#### **STATEMENT**

#### by Assoc. Prof. Tsanimir Lyubomirov Baychev, PhD

on competition for "Associate Professor" in professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art (Sound engineering, Sound Design, Music Theory and Arrangement) for the needs of New Bulgarian University

Government Gazette 5/16.01.2024.

# **Competition data**

The competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" is announced for the needs of New Bulgarian University. All the requirements of the Law and the Regulations on the conditions and procedure for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at New Bulgarian University have been complied with. Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD is the only candidate for the academic position of Associate Professor. From the submitted materials it is evident that he has fulfilled the minimum national requirements under Article 2b, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Law on Research and Development and the additional university requirements under Article 5 of the Rules for the collection, updating and use of scientific and metric data at NBU.

## **Details of the applicant**

Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD obtained a Master's degree in Music Pedagogy, Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski", 2011. In 2018 he defended his dissertation on the topic. Bachelor courses: Fundamentals of Sound Design, Computers and Music, Music Acoustics, Studio, Instrumentation, Studio Equipment and Technology, Audio Design Software, Sound Editing, Practice: Audio and Video Design, Practice: Sound and Video Design and Performance, Practice: Studio, Practice: DJ and VJ Recording Systems, Practice: Sound Engineering. Masters courses: Implementation and Promotion of Record Production, Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles part, Jazz and Pop Improvisation, Internship: Sound Engineering.

**Teaching and training:** supervisor of 2 bachelor's theses and 1 master's thesis; scientific supervisor of more than 10 thesis projects for state examination; supervisor and consultant of student creative projects.

**Main research interests:** creative activity in the field of sound design, electronic and computer music, tone engineering, sound editing, arrangement and composition, performance, musical training in bassoon, saxophone, bass guitar and piano.

Creative performances: Since 1987 he has been an artist-orchestrator in the Vratsa Philharmonic Orchestra, and then in the Military Wind Orchestra in "Vrana" with a specialty in saxophone and the Jazz Formation "Sofia" at the Municipal Cultural Institute "Nadezhda". As a member of the group "City Lights" he performed club concerts in Norway, Finland, Denmark. 2001-2018 has over 2500 sheet music arrangements with appearances in music TV shows such as "Slavi's Show", "Music Idol", "Sing with Me", "The Voice of Bulgaria", "Music Academy Ku-Ku Band", "Five Stars", "Singing Families", "Playing Choirs", etc. He has had

the opportunity to work with some of the most famous Bulgarian artists Milcho Leviev, Silvia Katsarova, Kamelia Todorova, Orlin Goranov, Nelly Rangelova, Petya Buyuklieva, Toni Dimitrova, duet Riton, etc. and with foreign artists such as Zucchero, Manhattan Transfer, Judas Priest, Wonder Girls, Planet X, Nigel Kennedy, Chris Norman. He is the composer of the musical works "Hades and Persephone", broadcast in "Pictures of Bulgaria No 4" on the Bulgarian National Radio's Horizon programme, 2019, a piece for string quartet Passion, Revelation and Inspiration, broadcast in "Pictures of Bulgaria No 5", performed on the Bulgarian National Radio's Horizon programme, 2021, and a piece for electronic music "Falling in Love with Hades".

Emil Traychev has participated in national and international projects (26 in number):

- 1. 2001- 2021, over 2500 sheet music arrangements (details are given above in this opinion).
- 2. Author of a piece for string quintet "Passion, Revelation and Inspiration", broadcast in "Pictures of Bulgaria No 5" in the "Horizon" programme of the Bulgarian National Radio, 2019. Gabrovo.
- 3. Author of a piece for electronic music "To fall in love with Hades", broadcast in "Pictures of Bulgaria No6" in the "Horizon" programme, BNR, 10 December 2022.
- 4. Author of the musical work "Hades and Persephone" (details above)
- 5. Made arrangements of Renaissance songs from the album of Ku-Ku Band and Slavi Trifonov "Songs for Bulgarians", 2018.
- 6. Arrangements of "Game of Choirs" on bTV, in "The Show of Slavi", 2016.
- 7. Orchestrations and arrangements of the concert "Messiah. Volume II. Resurrection", Album and concerts in 2015.
- 8. Arrangement and composition of the song "Elkhovi les" performed by Valeria Stoyanova, 2019.
- 9. Arrangement and composition of the song "The Guilt in Me" performed by Annie Sarandeva. The song participated in the competition "Burgas and the Sea", 2016.
- 10. Arrangement of "Smoot criminal" by Michael Jackson, 2017.
- 11. 2019-2022 Participant in the international project "Enhancing the digital competencies and entrepreneurship skills of academic musicians in Serbia for culturally more engaged society /DEMUSIS" participation with papers in seminars and conferences.
- 12. Participant in "Antifona Dulcis Armonia" concert for two cellos and orchestra, together with Maestro Nayden Todorov, Attilia Kiyoko Cernitori, Liliana Kehayova, Mario Hossen and Camerata Orfica" CD dedicated to the 30th anniversary of New Bulgarian University recording organizer, 2022.
- 13. Technical provision, recording and post-production of the sound of a piano concert of Doach Bezdius, GHG, 29.10.2022.
- 14.Technical provision, recording and post-production of sound at a premiere performance of Simo Lazarov's work "Timbral Fantasies" 6, Hall of the Union of Bulgarian Composers, 20.10.2022.
- 15. "NBU Christmas Concert", Bulgaria Hall, December 2021 video recording, sound recording and post-production of sound, supervision of students of tone direction. 16. Doach Bezduz Piano Concert, Bulgaria Hall, 7 December 2021 video recording,

sound recording and post-production of sound.

- 17. Author's concert "The Music of Stefan Dragostinov", Bulgaria Chamber Hall,
- 19.11.2021 video recording and sound postproduction
- 18.Recording of a concert by Viktoria Marinova on Nona Krincheva, RTC of NBU, 25.03.2022.
- 19. CD "Tradition and Future 30 years of New Bulgarian University" Recording and post-production for a CD with masterpieces of classical, romantic and contemporary music, related to professors and honorary doctors of the NBU. All the works have been performed in the last 10 years by the Academic Orchestra "Camerata Orfica NBU" within the concert cycle "Soloists-interpreters" in NPC, Bulgaria Hall, Varna Summer, etc.
- 20. Participation with student conductors in the 3rd Days of Arts at New Bulgarian University "Musical Art Broadcasting on the Air", 26.5.2020.
- 21. Participation with papers in the National Conference "ACOUSTICA-FEMA Sofia" (within the International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music").
- 22. National Conference "Acoustics-FEMA" (in the framework of the XVI International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music 2017") Participation with a paper on "Principle of Optimization of the Learning Process", 06.12.2017
- 23. From 2018 to 2023 participant in the International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music", project leaders prof. Prof. Simo Lazarov and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rositsa Becheva organization of events, supervision of student tone directors.
- 24. Organization and sound recording of the concert of the guitarist from Austria Alexander Svete on 24.01.2020, NBU UniArt Gallery.
- 25. Participation in the 5th International Chamber Music Competition "Svoge", 20.05.2016.
- 26. International project "Synthesis of Arts". In this interdisciplinary project students from all art departments of NBU participate. Participation with the guidance of students of tone direction and with an original musical work, included on a CD presented on BNR, 2022.

### **Description of scientific works:**

Emil Traychev presents the following publications (7 articles and 1 monograph):

- 1. Traychev, E. 2019. Orchestration and arrangement as a means of stimulating creative invention. Sofia: Vanguard Prima, ISBN 9786192392062, p. 207.
- 2. Traychev, E. 2023. "Musical Innovations from Orpheus' Lyre to Electronic Musical Instruments and Computer Technologies" In.

Academy", ed. "Veda Slovena - ŽG", ISSN 13140 - 8664, pp. 7-15.

- 3. Traychev, E. 2023. The profession of a sound engineer trials in live broadcasts. In.
- 4. Traychev, E. 2022. Electronic music in the digital world. -In: scientific journal "FemAcoustica", No9, ISSN 2367-7066
- 5. Traychev, E. 2021. Acquisition of sound engineering knowledge and skills by students in pandemic conditions. In: "FemAcoustica" No8, ISSN 2367-7066
- 6. Traychev, E. 2019. Professional notetaking computer programs. B:
- "FemAcoustica" No7, ISSN 2367-7066, pp. 71-74
- 7. Traychev, E. 2018. Arrangement as a kind of creative process. In.

No. 6. [CD]. ISSN 2367-7066

8. Traychev, E. 2016. Approaches of computer music creation. B:

"FemAcoustica, No4, ISSN 2367-7066

## Participation in scientific forums:

- 1. National Conference "Acoustics-FEMA" (within the framework of the XXI International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music 2022") Participation with a paper on "Electronic Music in the Digital World", 07.12.2022, NBU.
- 2. Organizer and presenter of the Ninth Review of Achievements in Sound Engineering 2021", NBU, 29.09.2022.
- 3. Organizer and presenter of the Eighth Review of Achievements in Sound Engineering 2021", NBU, 23.06.2021.
- 4. National Conference "Acoustics-FEMA" (in the framework of the XX International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music 2021") Participation with a paper on "Acquisition of sound engineering knowledge and skills by students in the pandemic conditions", 3.12.2021, FNTS.
- 5. National Conference "Acoustics-FEMA" (within the XIX International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music 2020") Participation with a paper on "Professional computer notation programs", 26.04.2021, NBU.
- 6. National Conference "Acoustics-FEMA" (within the XVIII International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music 2019") Participation with a paper on "Professional notation computer programs", 6.12.2019, FNTS.

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- 7. National Conference "Acoustics-FEMA" (in the framework of the XVI International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music 2017") Participation with a paper on "Principle of optimization of the learning process", 06.12.2017.
- 8. National Conference "Acoustics-FEMA" FNTS (in the framework of the XV Anniversary International Forum-Festival "The Universe of Computer Music "Computer Music Space Sofia 2016") Participation with a paper on "Approaches of Computer Music Creation", 14.12.2016.

The presented publications reveal the author's research interests in sound engineering, sound design, music theory and arrangement. Central among the publications is the habilitation thesis Projects, Arrangements, Concerts, which covers the musical works written between 2015 and 2021 - Hades and Persephone and a piece for string quartet, Passion, Revelation, Inspiration. Thematically related to the monograph are the publications announced in the list presented by the author under No1,2,3,4,5,6,7, and 8. All articles and papers are independent publications, the result of the candidate's participation in national and international scientific forums.

#### **Scientific contributions**

The author's research achievements are in the field of arrangements. I accept the described scientific contributions:

1. A very good professional level has been achieved in the development of arrangements

for musical formations (chamber ensembles, rock bands, small orchestras) associated with a TV programme with a daily format, whose music is always accompanied by a cause, which requires a quick reaction and the ability to work in different musical styles to attract and hold the attention of the audience. It offers a system to work with when arranging.

- 2.Professionally adapted a number of musical works that are traditional in nature (classical or Bulgarian folklore belonging to different countries and times) to the contemporary taste of the general audience.
- 3. The author's compositions "Passion, Revelation, Inspiration" and "Hades and Persephone", presented in detail, testify to the high level of work and possibilities of flexibility, regardless of the composition and selection of performers students or professionals, to obtain a strong product on stage or in the recording studio. He creates original works and pushes his own line of composing.
- 4. The orchestration and arrangements in the project "Messiah" by Miroslav Kostadinov (Miro) among the most famous popular and beloved Bulgarian performers is a serious proof of the professionalism, ingenuity and high level of work production of Emil Traychev.
- 5. He is actively involved in the musical life of Bulgaria with solo or ensemble performances as a pianist and saxophonist. He manages to attract NBU students to his work on a real stage, thus giving way to the young and showing them the necessary knowledge in a real environment. He combines his practical musical activities with the training of NBU students.
- 6. Participates actively in both practical and scientific activities through publications, participation in scientific conferences, seminars, in the international DEMUSIS project with 9 institutions from Europe.
- 7. Works for the development of musical practices in music programs, including tone direction, orchestration and arranging, both on open music stages and in research studios. All of these activities link functionally with the activities of the NBU Radio-TV Centre.

There were 3 citations of publications by the author and 1 review. I believe that the presented scientific production fully corresponds to the scientific specialty and the specificity of the announced competition.

### **Teaching work**

As a full-time lecturer at the NBU, Department of Music, Emil Traychev teaches the following courses, Bachelor Courses: Fundamentals of Sound Engineering, Computers and Music, Music Acoustics, Studio, Instrumentation, Studio Equipment and Technology, Audio Design Software, Sound Editing, Practice: Audio and Video Design, Practice: Sound and Video Design and Performance, Practice: Studio, Practice: DJ and VJ Recording Systems, Practice: Sound Engineering. Masters courses: Implementation and Promotion of Record Production, Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles part, Jazz and Pop Improvisation, Internship: Sound Engineering.

#### Conclusion

On the basis of everything stated so far I give a positive assessment of the presented scientific and creative activity of Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD and I propose to the esteemed scientific jury to elect Senior Assist. Prof. Emil Traychev, PhD for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional field 8.3. Music and Dance Art (Sound engineering, Sound Design, Music Theory and Arrangement) for the needs of New Bulgarian University.

01.04.2024. Signature:

Assoc. Prof. Tsanimir Baichev, PhD