

OPINION

**in the competition for Associate Professor
in computer music, sound design and music theory**

in professional field 8.3.

Music and Dance Art,
the Faculty of Basic Education
and the Music Department,
published in SG N: 89/16.10.2020.

from Prof. DSc Yavor Svetozarov Konov,

a full-time lecturer

in the Department of Music at the New Bulgarian University,
that published the competition

**There is one applicant in the current competition: Chief
Assistant Dr. Rositsa Dimitrova Becheva, who has been working full-
time for many years in the department that has announced the
competition.**

Biographical and professional data about the applicant:

My colleague R. Becheva presents herself in this way (I quote
from the site of the Department of Music – New Bulgarian University,
[https://ecatalog.nbu.bg/default.asp?V Year=2020&PageShow=teache
rpresent&P Menu=teachers&Fac ID=12&P ID=2141&T ID=2793](https://ecatalog.nbu.bg/default.asp?V Year=2020&PageShow=teache
rpresent&P Menu=teachers&Fac ID=12&P ID=2141&T ID=2793)):

„Main research interests in the field of: digital arts and sound
design, electronic and computer music; research and creative work in

the field of making computer music, the methodology of teaching synthesizer and electronic musical interpretation, the field of artistic practice and the integration of music and new computer technologies in the field of keyboard pedagogy and interpretation, music - hearing training and music theory: solfeggio, harmony, musical analysis. "

Several general guidelines on education and its professional development (ibidem):

In 1983 Rositsa Becheva graduated the piano music school in Plovdiv, and in 1990 with a master's degree in music theory – the National Music Academy in Sofia. In 1997 she obtained a postgraduate qualification in music pedagogy at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv. In 2004 she acquired the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” after defending a dissertation (at New Bulgarian University) on "Methodology of teaching synthesizer".

She has been working at NBU since 2000 (until 2011 - on a part-time basis, then as a full-time assistant in synthesizer, computer music and solfeggio).

She took part in the preparation of curricula, national and international educational and scientific forums and other projects, such as festivals, seminars, etc.

She is the author of a large number of publications and scientific reports.

Since 2011 she is also a member of the Section of Musicologists at the Union of the Bulgarian Composers.

I have known Ch. Assistant Dr. **Rositsa Becheva** for **10 years** since I started work at NBU. 10 years in which - although we are not close and do not work together in the literal meaning of the word, we do not have common teaching activities - I have sufficiently witnessed her knowledge and skills. My colleague R. Becheva also has pedagogical qualifications. I see her discipline as a member of the Department of Music, her participation in the departmental councils and their endeavors. I see Dr. R. Becheva's proverbial loyalty to Prof. Dr. and Honored Prof. of New Bulgarian University Simo Lazarov (about whom she wrote and continues to write so much), including in the current pedagogical work, in the numerous seminars and other initiatives that they have and still implement in NBU and abroad. I know that she works a lot and in good faith with our students - I have seen that, and I know from our colleagues. Her work at Moodle-NBU is with a similar perseverance.

In order to answer the formal side of this competition for associate professor, I got acquainted with the documentation on it. The colleague Ch. Assistant Dr. Rositsa Becheva has - both over the years and now - a sufficient regular teaching experience. She meets the national minimum requirements (for "scientometrics") under Art. 4, para. 8, item 2 of the Law on the development of the academic composition in the Republic of Bulgaria for awarding the academic degree of an associate professor.

The habilitation work with which Ch. Assistant Dr. Rositsa D. Becheva has applied for this competition for associate professor of

computer music and sound design, music theory is (also) dedicated to Prof. Dr. and Hon. Professor of NBU Simo Lazarov. This is her monograph: "In the world of electronic music by Simo Lazarov" (Sofia: Publishing House of New Bulgarian University, 2018, ISBN: 978-619-233-011-8, 472 p.) I am a witness - although "in the side look" of the long and conscientious work of the author on the book. I immediately point out the editor and reviewers of the monograph: Prof. Dr. Milena Shushulova (editor), Prof. Elisaveta Valchinova - Chendova, D.Sc. and Assoc. Prof. (today: Professor) Dr. Georgi Arnaudov (reviewers) - and I completely rely on them.

I enclose the annotation to the book: "The book is dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Prof. Dr. Simo Lazarov, Honorary Professor of New Bulgarian University. The development focuses on the creative laboratory of the composer Simo Lazarov - the founder of electronic music in Bulgaria, to his compositional work - with an emphasis on audiovisual, multimedia and mega performances.

This is the first comprehensive study dedicated to the pioneer of electronic and computer music in Bulgaria. For the first time, his music is the subject of a separate work, which is the first attempt of its kind to analyze the musical thinking of Simo Lazarov to the level of an independent music-language system. The emphasis is placed on the overall creative activity of the composer - the creation of works, design and implementation of projects, studio, performance and concert activities, pedagogical and production activities, promotional activities, and an attempt is made to bring aspects of electronic sound

extraction and interpretation, composition system, the ideas of timbre space, the idea of synthesis of arts, the idea of synthesis of linguistic and semantic layers, the conceptual model of synthetic performance, the stylistic features of his music, creative approaches and solutions, the evolution of ideas over the years. The peculiarities of the digital performance, the integration of electronics and computer technologies, the incorporation of multimedia in the performance and the unconventional forms of presentation are detailed. In the fourth chapter "The score in the music of Simo Lazarov" the sound-based composition in the music of Simo Lazarov and the types of score recordings are presented. The fifth chapter "More than 40 years of electronic music in Bulgaria" presents the forum-festival "The Universe of Computer Music - ComputerMusicSpace-Sofia" organized by Simo Lazarov for more than 16 years. The book has two applications, the first of which presents innovations in electronic music, as well as information about the capabilities of the laser harp and innovative electronic MIDI instruments, created by the Cynthio Audio Visio Band, and the second application contains a complete list of works of the composer and performer - Simo Lazarov. "I have no doubts about the authenticity of the work and the authorship of R. Becheva.

IN CONCLUSION: I vote with "FOR" Chief Assistant Dr. ROSITSA BECHEVA to be appointed at NBU (Faculty of Basic Education – Music

Department) to the academic position of ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR in computer music and sound design, music theory.

Sofia, 26-2-2021

(Prof. DSc Yavor Konov)