

PEER REVIEW

by Prof. STEFAN IVANOV HARKOV, Doctor of Arts

Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen, Sveti Kliment Ohridski Sofia University

regarding the candidacy of

Assoc. Prof. Dr. STELA BLAGOEVA MITEVA-DINKOVA

Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv

for occupation of the academic position

PROFESSOR OF CLASSICAL GUITAR

Higher Education field: 8. Arts; Professional field: 8.3 Music and Dance Arts

in a competition announced by

PROF. ASEN DIAMANDIEV ACADEMY OF MUSIC, DANCE AND FINE ARTS – CITY OF PLOVDIV,

Faculty of Music Pedagogy, Department of Orchestral Instruments and Classical Singing

(State Gazette, Issue 40 of 17.05.2019)

DATA ON THE CANDIDATE:

Stela Miteva-Dinkova was born in the City of Provadiya into a family of reputable professional musicians – the pianist Lyusi Miteva and the guitarist Blagoy Mitev. She inherited her parents' love for music. Miteva-Dinkova received her first guitar lessons from her father, after which she studied at the Dobri Hristov Secondary Music School in the City of Varna and at the Academy of Music and Dance Arts in Plovdiv (today, "Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts"). She specialized in master classes of famous guitarists such as Abel Carlevaro, Martin Rennert, Nikita Arnoldovich Koshkin and Georgi Vasilev. She also won her first prizes from international competitions at an early age.

In 1996 she was appointed as Assistant of Classical Guitar at the Academy of Music and Dance Arts – Plovdiv. In 2009 she became an Associate Professor with habilitation work on a topic in the field of guitar technique: "Characteristic Techniques in the Guitar Technique of the Left Hand". In 2016, Miteva-Dinkova presented and defended a dissertation on the topic: "Theoretical and Performing Aspects of Guitar and Orchestra Concerts by Joaquin Rodrigo (Concierto de Aranjuez, Fantasia Para Un Gentilhombre, Concierto Para Una Fiesta) before a scientific jury, for which she was

awarded the degree of “Doctor”. In 2019 the dissertation was published as a book (Plovdiv: FastPrintBooks, ISBN 978-619-236-118-1).

ARTISTIC AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY OF THE CANDIDATE:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova participates in the competition for “Professor of Classical Guitar” with the following creative and artistic production

I. Leading creative (concert) appearances:

1. Solo recitals in Bulgaria and abroad – five concert programs:

(a) 06.05.2010, Conservatoire de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland. The program was re-introduced on 17.05.2011 at the Karol Lipinski Academy of Music (Akademia Muzyczna im. Karola Lipińskiego), Wrocław, Poland. Performed works by: Plamen Arabov, Rosen Balkanski, Vladimir Vlaev, Ognyan Valev.

(b) 01.08.2014, Arion Guitar Festival (Φεστιβάλ Κιθάρας 'Αρίων'), Lesbos, Greece. Performed works by: Vladimir Vlaev, Sylvius Leopold Weiss, Fernando Sor, Rosen Balkanski, Plamen Arabov, Isaac Albenis, Nikolay Peev.

(c) 12.11.2016, Concert series of the American Guitar Association, Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC), Los Angeles, CA, USA. Performed works by: Vladimir Vlaev, Fernando Sor, Rosen Balkanski, Carlo Domeniconi, Isaac Albenis, Nikolay Peev.

(d) 20.04.2017, Thracian Guitar Festival (Φεστιβάλ Κιθάρας Θράκης), Komotini, Greece. The program was re-introduced on 22.07.2017 at the Festival Guitares en Cormatinois in France. Performed work by: Vladimir Vlaev, Rosen Balkanski, Carlo Domeniconi, Nikolay Peev.

(e) 15.03.2018, Trakart Cultural Center, Plovdiv. Performed works by: Carlo Domeniconi, Francisco Tárrega, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Rosen Balkanski, Isaac Albenis.

2. Chamber concerts with works for flute and guitar duets, realized jointly with Borislav Yassenov (flute) – three concert programs:

(a) 30.11.2012, Petko Staynov Music Festival, Kazanlak. Performed works by: Johann Sebastian Bach, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, Jacques Ibert, Astor Piazzolla.

(b) 09.11.2013, Autumn Music Celebrations Festival (Есенски музички свечености), Skopje, Northern Macedonia. Performed works by: Johann Sebastian Bach, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, Jacques Ibert, Astor Piazzolla, Nikolay Yordanov.

(c) 08.11.2018, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. Performed works by: Carlo Domeniconi, Massimo Diego Puchol, Astor Piazzolla, Celso Machado.

3. Chamber concert with works for guitar, violin and clarinet, performed jointly with Yosif Radionov (violin), Rosen Idealov (clarinet) and Rosen Balkanski (guitar):

(a) 03.04.2014, Festival Program of the Acad. Marin Goleminov Eighteenth International Classical Guitar Competition, Kyustendil. Performed works by: Joseph Kreuzer (Trio Op. 16), Filippo Gragnani (Quartet Op. 8).

4. Concerts with works for guitar and orchestra, for two guitars and orchestra, for three guitars and orchestra:

(a) 16.03.2012, Classical Guitar Days – Varna. Performed works by: Joaquin Rodrigo – Fantasia Para Un Gentilhombre.

(b) 02.04.2015, Festival Program of the Acad. Marin Goleminov Nineteenth International Classical Guitar Competition, Kyustendil. Performed works by: Antonio Vivaldi – The Four Seasons (Le quattro stagioni), processing for two guitars and an orchestra, performed jointly with Darko Bageski (Northern Macedonia).

(c) 01.12.2016, Third International Guitar Festival – Pleven. Performed works by: Rosen Balkanski – Fantasia Concertante, a concert for three guitars and an orchestra, jointly performed with Georgi Vasilev and Boyan Doychev.

II. Supporting creative (concert) performances: seventeen concert programs realized in the period 2009 – 2019 in Bulgaria and abroad (UK, Poland).

III. Chairperson and member of juries at national and international classical guitar competitions: Nine competitions in Plovdiv, Varna, Kyustendil, Pleven, Skopje (Northern Macedonia) Belgrade (Serbia), Nis (Serbia), Komotini (Greece) held in the period from 2010 until 2019.

IV. Participation in an international artistic project: EuroStrings – European Guitar Festival Collaborative under the European Commission Creative Europe Program for the period 2017 – 2021.

V. Published pier reviews for the creative and artistic work of Stela Miteva-Dinkova: eleven pier reviews published in the magazines “Musical Horizons” (Sofia: Union of Bulgarian Musicians and Dancers), “Guitar” (Sofia: Dobrev Music), “Art Spectrum” (Plovdiv: Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts) and “Classical Guitar Magazine” (Stringletter Media: Long Beach, California, USA) for the period from 2010 until 2019.

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY:

Assoc. Prod. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova participates in the competition for “Professor of Classical Guitar” with the following scientific production, published after her habilitation work for “Associate Professor” in 2009 and outside the publications based on her dissertation work, defended in 2016:

I. Scientific articles published in specialized editions in the field of Arts:

1. Two articles published in “Guitar” magazine (Sofia: Dobrev Music): No 2/2010 and No 1/2011

2. Two articles published in the Yearbook of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts (Plovdiv, Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts): 2012 and 2018.

3. Two articles published in the scientific papers of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts: Spring Scientific Readings in 2012 and Science, Education and Innovation in the Arts in 2017.

4. Three articles published in “Knowledge – International Journal” magazine (Skopje): Vol. 23.5, Vol. 26.3, Vol. 28.3.

II. Published academic aids: two teaching aids published in the publishing house of the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in 2017 and 2018.

III. Published opinions and peer reviews in specialized scientific publications: eight in total, published in the “Musical Horizons” (Sofia: Union of Bulgarian Musicians and Dancers), “Guitar” (Sofia: Dobrev Music), “Art Spectrum” (Plovdiv: Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts) in the period from 2012 until 2019.

IV. Participation with reports and lectures in scientific events: five papers and two lectures in Bulgaria and abroad, delivered in the period from 2014 until 2018.

V. Participation in a scientific jury: two participations at the Prof. Pancho Vladigerov National Music Academy – Sofia and one participation at Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University – Plovdiv.

VI. Editorial and consulting activities for the publishing of books and collections of music: four in total, published in Plovdiv and Varna in the period from 2013 until 2017.

TEACHING AND TRAINING ACTIVITY OF THE CANDIDATE:

It is clear from the enclosed information on the teaching workload (prepared by the Training Department at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts) attached to the competition documents

that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova teaches mainly on the subject “Guitar” with over 400 lessons per year. She also teaches in the following subjects: “Guitar Ensemble”, “Guitar Pedagogical Practice”, “Guitar Teaching Methodology” and “Guitar History”.

In the period 2010 – 2018, students from the class of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miteva-Dinkova received numerous awards from international classical guitar competitions: seven first prizes, eleven second prizes, four third prizes. The Academica Guitar Ensemble at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts lead by her has also received five first prizes.

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITY:

Among the organizational activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stela Miteva-Dinkova, the management of the Academica Guitar Ensemble at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts stands out. Over the last decade, this ensemble has grown creatively and has become a standard for ensemble music on classical guitar in Bulgaria. It has collaborated with well-established concert guitarists and Bulgarian composers also create works for the ensemble. Today, the ensemble is already at the height of a representative ensemble for the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts.

The other organizational activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miteva-Dinkova include the management of seven educational and artistic projects at the Academy in the period from 2011 until 2018 and her participation in the management of the Fire of Orpheus Foundation (since its foundation in 2007).

CONCLUSION:

The teaching, creative, artistic, scientific and organizational achievements of Stela Miteva-Dinkova give full grounds for confidence in her ability to enrich the activity of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts as a habilitated lecturer holding the high academic position of “Professor”. I strongly recommend to the honorable members of the Scientific Jury to elect **Assoc. Prof. Dr. STELA MITEVA-DINKOVA** as **PROFESSOR OF CLASSICAL GUITAR** (Higher Education field: 8. Arts, Professional field: 8.3. Music and Dance Arts) at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv.

03.08.2019

Reviewer:

(Prof. Stefan Harkov, Doctor of Arts)