

PEER REVIEW

by

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Full-time Professor of Piano

Dean of the Faculty of Music Pedagogy

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

appointed as a member of the scientific jury

with Order of the Rector No ПД-27029/27.05.2021

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**in a competition for the occupation of the academic position “ASSOCIATE
PROFESSOR”**

Higher Education field 8 “Arts”

Professional field 8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”

specialty “History of Pop and Jazz Music”

to the Music Pedagogy and Conducting Department

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

announced in State Gazette, Issue 26/30.03.2021,

with candidate: Chief Assistant Dr. Zhan Stefanov Pehlivanov

The materials submitted by the only candidate in the competition, Zhan Pehlivanov, are in accordance with the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation, and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquisition of scientific degrees and occupation of academic positions at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts (10 in number).

Zhan Pehlivanov was born in 1965 in the City of Plovdiv. In 1977 he graduated from Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv, majoring in Music Pedagogy, as his level under the national qualification is a Master’s degree, and Doctor in 2020. He speaks English and Russian (B1). His technical skills and competencies are in the areas of work with specialized equipment for sound recording and sound reproduction, audio synchronization, work with computers, as well as communication via the Internet. The qualifications of Zhan Pehlivanov are of a music teacher and a piano teacher. His artistic skills and competencies are clearly expressed through the concert activities of the Intro Quartet (both on the Bulgarian and international stage), of which Zhan Pehlivanov is artistic director and producer.

I am familiar with the activity of Zhan Pehlivanov from its very beginning in 2000. The very duration of this observation gives a definite assessment of his successful work as an academic lecturer. Dr. Pehlivanov has a keen sensitivity to all innovations, and is diverse in his approach to the material that is being taught, responsible, and captivating in the presentation of his knowledge, richly informed, always in touch, and always dedicated to his students. With his entire activity Zhan Pehlivanov illustrates the type of lecturer with flexible and modern thinking, perfectly fitting into the general progressive pulse of the Academy as a whole.

I am pleased to emphasize the fact that the point attribute, illustrating the teaching activities of the candidate is protected in content, and not formally or imitatively in the various modules of the requirements of the table to fill in the evidentiary information. Regarding the minimum scientometric indicators provided by the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for occupation of the academic position of “Associate Professor”, the results of the candidate are the following:

- *By group of indicators A* – 50 points (defended dissertation)
- *By group of indicators C* – from indicator item 4 (realized author’s product in the field of arts – film, performance, exhibition, concert, producer, etc.) – 200 points upon necessary 100. Here is the place to emphasize the prestigious nature of the forums (the national holiday of the Republic of Bulgaria, the presidency of Bulgaria in the Council of the European Union, as well as the places where the concerts took place – Ancient Theater – Plovdiv, Complex-Hall SILA – Plovdiv, Kolumnowa Hall – Warsaw, the Bulgarian Embassy in Paris, Large Ballroom).
- *By group of indicators D*, for the coverage of which 120 points are needed, Zhan Pehlivanov presents:
 - from item 7 (published book on the basis of a defended dissertation) – 75 points.
 - item 9 (articles and reports published in specialized publications in the field of arts) – 45 points;
 - item 12 (realized short author’s product) – 15 points.Or a total of 135 points
- *By group of indicators E* – upon a necessary minimum of 40 points, the candidate presents:
 - item 17 (citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review) – 8 citations, which bring him 80 points;
 - item 19 (reviews for realized author’s products or creative performances in specialized editions in the field of arts) – 10 points;

In total, the Group E indicators have 90 points.

Obviously, given the twice exceeded volume of requirements under indicator E, Zhan Pehlivanov has limited himself to only one review of his respectable creative work.

- In the last *group of indicators F*, upon a necessary minimum of 50 points, the candidate presents activities in:
 - item 22 (participation in a national, scientific, educational, or artistic project) – 15 points;
 - item 24 (management of a national, scientific, educational, or artistic project) – 90 points;

- item 28 (management of a master class, studio, or workshop in the field of arts)
– 20 points.

In total, the indicators are expressed by 125 points.

The repeatedly exceeded minimum national requirements for scientific, teaching, and artistic activity show the enviable activity of the candidate in the field of his competencies. Serious and responsible for his duties as an academic lecturer, Zhan Pehlivanov is constantly expanding and renewing his artistic and research horizons. As an artistic director, arranger, and producer of the Intro Quartet, he managed to impose and maintain over time high professional standards, comparable to the best European quality. Responsive and up-to-date lecturer, Zhan Pehlivanov inspires the creative potential and scientific thinking of his students, giving them a solid motivation in their future lives as artists. Last but not least, I consider Zhan Pehlivanov to be a valuable colleague, supporting the ethical and moral egregore of our academic community.

That is why I give my positive assessment and I strongly suggest to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to choose **Chief Assistant Dr. Zhan Stefanov Pehlivanov** for the academic position “**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**” in the Higher Education field **8. “Arts”**, Professional field **8.3. “Music and Dance Arts”**, specialty “**History of Pop and Jazz Music**” for the needs of Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – City of Plovdiv.

09.07.2021
Plovdiv

Respectfully:
Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Petkov

