

OPINION

by

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on the announced in the State Gazette Issue 64 / 30.07.2024 competition for PROFESSOR in the professional field 8.3. 'Music and Dance Art', in the major 'Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements'.

In the announced competition for 'PROFESSOR' in the professional field 8.3. 'Music and Dance Art', in the major 'Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements' at *Prof. A. Diamandiev* AMDFA, Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova, PhD presented her candidacy. All documents submitted by her are in proper form and meet the legally required requirements.

Colleague Milena Bogdanova has an impressive professional biography. Her musical education includes: a master's degree in music pedagogy, acquired at the AMDFA in Plovdiv with professional qualifications: teacher of solfeggio and piano, music teacher in kindergarten, primary, secondary and senior courses; two-year postgraduate professional qualification in 'Methodology of Solfeggio Teaching'. In 2015, she defended a dissertation thesis on the topic 'Solfeggio with Piano Accompaniment' and acquired an educational and scientific degree 'PhD' in musicology and musical art. The wide spectrum of training makes Milena Bogdanova a teacher with deep knowledge and competence in the field of hearing musical education. She is currently a lecturer at the AMDFA in the disciplines Solfeggio; Theory of Musical Elements; Methodology of Solfeggio Teaching; Pedagogical Practice in Solfeggio; Methods and Psychotechniques for the Development of Musical Hearing. Over the years, Bogdanova has led dozens of practical musical hearing workshops, given public lectures, conducted lectures, and master classes. Her active participation in scientific conferences and forums reveals her as a researcher who traces in detail and in depth the complex nature of the process related to musical hearing perceptions and the possibilities and means for their development.

In this competition, among the materials presented by Assoc. Prof. M. Bogdanova, a monographic work on the topic '**Musical, pedagogical and theoretical views of Prof. Asen Diamandiev in the field of musical and hearing education**' and seven more publications closely related to the fundamental and at the same time diverse problems of hearing education and solfeggio issues stand out.

The monographic work pays tribute to one of the founders of the Bulgarian solfeggio school, prof. A. Diamandiev, the significance of his didactic tools, and traces the evolution of hearing education in Bulgaria in a global perspective. The historiographical overview in the first part of the study focuses on the meaning and role of the *Experience*, its value and significance, and the need to preserve, honour and enrich it. Part Two traces in detail and analytically the wide-ranging contributions of the theoretical and practical writings of Prof. Asen Diamandiev in the field of musical hearing theory and practice, his achievements in the development of the sense of tonality, the sense of metre. The role of the Bulgarian musical folklore in the hearing education is outlined, as well as the ways of directing the musical hearing to the perception of contemporary music. To this Assoc. Prof. Bogdanova also offers her methodological vision of the forms of work, psychological techniques for the development of hearing, a fact that builds on the scientific study and turns it into a kind of methodological guide for every young educator engaged in the problems of musical and hearing education. I accept this work as a logical consequence of a purposeful, serious pedagogical activity of many years and, at the same time, as a result of a personal inner necessity, motivated by the emotional teacher-student relationship, as Prof. Diamandiev is for Milena Bogdanova.

In the seven publications submitted for the competition, the range of the issues covered is impressive - from the historical perspective through the problem areas of hearing music education to the applied analysis and methodological approaches - as well as the contemporary vision of Assoc. Prof. Bogdanova's modern approach to the commented matter, focusing on the genesis of the phenomena. The outlined problem circle eloquently enough shows that the colleague Bogdanova is a specialist who not only masters her field of professional expression, but keeps active the essence of her entire scientific field. The scientific research of Assoc. Prof. Bogdanova reveals her commitment and involvement in the peculiarities of modern music education, they are fundamental and in this sense I evaluate them as significant, relevant and valuable.

The fact that the scientific works of Assoc. Dr. Bogdanova are widely cited in scientific monographs and articles proves their relevance and necessity.

Together with these scientific works Milena Bogdanova presents a book published on the basis of her defended dissertation – ‘Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with Piano Accompaniment - a Psychological Technique for the Development of Musical Hearing’. The work has a practical-applied character and is motivated by ‘the idea of pointing out new aspects to the forms and ways of working for the education of musical hearing in the teaching of solfeggio’. The problematics of *Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with accompaniment* are commented on both in broad terms and in detail. The historical aspects, theoretical and practical spaces of the subject are covered in order to trace the complex significance of the activity for the development of musical hearing. The role of *Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with accompaniment* in mastering the means of musical expression is explored, and its place among the main activities in solfeggio classes is justified. Each stage of the activity is systematized in a convincing way. The study has been

designed with young musicians in mind and prioritized for them. Structuring the content and presenting the ideas in a clear and systematic way makes the study particularly easy to apply.

Outside the scientific research and pedagogical activities Assoc. Prof. Bogdanova also performs as an accompanist on the concert stage. Her artistic performances complement her image as a musician with broad interests and culture.

On the basis of what has been said so far, I confidently propose to the members of the esteemed scientific jury to award the scientific position of **Professor** in the professional field 8.3 'Music and Dance Art' to Associate Professor Milena Bogdanova, PhD.