

OPINION

on the work of Chief Assistant Doctor Angel Angelov Zaberski,
a candidate in the competition for Associate Professor under professional field 8.3.
Music and Dance Art, scientific specialty - Musicology and music art

Reviewer: Prof. Dr. Sava Dimitrov

Chief Assistant Dr. Angel Angelov Zaberski graduated from the National Academy of Music 'Prof. Pancho Vladigerov'. He has worked as an arranger at the Big Band of the Bulgarian National Radio. In 1998 he founds his own jazz trio, later - jazz octet, where he performs as a conductor and composer, and in 2011 he founds the Big Band Brass Association, in which he is a performer, composer and arranger. Creating various formations is always associated with giving concerts and releasing CDs. He has been teaching Improvisation at the New Bulgarian University since 2000, where he defends his dissertation on the topic 'The Creative Work of Angel Zaberski' in 2012.

The documents provided show that as a candidate for the academic position 'Associate Professor' at New Bulgarian University under professional field of higher education 8.3. Music and dance art and scientific specialty: Musicology and music art (pop jazz harmony, improvisation, chamber ensembles, pop and jazz piano) Chief Assistant Professor Dr. A. Zaberski meets all criteria and indicators for long-term attestation defined in the Regulation for the Development of NBU academic staff and the Procedure for long-term attestation of lecturers at NBU, and has met the national group indicators requirements for this academic title.

For his participation in the competition, the candidate presents a very rich creative biography, which includes his performances as an author, arranger, performer and conductor.

Indicators C

Indicator 4 (implemented author's project) refers to the completed 'BIG BAND IN ACTION' CD with 11 original works as well as arrangements - romantic ballads, folk plays, opera arias and jazz standards, which as the candidate says are 'An eclecticism of genres - swing, ballad, fusion, folklore, bi-bop, mainstrea...' and are a very real musical product. The disc was finalized in 2018 and was recorded with the Big Band Brass Association conducted by the candidate and in which he is as a soloist as well. The CD was presented for the first time in Bulgaria Hall and at concerts in Plovdiv, Varna and Burgas. It was previously presented in Dobrich, Varna and Ruse.

According to Indicator 5 (leading artistic performance) the candidate presents his artistic and creative activity with two projects of national and international importance, and short texts with well-defined scientific problems and contributions - 2 concerts within the 'EUROPEAN CULTURAL DAYS' in 2014 in Frankfurt am Main (Germany) and a series of 5 concerts 'Jazz meets the classics', a project for 4 grand pianos in Sofia and London in 2015 and 2017.

Indicators D

Indicator 12 (realization of a short author's product) refers to the author's CD 'LIKE JAZZ' - completed and recorded in 2015 with free author's interpretations of popular classical themes presented with the help of jazz expression, and the concerts for the CD presentation in Sofia, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Burgas, Dobrich, Varna and Veliko Tarnovo in 2016.

Indicator 13 (leading artistic performance) refers to four concerts with performer and conductor Dr. A. Zaberski from the cycle 'The Music of America', dedicated to Ella Fitzgerald, popular

themes from Hollywood film productions, etc., with the participation of American performers and bands.

This indicator includes an additional 15 major artistic performances of Dr. A. Zaberski in Sofia, Ruse, Stara Zagora, Sozopol and the Devetashko plateau as a performer, conductor and arranger of famous American jazz standards.

Under Indicator 14 (supporting artistic performance) the candidate includes a concert as part of New Year's program, as well as his participation in the jury of 'Eurovision' song contest.

Indicators E

Indicator 19 (reviews of realized author's products) refers to the fact that Dr. A. Zaberski is a two-time winner of the Crystal Lyre Award of the Union of Bulgarian Musicians and Dancers for the years 2013 and 2014.

Indicators F

Indicator 22 (participation in a national project) refers to 14 completed artistic projects - his participation in concerts as a performer and conductor in Sofia, Burgas, Sozopol ('Apollonia'). Indicator 23. (participation in an international project) refers to three concerts with Dr. A. Zaberski as a performer in Bansko, Nis and Kruševac. Indicator 30 (competition awards) refers to Dr. A. Zaberski as an award winner from the 11th international competition for composing a symphonic work in 7/8.

Regarding Dr. Angel Zaberski direct teaching activity at NBU, a publication on jazz and improvisation has been completed, which is an e-textbook for students and doctoral students in the field of pop music and jazz.

Based on all the facts presented, I am convinced that Chief Assistant Dr. Angel Angelov Zaberski can be appointed at the academic position of Associate Professor under 8.3. Music and Dance Art (pop jazz harmony, improvisation, chamber ensembles, pop and jazz piano).

Sofia, 27th April 2020

Prof. Dr. Sava Dimitrov