

## OPINION

by

Associate Professor TEODORA VASILEVA DIMITROVA, PhD  
in connection with the competition for the academic position of ‘Professor’  
announced in the State Gazette Issue 64/30.07.2024 in the PF 8.3. Music and Dance Art  
major ‘Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements’,  
for the needs of the Department of ‘Musical Pedagogy and Conducting’  
at the Faculty of ‘Musical Pedagogy’ of *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and  
Fine Arts – Plovdiv

The competition for the academic position of ‘Professor’ in the field of higher education Arts 8., professional field 8.3. Music and dance art, major ‘Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements’ is announced in the State Gazette Issue 64/30.07.2024 for the needs of the Department of Musical Pedagogy and Conducting at the Faculty of Musical Pedagogy of *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. One candidate has submitted documents for participation in the competition - Assoc. Prof. Milena Ivanova Bogdanova, PhD from *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

The entire professional path of Assoc. Prof. MILENA IVANOVA BOGDANOVA, PhD passes under the sign of musical and hearing training - education, research and pedagogical activity. Milena Bogdanova’s qualification passes through education at the *Lyubomir Pipkov Secondary School of Music - Sofia*, acquired master’s degree at the *Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv*, supplemented with the qualifications: *teacher of solfeggio and piano, music teacher* in kindergartens, primary, secondary and upper secondary schools, and a two-year *postgraduate professional qualification in ‘Methodology of Solfeggio Teaching’*. In 2015, she also acquired the *academic degree ‘PhD’ in Musicology and Musical Art* with the defense of a dissertation thesis on the topic ‘Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with Piano Accompaniment’.

Milena Bogdanova is the author of numerous scientific articles and reports in the field of musical hearing training methodology, music history, theory and psychology, published in Bulgarian and foreign scientific publications. She is an active participant in music-theoretical forums and conferences and visits national and international scientific and cultural centers, where she gives lectures and conducts practical classes.

From 1998 to the present, Milena Bogdanova has been a lecturer at *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv in the majors Solfeggio, Theory of Musical Elements, Methodology of Solfeggio Training, Pedagogical Practice in Solfeggio, Methods and Psychotechniques for the Development of Musical Hearing. Since 2012, she has been the secretary-coordinator of *Young Scientist* Academic Club at the AMDFA, Plovdiv, where she annually conducts and participates in scientific and

research projects.

The documents and materials submitted by the candidate meet the requirements of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations of *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. As a participant in the announced competition for the academic position of ‘Professor’, major ‘Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements’, *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, Assoc. Prof. Milena Bogdanova meets the minimum requirements according to the indicators of the scientific-metric table in the respective field of higher education as follows:

**Group A** - required minimum 50 points - 50 points achieved.

Dissertation Thesis for the award of the educational and qualification degree of PhD ‘*Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with Piano Accompaniment*’ - *a Means of Optimizing Musical Hearing Education*’

**Group B** - required minimum 100 points - 100 points achieved.

Habilitation thesis - published monograph in the relevant scientific field: ‘*Musical, pedagogical and theoretical views of Prof. Asen Diamandiev in the field of musical and hearing education*’, 2024, Plovdiv: Rakursi Ltd., ISBN: 978-619-7682-38-0 ; 160 pages of the edition.

**Group Г** - required minimum 150 points - 190 points achieved

Published book based on a defended dissertation: ‘*Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) with Piano Accompaniment*’- *psychotechnique for the development of ear for music*’, Plovdiv: Rakursi Ltd., 2022, ISBN: 978-954-2963-89-9; 125 pages of the edition.

**Group Д** - required minimum 80 points. - 170 points achieved.

Articles and reports published in specialized publications in the field of arts - 7 submitted for participation in the competition (out of a total of 29 – ‘*Theoretical and methodological contributions of Prof. Asen Diamandiev to the formation and development of metrorhythmic sense*’, ‘*On the music-theoretical discipline ‘Methods and psychotechnics for the development of musical hearing*’, ‘*Musical dictation and the Bulgarian course for its study*’, ‘*The activity ‘Solfeggiaring (sol-fa) mentally and aloud*’ - psychotechnics for the development of musical memory and inner hearing’, ‘*On didactic games in a solfeggio lesson*’, ‘*The canon and its multifunctional application in musical and hearing training*’, ‘*Subordinate Solfeggiaring*’. This group also includes a supporting creative expression or participation in a collective product in the field of arts - participation as a pianist - accompanist in a concert ‘In the world of classical music’ - 17.10.2020 Trakart Gallery, Plovdiv.

**Group E** - required minimum 120 points - 120 points achieved

Numerous citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review, 18 of which are described for participation in the competition.

The presented monographic work ‘**Musical, pedagogical and theoretical views of prof. Asen Diamandiev in the field of music and hearing education**’ is a detailed and in-depth study of the overall presence and contribution of a fundamental figure like Prof. Asen Diamandiev in the Bulgarian musical hearing education - theoretical thought, practical realization, innovative outlook. The first part of the work – ‘*Prof. Asen Diamandiev and the Bulgarian Professional School of Music Hearing Education*’ is

devoted to the objective prerequisites for the emergence of such a figure in the Bulgarian solfeggio school, as well as the place and contributions of prof. Asen Diamandiev. The second part of the work examines the author's musical didactic tools, classified according to their orientation - melodic sense, polyphonic sense, metrical sense, musical hearing education through the prism of folk rhythmic intonations, perception of contemporary music. In itself, with the depth and multifaceted perspectives of its study, this work is a contribution to the theoretical and practical literature in this field, but the personal element through which it is created (the student-teacher relationship) greatly enhances its suggestions and messages.

All the publications presented in the procedure are devoted to different aspects of musical hearing education, with a wide range of issues, are related to the genesis of phenomena of solfeggio and are oriented towards contemporary methodological approaches. Most of the publications reflect the search for researching and testing new pedagogical techniques and effective practices. As a result, the author's curriculum has been created as a response to contemporary demands and as a process of building on established and proven methods. The numerous citations are evidence of interest in Milena Bogdanova's work and an objective assessment of its value, echoed in the research of other authors.

On the basis of the materials presented in the procedure, as well as of the entire activity of the candidate, I give to the esteemed scientific jury my highest evaluation in support of the candidacy of Assoc. Prof. Milena Ivanova Bogdanova, PhD for the academic position of 'Professor' at *Prof. Asen Diamandiev* Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv, in Professional Field 8.3. Music and Dance Art, major 'Solfeggio and Theory of Musical Elements'.

November 25, 2024

Assoc. Prof. Teodora Dimitrova, PhD

Sofia