

PEER REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Toni Dimitrova Shekerdzhieva-Novak,
Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”,
of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv
under a competition for the occupation of the academic position of “**Professor**”
in Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts”, specialty “**Piano**”,
at the Department of Piano and Accordion at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music,
Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, published in State Gazette, Issue 103 of 04.12.2020,
for the candidate **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Borisov Petkov**

General presentation of the procedure and the candidate:

The set of materials presented by the only candidate in the competition, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Petkov, is in accordance with the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, with the Regulations for its implementation, and the Regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees and the occupation of academic positions at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv: autobiography; reference for fulfillment of the minimum scientometric national requirements, according to the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, with the Regulations for its implementation, amended and supplemented in State Gazette, Issue 56 of 06.07.2018; and a synthesized excerpt from the overall professional practice of the candidate after his habilitation as an Associate Professor, characterizing the direction of his creative interests and artistic performances.

Biographical data of the candidate:

Born on 13.07.1959 in the City of Sofia, Lyudmil Petkov graduated from the Music High School in Plovdiv in the class of the prominent piano pedagogue Dzhuliya Girginova, with a diploma for high artistic achievements in the performing arts. In 1977, he was accepted as an active participant in the master class of Prof. Rudolf Kehrler in Weimar, and from 1980 to 1984 he was a student in the piano class of the famous Prof. Dzhuliya and Konstantin Ganevi.

Pedagogical and creative path:

His first full-time position is in the Music High School in Plovdiv as an Accompanist in the Department of String Instruments. Petkov’s **lasting interest** in **integral performances** dates from this period. The beginning is set with the seven sonatas for violin and general bass by Georg Friedrich Händel performed in one evening. This interest became a passion that marked his creative path in the future.

In 1985 Lyudmil Petkov won a competition for Part-time, and in 1987 for a **Full-time Assistant** at the Department of Piano and Accordion at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of

Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. In 1993 he was promoted to **Senior Assistant**, and since 1997 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petkov has been a **Chief Assistant** in the same Department.

In 2010 he won the competition for “Associate Professor” in the scientific specialty 05.08.02 “Musicology and Music Art (Piano)”. In 2012, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petkov enrolled in an art doctoral program and within six concerts performed 34 works for piano duo by Western European, Slavic, and Bulgarian composers. Of these, 11 works premiered in Bulgaria and 13 in Plovdiv. The educational and scientific degree “**Doctor**” in Musicology and Music Art was awarded to him **in 2016**.

The period from 1985 until 1997 was a period of active concert and pedagogical activity, combined with the musical and journalistic realization of the candidate – the fruit of his interest in musical aesthetics and criticism, provoked during his student years.

The period from 1993 until 1998 was marked by **active concert activity** in Germany. The beginning of his partnership with **the violinist Prof. Mario Hossen (Austria)**, with whom in addition to numerous concerts and participations in local and international festivals “Apollonia” – Sozopol, “Varna Summer” – Varna, the chamber festival in Linz (Austria), etc., he also realized a two-week tour in Taiwan (2001), released the **CD “Caprice Viennois”** in Austria, presented the Austrian musical culture in the concert part at the official inauguration of the Austrian Ambassador Mr. Prohazka in Paris, and recorded a second **CD – “Paganiniana”**. This CD, released by Gega New-Sofia, the duo dedicated to the **bright memory of Prof. Boris Petkov**, longtime soloist of the Plovdiv Philharmonic, and Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Music Pedagogy at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. The CD has been distributed on three continents and has received positive reviews from critics. There are numerous participations of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petkov in various large-scale international projects, which end with CDs released by reputable companies. The **instrumental trio “Plovdiv”** founded by him in 1998 is present in the cultural program of the city together with prominent Bulgarian poets, writers, and actors.

In the period from 1986 until 2012 Assoc. Prof. Petkov **performed dozens of solo and chamber concerts** (Prof. Aleksandar Spirov – violin; Simeon Simeonov (USA) – violin (within the International Festival of Chamber Music in Plovdiv); Hristo Marichkov (Germany) – violin, Deborah Marchetti (Switzerland) – violin; Prof. Elena Baldzhieva – soprano, Assoc. Prof. Kiril Grozdanov – flute, etc.), which featured sonatas from the chamber works of J. S Bach, W. A. Mozart, L. V. Beethoven, Fr. Schubert, C. M. von Weber, F. Mendelssohn, R. Schumann, J. Brahms, R. Strauss, C. Debussy, M. Ravel, A. Honegger, S. Prokofiev and others; song cycles by R. Schumann, J. Brahms, R. Strauss, G. Mahler; as well as solo works from all musical eras.

When we talk about Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Petkov as a **chamber musician**, we must highlight several marathons, including the **integral performance of 36 sonatas for piano and violin by W. A. Mozart**, within one day – on 23.12.2007 in the Concert Hall of the Plovdiv Philharmonic, with the participation of five violinists (concert presented by TV

Europe), as well as the **three-hour solo recital**, realized on 26.09.2008 on the stage of the Ancient Theater in Plovdiv, which featured **all waltzes of Fr. Chopin**. In 2015 Petkov gave a concert at Mozarthaus Vienna (Austria) and Verderonne (France), where he presented recitals of works by Mozart, Bach, Chopin, Schubert, Debussy, Satie, and Rachmaninoff, and together with **the soloist of the Bolshoi Theater and Palais Garnier Olga Seliverstova** performed works by French composers.

A very interesting aspect of the pedagogical and performing activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Petkov is manifested thanks to the opening of the specialties “Pop and Jazz Singing” and “Pop and Jazz Instrumental Art” at the Academy. This *“predetermined a parallel direction in my interests and development. With its depth and improvisational freedom, jazz culture complemented my concert and pedagogical activities, opening various opportunities for an adequate response to the rich spectrum of the interests of my students”*, says Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petkov. He is the **author of the programs** in the discipline “Piano” (compulsory instrument) in both above-mentioned specialties. He also created the **academic formations “LP Jazz Trio” and “Lamico Band”**.

He is the author of 7 peer reviews and opinions in connection with habilitations and competitions at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, and New Bulgarian University – Sofia.

In his pedagogical practice he **invariably acquaints his students with the works of Bulgarian composers**, especially those who are closely connected with Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv: **Prof. Ivan Spasov, Prof. Nikolay Stoykov, and Assoc. Prof. Ivan Dimov**. **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petkov participates in recordings, interviews, reports, and broadcasts** on BNT, BNT2, BTV, TV Europe, TV Eurocom, POTV, Orthodox Television Plovdiv, BNR, Radio Plovdiv, Austrian National Radio, and Taiwan National Radio. He has given concerts in Germany, Austria, France, Switzerland, Taiwan, Norway, Finland, and Sweden.

His pedagogical and teaching and methodical activities reveal his **rich, diverse, successful, and dedicated work as a lecturer**.

He actively involves young musicians in his concert performances and projects, thus trying to preserve in them *“the positive power of continuity in education and professionalism in art, to expand the horizons to which they aspire, and to inspire them with the confidence of artists”*. (L. P.)

Lyudmil Petkov was elected **Dean of the Faculty of Music Pedagogy** of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv in 2020 (at the faculty, whose Dean was Prof. Boris Petkov – father of Assoc. Prof. Dr. L. Petkov!)

For the achieved results in his artistic activity he **was awarded** the highest academic award of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv – “**Meden Chan**”.

Of particular importance for this competition is the fact that the candidate **meets the minimum scientometric indicators** required by the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for **occupation of the academic position of “Professor”**, as follows:

By group of indicators A – 50 points.

By group of indicators B, for Indicator 5 “Leading (independent) creative expression in the field of arts” – 140 points, upon necessary 100.

By group of indicators D, for Indicator 7 “Published book on the basis of a defended dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” – 75 points; Indicator 12 “Realized short author’s product in the field of arts” – 90 points; and Indicator 14 “Supporting creative expression” – 40 points, or a total of 205 points, upon necessary 150.

By group of indicators E, for Indicator 17 – 10 points and for Indicator 19 – 90 points, or a total of 100 points, upon necessary 80.

By group of indicators E, for Indicator 22 – 15 points, for Indicator 24 – 60 points, for Indicator 27 – 40 points, for Indicator 28 – 20 points, and for Indicator 30 – 10 points, or a total of 145, upon necessary 120.

After getting acquainted in detail with the documentation provided by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Petkov for his participation in this competition, I believe that the candidate **covers and even exceeds** the point requirements for the groups of **indicators** for scientometrics of the National Center for Information and Documentation.

The amount of evidence presented concerning the scientific and artistic production for the academic position of “Professor” is impressive in scope and nature and presents the candidate in many ways **as a serious author, performer, pedagogue, and scientist**.

Based on what has been said so far, **I give my positive assessment and propose** to the esteemed members of the scientific jury in the competition for “Professor” to select **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Borisov Petkov for the academic position “Professor” under Higher education field “Arts”, Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts” (Piano), for the needs of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv**.

24.03.2021

Prof. Dr. T. Shekerdzhieva-Novak