the development and popularization of Bulgarian accordion art, is impressive. Her professionalism has been highly appreciated and that is why she is an active member of juries in competitions in Bulgaria, Latvia, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Macedonia.

Her success as a pedagogue is evidenced by the impressive list of over 120 awards and distinctions received by her graduates from competitions and festivals in the country and abroad. There is a large number of awarded prizes and diplomas for high creative achievements, among which the Honorary Diploma for Contribution to the Development of Bulgarian Culture, given by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria in 2006, stands out.

From the materials provided by the candidate it becomes clear that the active pedagogical, creative and scientific activity exceeds the minimum

national statutory requirements. In conclusion of all the above, I support the candidacy of Ch. Asst. Diana Ivanova Stancheva, PhD and I suggest the honorable scientific jury to elect her for the academic position 'Associate Professor'.

22.07.2019

Assoc. Prof. Vesela Geleva, PhD

Plovdiv