

EVALUATION OPINION

by

Prof. Svilen Raychev, PhD*National Academy of Music “Prof. Pancho Vladigerov” – Sofia**regarding the candidate:***Kalina Ivanova Decheva, PhD**

In connection with the competition for occupying the academic position of
**Associate Professor in “Foreign Language Interpretation of the Musical
Piece”**

Professional Field 8.3. Music and Dance Art,

*pursuant to the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Music Pedagogy
at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts “Prof. Asen Diamandiev” –
Plovdiv*

Protocol No. 17 / 12th September, 2025

Kalina Decheva, PhD was born in Plovdiv, where she completed her secondary education at the English Language High School. She finished her higher education at **Veliko Tarnovo University “St. St. Cyril and Methodius”**, specializing in English Philology, and later at **Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”**, where she obtained degrees in Bulgarian Philology and a second specialization in English Language and Literature.

In 2025, she successfully defended her doctoral dissertation entitled “*Language as a Bonding Factor in Musical-stage Arts*”, acquiring the educational and scientific degree of **Doctor in Musicology and Musical Arts** (Diploma No. 121/18.02.2025).

Dr. Decheva teaches English at the **Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv**, where she works with students from a variety of performance disciplines, including opera singers, visual artists, musicians, and dancers.

In 2025, she published a scholarly monograph entitled “*Language in Musical Activities and the Field of Psychological Well-being*” (Plovdiv: Prof. Asen Diamandiev, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, 193 pages, ISBN 978-619-7682-48-9).

In accordance with the provisions of the **Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria** (ЗЗПАКРБ), its **Implementing Regulations**, as well as the

Regulations of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts “Prof. Asen Diamandiev” – Plovdiv, the candidate, **Kalina Decheva, PhD** has submitted the complete set of required materials and documents.

The report meets and exceeds the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of **Associate Professor in Professional Field 8: Arts**, and fully complies with the criteria for scholarly and creative contribution as defined in the Implementing Regulations of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria /ИИЗРАСРБ /.

Group A of indicators

Dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”:

"Language as a Bonding Factor in Musical-stage Arts"

Diploma No. 121 / 18.02.2025 /**50 points**/

Group B of indicators

Habilitation work – published monograph in the relevant scientific field.

I assess the published monograph *"Language in Musical Activities and the Field of Psychological Well-being"* as having high contributory value.

Plovdiv, AMDFA “Prof. Assen Diamandiev”; p. 193; 2025; ISBN: 978-619-7682-48-9 /**100 points**/

The monograph explores how the language in music affects listeners in the development of emotional stability and enhanced self-awareness.

Group Γ of indicators

Indicator 7. Published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”

"Language as a Bonding Factor in Musical-stage Arts"

Publisher: DeltaT; Plovdiv; p. 218; ISBN: 978-619-7579-03-1 /**75 points**/

Indicator 9. Articles and reports published in specialized journals in the field of arts
12 articles × 15 points each /**180 points**/

Group Д of indicators

Indicator 17. Citations in monographs and peer-reviewed collective volumes – 2 citations × 10 points /**20 points**/

Indicator 18. Citations or reviews in non-refereed journals with scientific peer review – 6 citations × 5 points /**30 points**/

Group E of indicators

Indicator 22. Participation in a national scientific, educational, or creative projects – 3 participations × 15 points **/45 points/**

Indicator 27. Published university textbook or teaching manual used in the school network
Specialized English Language Handbook for Arts Students
Kalina Decheva; AMDFA “Prof. A. Diamandiev,” Plovdiv; 2024; ISBN 978-619-7682-43-4
/20 points/

Indicator 28. Guidance of masterclasses, studios, or workshops in the field of arts – 4 lectures/workshops × 20 points **/80 points/**

In the report on the contributory nature of Dr. Kalina Decheva’s works and citations, her achievements stand out, including her monograph, the published book based on her defended dissertation, articles and reports published in specialized journals in the field of arts, and citations in monographs and peer-reviewed collective volumes. Her research activity demonstrates that she is very well acquainted with the theoretical literature and possesses a deep understanding of the characteristics of various genres and styles, particularly in the field of language and culture.

The academic position of *Associate Professor*, for which Dr. Kalina Decheva is applying, also presupposes a certain pedagogical orientation. I am pleased to note that the candidate has a serious, long-standing teaching practice at AMDFA “Prof. Assen Diamandiev” – Plovdiv, with significant contributions to the development of language awareness and proficiency at the institution. She successfully works to connect the educational process with students’ professional stage practice, a long-established educational tradition, tested over time and yielding clearly impressive results.

Her multi-faceted activity—pedagogical, scientific, and social—is characterized by intelligence, professional competence, ethical integrity, and social engagement. She is skilled in imparting and refining stylistic and dramaturgical parameters through the specifics of foreign-language interpretation, taking into account the respective level of student development. She provides guidance with patience and empathy in the process of applying and transforming technical language skills into aesthetically accomplished stage interpretations by young artists.

In conclusion, I would like to state that *Kalina Decheva, PhD*, possesses the necessary qualifications for the academic position of *Associate Professor*. I am confident in the contributions

reflected in the submitted reports and documents. Through her overall activity and achievements, the candidate meets the requirements for the academic position of **Associate Professor** in “**Foreign Language Interpretation of the Musical Piece**” within field **8.3 “Music and Dance Arts,”** and I recommend to the esteemed scientific jury that the title be conferred upon her.

Date: 30th October, 2025

Place: Sofia

Reviewer:

Prof. Svilen Raychev, PhD