

## **OPINION**

**by Yavor Svetosarov Konov, PhD, ScD, professor,**

professional field 8.3. Musical and dance art,

Department of Music, NBU

**for the candidacy of Assoc. Prof. Georgi Metev Petkov, PhD,**

**for the nomination to the academic position of professor**

concerning higher education 8. Arts,

professional field 8.3. Musical and dance art,

according to a competition announced by the **New Bulgarian University** – Sofia,

see State Gazette no. 44 of 14.06.2022

**The single candidate in this competition is my colleague Associate Professor Georgi Metev Petkov, PhD.**

According to the information provided to me by the applicant, he was born in Gabrovo in 1961. He graduated with "tambourine" from SMS (Secondary Music School) in Kotel, then from AMDVA (Academy of Music, Dance and Visual Arts) in Plovdiv (subsequently equated to a master's level) with the specialty "Leader of folk ensembles" with the qualification "Performer and teacher of folk instruments and folk singing. Head of Folk ensembles".

From then until today: extensive experience as a leader of ensembles, arranger, composer: in SFSDE (State Folk Song and Dance Ensemble) "Dobrudzha", in NFE (National Folklore Ensemble) "Filip Kutev" in Sofia, in Gabrovo, ladies' choir "Bulgarian Voices – ANGELS", creator and leader, and author of the main repertoire of the university mixed choir "Folk-jazz formation" at NBU, of the multi-part folk choir at the National Music School "L. Pipkov" in Sofia, to the Vocal Trio "Euridika" (and its producer), to the choir "New Bulgarian Voices".

Since 1998, Georgi Petkov has been teaching practical and theoretical classes in the field of musical folklore at NBU. He has been an associate professor at the NBU since 1998.

Doctor of musicology and musical art (PhD) with a dissertation on topic "Scat technique in the work of Bulgarian composers for folk ensembles" (NBU 2015).

He has performed over 900 concerts at home and abroad and over 15 hours of sound recordings at home and abroad, incl. and for world media. Author of more than 300 titles, including those published by global companies.

He participated in realizations by invitation and in co-authorship with world famous musicians, such as Adriano Celentano, Bobby McFerrin, Roberto Fonseca, Enrique Morente, Arcángel, Antonio Forcione, Grzech Piotrowski, Chieftains, Mikhail Alperin and Moscow Art-Trio and others.

He is a public man: I only mention his chairmanship of the Board of Directors of the National Music and Folklore Union "Orfeevo Izvorche" (Orpheus spring, literally), resp. chief organizer of the competition of the same name, expert evaluator and member of the jury at Capital Program "Culture", Sofia Municipality, etc.

Winner of a large number of awards and congratulations. Flagshiply, I mention that he is the winner of the "Latin GRAMMY 2018" – as a composer, arranger and conductor of the album "Al este del cante" – Arcángel and "New Bulgarian Voices".

The candidate for professor meets the minimum national requirements – and significantly exceeds them in certain areas, resp. and those of the NBU.

As a "habilitation work" in this competition, Georgi Petkov declared 7 international projects, a large number of concerts, accomplished music albums – resp. and his author's work, arrangements related to all this, his theoretical meaningful.

An impressive characteristic of his activity is the multipolar "Bulgarian-world" interrelationship, as well as his great organizational, pedagogical and educational work with a large number of students at NBU, a significant share of whom came to NBU through him.

His activity is the subject of a large number of positive professional and media comments in our country and around the world.

My personal impressions of the candidate: I have been working at the NBU since 2010, since then I have collegial observations on Georgi Petkov (we are not close) – a person with whom you can get along, does not envy, does not make intrigues and does not participate in such. Extreme concern for his students.

**Conclusion: I vote FOR Assoc. Prof. Georgi Metev Petkov, PhD, to be appointed to the academic position of professor at NBU.**

Sofia, 18.10.2022

Prof. Yavor Konov, PhD, ScD