

REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Simo Lazarov

on the contribution of the pedagogical, research and
creative activity

at

Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Toshev Traychev, PhD

for the announced competition for “**Associate Professor**” at NBU in the field of higher
education 8. Arts,

professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art (Sound engineering, Sound Design, Music
Theory and Arrangement)

I. Reference

Emil Traychev was born on 1 November 1966 in Pleven into a family of musicians. He completed his secondary education at the School of Music "Panayot Pipkov" in Pleven, majoring in bassoon and piano (1985). As a student he won the 2nd prize for "Young Performers of Wind and Percussion Instruments" in Targovishte (1984).

In 1987, he was accepted as an orchestrator in the Vratsa Philharmonic Orchestra, and then in the Military Wind Orchestra in Vratsa with a specialty in saxophone. He was one of the musicians in the jazz formation "Sofia" at the Municipal Cultural Institute "Nadezhda" - Sofia. He has played with famous musicians such as Vlayo Vlaev, Lyudmil Georgiev, Dimitar Simeonov and others. He has performed at jazz festivals in Sofia, Plovdiv, Ruse, etc. (1990). From 1994 to 2000 he was a member of the group "City Lights", performing club concerts in Norway, Finland, Denmark, etc.

Since 2001 he has been an arranger and musician in Ku-Ku Band and as a part of this formation he has over 2000 sheet music arrangements with appearances in music TV formats such as "Slavi's Show", "Music Idol", "Sing with Me", "The Voice of Bulgaria", "Ku-Ku Band Music Academy", "Five Stars", "Singing Families", "Game of Choirs" and others. In "Slavi's Show" there are over 3000 shows as an arranger with world stars such as: Zucchero, Manhattan Transfer, Judas Priest, Wonder Girls, Planet X, Nigel Kennedy, Milcho Leviev, Chris Norman (Smokie), Ishtar, Mezzo Forte, Joe Lynn Turner (Rainbow), David Coverdale (Whitesnake), Glenn Hughes (Deep Purple), John Andersen (Yes), Nick Mason (Pink Floyd) and more.

His arranging work is also associated with a number of Bulgarian artists: Silvija Katsarova, Kamelia Todorova, Orlin Goranov, Nelly Rangelova, Petya Buyuklieva, Toni Dimitrova, duet Riton, etc. He has done sheet music arrangements of Miro's entire album "Messiah". He participated as a band arranger in "On Sunday with...." (2009-2011) on BNT. He has been a member of Musicautor since 2002.

In 2010, she graduated from the Faculty of Primary and Preschool Pedagogy and received her Master's degree in 2011 from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". Since 2019 he is an assistant professor at the Music Department of the NBU.

The modern innovative digitalization of the music, software, recording and sound reproduction industries has led to changes in the approach and quality of performance and to changes in the educational process. The scientific and practical application of this activity requires a new view of the ever-changing picture in this complex sphere of human life. The scientific approach to the subject is now mandatory in order to analyze the problems of artistic and creative activity and the practical application both in the teaching methodology and in the practical implementation.

Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD combines the practical and theoretical view of his musical career. A brief account of his academic growth reads as follows:

From 2018 with the defense, held on 13.07.2018 (protocol No714), of the doctoral thesis "Orchestration and arrangement as a means of stimulating creative invention. Principles and Possibilities" became a PhD student at New Bulgarian University and began teaching music theory courses and synthesizer at NBU.

In 2021 he was appointed to the academic position of "Senior Assistant Professor" in professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art (Sound engineering, Arrangement and Orchestration, Sound Design) at the Department of Music of New Bulgarian University.

The work of Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD in teaching and practical plan creates conditions for focusing in three main directions: pedagogical, scientific and concert activities. This broadens his creative approach to research activities related to teaching and music making.

II. Teaching and Research Activities

In the analysis of the activities of the candidate for the academic position of “**Associate Professor**” is his academic growth, and of great importance is also research activities.

At the basis of the research of Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD are the problems of programming and interpretation, the methodology of teaching electronic musical instruments and software. Over the years, the themes of his research and creative work, as well as in his works and publications, have been precisely these topics:

Traychev, E. *Orchestration and arrangement as a means of stimulating creative invention*. Sofia: Vanguard Prima, 2019, ISBN 9786192392062, p. 207

Traychev, E. 2023. *Musical innovations - from the lyre of Orpheus to electronic musical instruments and computer technology* -In: scientific journal Doctoral Academy, No 4 , ed. "Veda Slovenija - ŽG", ISSN 13140 - 8664

Traychev, E. 2023. *The profession of a sound engineer - trials in live broadcasts*. - In: scientific journal "FemAcoustica", No10, ISSN 2367-7066

Traychev, E. 2018. *Arrangement as a kind of creative process*. FemAcoustica 6. [CD]. ISSN 2367-7066.

Traychev, E.2016. *Approaches of computer music creation*-In: scientific journal "FemAcoustica", No4,ISSN 2367-7066

The scientific publications of Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD and their applied value are convincing.

His teaching activity exceeds the norms of the required horary.

His participation in national and international scientific, educational or artistic-creative projects contributes to the realization of the link between active teaching and realization. This is complemented by participation in and national and international scientific artistic-creative projects.

It is also a testament to the scientific path of his scientific development.

The period for which the review of the contributions of the scientific and artistic activity Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD is to a large extent voluminous and saturated. And it is here that his growth can be traced. The detailed list of activities in the self-evaluation form is precise, which also shows the criteria necessary for the case to establish the quality of these activities.

III. Publications

Publications in the form of creative compositional and arranging activities total more than the minimum required.

The practical activities are related to a realised authorial product in the field of the arts, and this is where the contributory character of this activity lies:

Composing the piece for string quintet "Passion, Revelation and Inspiration", broadcast in "Pictures of Bulgaria No 5" in the "Horizon" program of the Bulgarian National Radio, 2019. The work was part of the second concert of the summer program of the Gabrovo Chamber Orchestra, 15.07.2022, Gabrovo.

Composing the electronic music piece "*Falling in Love with Hades*", broadcast in "Currents of Bulgaria No 6" in Horizon programme, BNR, 10 December 2022.

Musical work "*Hades and Persephone*", broadcasted in "Pictures of Bulgaria No4" in "Horizon" programme of Bulgarian National Radio, 2019.

Arrangements of Renaissance songs from the album of Ku-Ku Band and Slavi Trifonov "Songs for Bulgarians", 2018.

Arrangements of "Game of Choirs" on bTV, in "Slavi's Show", 2016.

Orchestrations and arrangements of the concert "Messiah. Volume II. Resurrection", album and concerts in 2015.

Arrangement and composition of the song "Elkhovi les" performed by Valeria Stoyanova, 2019.

Arrangement and composition of the song "The Guilt in Me" performed by Ani Sarandeva. The song participated in the competition "Burgas and the Sea", 2016.

Arrangement of Michael Jackson's "Smoot criminal"

IV. Statement of compliance with minimum national requirements

The necessary minimum national requirements for the groups of indicators related to the scientific, teaching and artistic activity of the Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD, which are defined in the Annex by scientific fields and professional fields for the academic position of Associate Professor, based on the indicators of the Act on development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, exceed the required number of points.

V. Citation Reference

The practical and theoretical contributions of Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD, reflected in the citations, are as follows:

Yanev, Emil. A New Reading of Arrangement - about Emil Traychev's book "Orchestration and Arrangement as a Means of Stimulating Creative Invention" [Review]. Doctoral Academy, No 4 , ed. "Veda Slovenija - ŽG", ISSN 13140 - 8664

Cited from: BECHEVA, Rosica. Composition in electronic and electroacoustic music-aesthetic approaches. FemAcoustica [online]. 2022, (9), pp. 13-17 [accessed 03 November 2022]. ISSN 2367-7066. Available from: https://issuu.com/tsanibaytchev/docs/_9 [p.16].

Cited from: POPOV, Todor. Electronic sound design in DJing as a creative activity. FemAcoustics [online]. 2021, (8), pp. 69-74 [accessed 26 October 2022]. ISSN 2367-7066. Available at: <https://www.yumpu.com/bg/document/read/66323163/-8> [pp. 70, 74].

Cited from: SLAVINSKA, Rada. The Musical form Building the in the Folklore Choir Songs of Krasimir Kiurkchiisky. Building the form in the folk choir songs of Krasimir Kiurkchiisky. Knowledge [online]. 2020, vol. 38(6), pp. 1501-1505 [accessed 26 October 2022]. ISSN 2545-4439. Available from: <https://ikm.mk/ojs/index.php/KIJ/article/view/1303> [p. 1504]

The reviews are related to his performances in the field of electronic and computer music:

STANCHEVA, Maria. Music as an image connected with experience. About Emil Traychev's book "Orchestration and Arrangement as a Means of Stimulating Creative Invention" [Review]. Cultural News [online]. 07.06.2022 [accessed 26 October 2022]. Available from: <https://kulturni-novini.info/sections/64/news/34871-muzikata-kato-obraz-svarzan-s-prezhivyavane>

BECHEVA, Rositsa. "Passion, revelation and inspiration" - Music by Emil Traychev [Review]. FemAcoustica [online]. 2022, (9), pp. 35-38. Available from: <https://files.fm/f/tjat5uzhn>

VI. Evaluation of the results of participation in research and creative projects and application of the results in practice

The scientific research and artistic activities of Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD prove the great creative potential and activity. These activities require both standard and sometimes non-standard approaches, and he solves problems quickly and with good results. The reference shows the contributory character of his scientific and artistic activity.

VII. Teaching and Learning Activities

The teaching and pedagogical activity of the head. Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD reflects the number of successfully completed scientific projects. This activity is related to his teaching activity in the Master's and Bachelor's programmes and shows the versatility of the courses in which he lectures. Some of them are specialized in detail, which increases their value.

- MUSB581 Music Acoustics Part I and II
- MUSB883 Studio Equipment and Technology Parts I and II
- MUSB701 Audio Design Software
- MUSB580 Fundamentals of Sound engineering Part I and II
- MUSM624 Implementation and Promotion of Recorded Production
- MUSB892 Sound Editing
- MUSM383 Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles Part I

VIII. Administrative and public activities

The academic activity of the Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD gives him the opportunity to participate in seminars, conferences and creative projects. He transmits his knowledge and skills to students and combines the theoretical with the practical part. He willingly participates in scientific and creative projects of the Department of Music, and develops active teaching and creative activity. He develops and implements projects involving faculty and students. Actively collaborates in the tone engineering studio at the RTC of the NBU and in the UPIZ "Center for Computer Music and Computer Sound Processing "Stanislav

Stanchev-Stanli". Its main goal is that in the process of training the students can acquire skills to realize their final product - audio and video recording.

As project leader for scientific and artistic activities and the organization of concerts related to them and Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD shows himself as a good organizer.

IX. Personal impressions of the candidate

My personal impressions of the candidate relate to his professionalism. His skills as a multi-instrumentalist are impressive and it is a challenge for students to follow his example. His work at NBU proves his purposeful attitude as a teacher in mastering the set tasks and activities. He achieves the set learning and artistic goals in the implementation of projects by students and faculty.

In accordance with the Regulation on the employment of lecturers at NBU, the head Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD has fulfilled the norm with classroom and extracurricular courses.

X. Comments, recommendations and observations on the activities and achievements of the candidate

I can state with certainty that the work on the projects that the Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD leads and participates in have a good response. This activity is valuable and brings its results.

My recommendations regarding his activity include a wish for development in the direction he has taken to raise the level of both the training of students and their realization as future specialists and musicians. I would be committed to offer my knowledge and skills to support any new project or idea of his.

XI. Contributions

The account of the whole activity of the head Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD proves the professional approach to achieve results. As a lecturer his teaching methodology has an innovative theoretical-practical foundation, the results of which are convincingly evident.

The report on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements according to the Law on Education and Training proves that the minimum national requirements, points by

groups indicators related to scientific, teaching and artistic activity, for the attainment of the academic post of “**Associate Professor**” - have been met.

Creative efforts of active teaching and professional work are an important contributing element. High artistry and musicianship are the other contributing element. The picture of contributions is completed by the diversity of activities, I acknowledge the contributory nature of the artistic creation and the enormous comprehensive activity of Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD which he carries out in his official and creative activities, and this gives me reason to vote with conviction for the position of “**Associate Professor**”

Considering all the above, as well as the presence of all the necessary qualities of the candidate, I propose to the members of the Honorable Scientific Jury to elect Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD for the academic position of “**Associate Professor**” at New Bulgarian University in the professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art (Sound engineering, Sound Design, Music Theory and Arrangement).

Sofia, 08.04.2024

Signature:

/Prof. Simo Lazarov, PhD/