

OPINION

by **Assoc. Prof Dr Anna Ilcheva Tsolovska,**

Associate Professor in Professional field: 8. 2. Fine Arts
Sofia University “St Kliment Ohridski”

on the procedure of the competition for awarding academic position

Associate Professor

in Professional field: 8. 2. Fine Arts, announced in SG 59/ 26.07.2019

by

Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts

“Prof Asen Diamandiev”, Plovdiv

Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Applied Arts

with candidate:

Dr Dinka Yakimova-Kasabova

According to the Order of the Rector of AMDFA “Prof Asen Diamandiev ” - Plovdiv No RD-27-052/ 24.09.2019, as a member of the scientific jury, I hereby present my *written opinion* on the qualities of the applicant and the evaluation of her habilitation work, thus participating in the procedure announced above.

The only candidate for the competition is Dr Dinka Yakimova-Kasabova. The documents and materials presented by Dr Dinka Yakimova-Kasabova are in compliance with the Rules on the terms and conditions for acquisition of academic degrees and occupation of academic staff at AMDFA. The documentation provided shows that the applicant has a diverse and rich teaching, theoretical and significant artistic and creative activity.

My evaluation of the candidate covers the following fields:

I. General characteristics and professional biography of applicant

1. On 12.07.2018 she acquires Doctoral degree in professional field 8.2. Fine Arts, New Bulgarian University, Design Department, doctoral program in Design.

The topic of her dissertation thesis is *The garment under the influence of space*.

The applicant works in the field of artistic, scientific, educational methodological and pedagogical activity.

2. She teaches **Clothing Design** at Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts “Prof Asen Diamandiev”, Plovdiv, and the disciplines Design, Fashion History and Textile Decoration.

She assists in the updating of the training programme for the Clothing Design specialty, and the creation of the new disciplines, such as Material Studies and PR & Advertising, and increasing the number of classes of Design and Modelling; also the creation and introduction of a new discipline History of Accessories and its syllabus, within the Master's programme.

3. Artistic activity

Costume designer for theatrical production *Masters*, staged at Drama Theatre "Nevena Kokanova", Dupnitsa.

Solo exhibition: on 09.09.2019, textile installation and drawings titled *Immersion*. The installation consists of textile objects that recreate garments immersed in water. The exhibition is within the Night of Museums and Galleries, Plovdiv. The event is covered in specialized Online Magazine for Textiles, Clothing, Leather and Technology, ISSN 2535-0447 of 12.09.2019.

She also participates at International Exhibition Mini-Textile-2019, Sofia, organized by the Textile Section of the Union of Bulgarian Artists in Sofia Press Gallery (19.04.2019-30.04.2019), fashion design exhibition with capsule fashion collection "Shape of Sands", presented at the showroom of Ivan Asen 22 Foundation, Sofia (06.06 - 30.06.2019); students and teachers exhibition "Continuity and Contemporary", PLOVEDIV Gallery (22.03.2019); joint exhibition "Teachers and Students", Balabanova House, Plovdiv (June 2018); fashion design exhibition with capsule fashion collection "Melting Like Chocolate", showroom of Ivan Asen 22 Foundation, Sofia (06-12.12.2018); fashion design exhibition with capsule fashion collection "Flower Power", showroom of Ivan Asen 22 Foundation, Sofia (07 – 30.06.2018); fashion show under the FUSION FASHION project in a team with the fashion designer Nelly Miteva at the COLIBANTAN Gallery of African Art, Barcelona (30.05.2019); conceptual design exhibition under the project "+7 HOURS", Sklad, Plovdiv (2019), in a team with the fashion designer Nelly Miteva, the project is part of the program "Focus: Japanese Culture" of Plovdiv 2019 Foundation; general textile exhibition "Nettle creations" within the framework the festival "Text Fest", AMDFA, gallery space of the Green School, Plovdiv, (12.07.2019).

4. The work of the applicant with undergraduate and doctoral students is in several directions:

Lectures, seminars, creative workshops, fashion shows and performance fashion shows, organizing student exhibitions and seminars, participation in committees, individual work with students, supervision of graduates, consultations and accreditation of course.

5. Participates in general academic projects and has provided evidence of theoretical and artistic achievement in arts.

6. She has 4 publications in specialized scientific publications for the said period.

II. Research activity:

The candidate, **Dr Dinka Kasabova**, submits, as part of the habilitation materials, the monograph *The garment under the influence of space*, written in the period indicated in the self-assessment provided. I think the book is fascinating and useful for both professionals, and students who have chosen the path of fashion design, as well as for anyone interested in the field. The work is largely based on internet sources, listed in the bibliography section of the edition, which makes it valuable source of information. The main scientific contributions are that the author places, the vastly researched history of the garment, in a perspective that considers the garment as part of the space and makes it a spatial problem.

The space, as a factor influencing the garment, is considered for the first time as a leading element in the creation and the metamorphoses of clothing, which creates prerequisites for the facts, interpreted until now, to be discussed differently.

In conclusion, in view of the aforementioned achievements of the applicant in the field of education, publishing and arts, I hereby give my **positive review** of her application for the competition, and propose **Dr Dinka Yakimova-Kasabova** to be awarded with the academic position **Associate Professor in 8.2. Fine Arts at Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts "Prof. Asen Diamandiev "- Plovdiv**

11. 11. 2019

Member of the Scientific Jury:

Prof Anna Tsolovska