

OPINION

from

Associated Prof. Dinka Zhorova Yakimova-Kasabova, PhD

/AMTI "Prof. Asen Diamandiev"/

/Professional direction 8.2. Art./

regarding

habilitation work

“Designing costumes for

La Bayadere”

to acquire the academic position "Associate professor",

8.2 Fine art

(Fashion Design and Stage Costume Design),

announced in SG 92/18.11.2022

with a candidate

Assistant professor Yana Oleg Dvoretzka, PhD

NEW BULGARIAN UNIVERSITY

Design Department

Sofia

I. Assessment of compliance with minimum national requirements

The candidate for the competition, announced in SG 92/18.11.2022, submits comprehensive and precise documentation. It meets the national requirements for the competition.

II. Research/creative/ activity and results

For the contribution in the field of science and stage design, I award the candidate an excellent rating.

Yana Dvoretzka, PhD presents detailed information on the design and performance of the costumes for La Bayadere ballet to the music of Austrian composer Ludwig Minkus. With this production in 2019, the State Opera - Ruse celebrates International Dance Day - May 29.

The text part introduces us to the specifics of the activity of the costume designer working on a ballet performance based on a classical work such as "La Bayadere". Dvoretzka emphasizes the importance of the dance costume in the context of the overall stage project: "Although it is only one element of the whole, the creation of a costume concept requires complete synchronization with the other elements."

Dvoretzka applies a parallel analysis of the two spaces in which the garment lives - the theater stage and the catwalk - in order to clearly outline the different parameters of creative freedom. On the one hand, there is the framework within which the dance costume artist must fit, and on the other, the wide scope of action for the fashion designer. Dvoretzka looks for the points of contact between them by studying the creative projects of world designers such as Hussein Chalayan and Iris Van Herpen. In an extremely fascinating way, the costume designer talks about the sequence and logic of creative decisions, related to knowledge of materials and the symbolism of colors, with attention to detail and body movement. The frankness with which the author shares his creative problems accompanying the design of the costumes makes us empathize with a number of complex cases to solve and is a valuable shared experience for future creators.

Last but not least, it should be noted that the creative process does not end with the design. It continues until the premiere itself - in "La Bayadere" the author's precision is clearly visible in the process of making the costumes, which are mirrored in the projects.

The author's ability to integrate his creative solutions into the overall design of the performance and at the same time preserve his identity is an important indicator of high professionalism and the ability to work effectively in a team.

Yana Dvoretzka's story about "La Bayadere" is a testimony to a precise preliminary study of the main characters and their biography - an important prerequisite for the success of the design. The magnitude of the professionally completed project deserves the highest appreciation and respect for the qualifications and competence of Yana Dvoretzka.

The candidate also presents a rich palette of 27 realized performances in which she participated as a scenographer and costume designer.

To her application, the author attached documents for numerous co-authored participations in the annual fashion events of the Ivan Asen 22 Foundation:

For the film "+7 hours" (in team): Nomination and award for best costume design at Sarajevo Fashion Film Festival, Big See Fashion Collaboration Award 2020, Nomination and award for best costume design at 12th La Jolla Fashion Film Festival and International Fashion Film Awards 2021.

In the scientometric table, Yana Dvoretzka, PhD presents her participation in four creative workshops:

- Workshop "Natural Dyeing and Ecoprint", June 28 - 30, 2021, NBU
- Workshop and lecture "Sustainable fashion" within the framework of the "Absolut Creative Space" festival, June 3 - 9, 2016, Sofia, Hotel "Rodina"
- Workshop "Dyeing Fabrics with Natural Dyes" within the "Biologie Raw" event, February 2018, GENERATOR
- Workshop with students from 88 Secondary School as part of the educational program "Children in the museum. Studio on the move", December 3, 2015, NBU Museum.

Dvoretzka was also a master class leader in "Slow Fashion: Natural Dyeing" at La Escuela de Arte y Superior de Diseño y de C.R.B.C. de Burgos, April 2019, Burgos, Spain

III. Co-author in scientific works

The applicant reports the following citations or reviews in scientific publications referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information:

1. Popkochev, Trayan, Bonka Gerginova and Teresa Karamangalova. Problems of social adaptation of traveling students from small settlements. Pedagogy [online]. 2015, (2), pp. 169-181. [accessed 17 August 2021]. ISSN 0861-3982. Available at: <https://www.ceeol.com/> [pp.176,180]
2. The Dance Performance "Placebo". Director and choreographer assistant professor Anna Pampulova, PhD and Dance Theater students, costumes assistant Yana Dvoretzka, head of effects assistant professor Nikolay Milev, PhD, visual effects Petar Petrov, UFC and Iliya Shekerjiev, 2013. Quoted by:

Tabakova, Zelka. Dance art - an open system for innovative dance methods and visual technologies. Art Readings [online]. 2015, (2), pp. 242-248. CEEOL. ISSN 1313-2342 [accessed 17 August 2021]. Available at: <https://www.ceeol.com/> [p. 245]

Citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals

Ivanova, Petya. Symbols and rituals as an educational tool in the Dimitrov pioneer organization "September". Bulgarian Journal of Education [online]. 2020, (1), pp. 85-109. [accessed 10 September 2021]. ISSN 1314-9059. Available at: <https://www.elbook.eu/cat.php?cid1=3> [p. 97,108]

Krasteva, Zuniha Mirkova. Segmentation of the Bulgarian market when starting a women's clothing business. In: Alternative marketing solutions of a start-up business organization. Proceedings [online]. Svishtov: Economic Academy "D. A. Tsenov", 2017, pp. 52-54 [accessed August 10, 2021]. Available at: <https://dlib.uni-svishtov.bg/handle/10610/3347> [p. 54]

Hristova, Tatiana. The fashion of subcultures from the 1980s to today. Textiles and clothing [online]. 2017, (11), pp. 358-366. [accessed 10 August 2021]. ISSN 2603-302X. Available at: <https://bgtextilepublisher.org/spisanie/pdf/2017-broi-11/spisanie-br11-statia-3.pdf> [p. 336]

Hristova, Tatyana. Clotting - a choice and image of cultural identity. Postmodernism problems [online]. 2014, vol.4(1), pp. 80-87. [viewed 17 August 2021]. ISSN 1314-3700. Available from: <https://www.ceeol.com/> [p. 87]

IV. Learning and teaching activity

In the period 2000 - 2013, the applicant Yana Dvoretzka was a lecturer in fashion design at NBU, Department of Design, and assistant professor in the same department from 2014 to the present.

In her role as a long-time teacher at the Department of Design, she actively participated in the creation of the Master's programs "Fashion and Business Strategies" and "Styling", as well as their unification into one program.

She is active in the updating of the Bachelor's program "Fashion" and minor program - second specialty "Fashion". Develops fully or co-authored the following courses:

MODB106 Shapes and Volumes in Fashion – Part I

MODB206 Shapes and Volumes in Fashion – Part II

MODB022 Introduction to Fashion Design

MODB709 Fashion Theory

OOKI168 Fashion as art

ARTB648 Traditional clothing etc.

Participates with clothing projects in "INTERSECTION POINTS" - Exhibition of teachers and students from the "Design" department, 2020.

Designed costumes for "COLOR AND FORM" - Exhibition of teachers and students from the "Design" department in 2019.

Creates fashion sketches for "REFLECTIONS" - Exhibition of teachers and students from the "Design" department in 2018.

Participated with fashion sketches in "GENERATIONS" - Exhibition of teachers and students from the "Design" department, May 21 - June 5, 2015.

As an assistant professor in the BA Fashion, she takes an active part in educational or artistic projects with the students:

Participation in the "May Design Days 2019" project, financed by the Central Fund for Strategic Development (CFSR) of the NBU, head Prof. Boris Serginov

Participation in a practical workshop "Fashion": Skills in combining colors and patterns". Workshop of Mila Ateva, March 24 - April 2, 2018, financed by the Central Bank of the National Bank of Ukraine, led by Tatiana Pencheva-Georgieva

Participation in the project "May Days of Design 2018", financed by the CFSR of the NBU, head Prof. Boris Serginov

Participation in a practical workshop "Fashion": Building a complete concept for a fashion collection. Implementation of a group of models under the common theme "Yves Saint Laurent - respect, inspire, discover, innovate, re-form, transform".

Participation in a workshop of Veselin Yordanov, financed by the Central Fund for Strategic Development, head Tatyana Pencheva-Georgieva, June 7-8, 2018.

Participation in the "May Days of Design 2017" project led by Prof. Boris Serginov, funded by the CFSR.

Participation in a practical workshop "Fashion": VERSUS - Contrast as a concept in fashion and design" - workshop of Evgenia Popova and Klaudia Doms, supervisor Tatiana Pencheva-Georgieva, 2017

Participation in a practical workshop "Fashion". Fast Forward - Fashion Footprints. Building a complete concept for a fashion collection.

Realization of a group of models under the general theme "Christian Dior, The New Look". Work seminar of Veselin Yordanov, funded by the CFSR, leader Tatyana Pencheva-Georgieva, 2016

Participation in the project "May Fashion Days 2016", financed by the Central Fund for Strategic Development, head Tatiana Pencheva-Georgieva

As a representative of the NBU, Yana Dvoretzka, PhD. leads public lectures and artistic and creative projects:

Public lecture "Identity and symbolism in the Bulgarian traditional costume" within the framework of the International Summer Academy for Creative Thinking and Design Processes Know-How / Show-How. 2015, Sofia, UASG.

Project manager "RETRO TRAM: History represents the future. Fashion Revolution", 2018

Head of the "We Wear Culture/Biophilia" project - graduation fashion show of BA Fashion students, 11.06.2018, GENERATOR, Sofia

Head of the "Art is Everyday" project - diploma fashion show of BA Fashion students, 06/05/2017, GENERATOR, Sofia

Project manager "Participation of students and teachers in a fashion show and exhibition with an ecological theme", Sofia, 2017

Design and production of costumes for the theater performance "Puss in Boots", Open Stage "Tear and Laughter", with the participation of 3 students from BA "Fashion"

Design and production of scenography and costumes for "The Bald Singer", NBU Educational Theater, 2018, with the participation of 3 students from BA "Fashion"

Design and production of costumes for the theatrical performance "Troyans", NBU Educational Theater, 2016, with the participation of 3 students from BA "Fashion"

V. Administrative and public activity

Yana Dvoretzka works on the international project "Fashion Revolution" as one of the coordinators for Bulgaria.

She creates a "slow fashion" brand focused on sustainable clothing production practices. YOD is associated with the beginning of the sustainable fashion movement in Bulgaria and through it Dvoretzka declares and defends her active social position for the protection of nature.

Through the variety of cultural performances in which she participated or initiated as an author, Yana Dvoretzka contributes to the enrichment of public and cultural life in the country.

VI. Personal impressions of the candidate

The rich professional and creative experience of Assistant Professor Yana Dvoretzka includes the realization of numerous performances, the delivery of public lectures and the publication of publications interpreting the multifaceted issues of fashion design.

The submitted data and applications for the competition for the academic position "Associated Professor", 8.2 Fine art (fashion design and stage costume design), fully meet the requirements. With respect to the overall activity of assistant professor Yana Oleg Dvoretzka, I give my positive /excellent/ rating in support of her candidacy.

Sincerely: Ass. Prof. Dinka Kasabova

