

## SHORT REVIEW

by

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Member of the Scientific jury in the competition for the academic position ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR in Stage Speech, announced by NATFA “Kr. Sarafov” in SG, issue 52 / 09.06.2020

From the documents submitted for the competition by Ch. Assist. Prof. Dr. Todor Ivanov Dimitrov, it became clear that the candidate meets the requirements, and his candidacy is eligible for consideration.

The biography of Todor Dimitrov speaks for a pedagogue with a sound education: bachelor’s degree in Drama Theater Acting, master in Screen Arts Management and in Speech Therapy; the topic of his dissertation thesis is “Thought Processes – Primary Energy of Stage Speech”; he has many publications and participations in scientific forums, as well as extensive experience as a teacher in the subjects of Stage Speech, Correct Speech, Speech Technique, Artistic Speech at NATFA.

The recently published monograph “Terminological Fundamentals of Stage Speech” (FARAGO, Sofia, 2019) is the basic work Mr. Dimitrov participates in this competition with. According to the author himself, “...An argument of the motivation for writing this scientific work is the need to unite scientific terms, their aspects, definitions and etymology as well as scientific sources and comments of various authorities in this field of science thus laying borderlines on the terminological fundamentals of stage speech”. The text of the monograph takes up 263 pages, and the author has cleverly chosen the form of a dictionary which makes the study a well-organized and available teaching aid for orientation in the conceptual apparatus of stage speech.

I find, Mr. Dimitrov’s efforts to gather together the extensive terminology used by one of the most important disciplines in teaching and practice of Theater, a discipline of over 70 years, to be extremely useful and, I would say, noble. There are many concepts accumulated in the sphere of theory and practice of stage

speech where it is sometimes difficult even for the specialists to navigate. I say this from personal experience. That's why I am especially grateful for the efforts made by the author to gather in one place concepts from various fields of knowledge which are directly or indirectly related to the aspirations of teachers and students to such a delicate area as the right, expressive and contagious speech in life and on stage. The author handles terms from the areas of anatomy, medicine, speech therapy, literary and theatrical theories, philosophy, etc. He has used a wide range of literature sources. I am sure that Terminological Fundamentals of Stage Speech will become a reference reading for students and teachers not only in various specialties of the Theater Academy but also in the field of humanities in general. Here, I will allow myself to make a recommendation from the perspective of an ordinary reader. Some of the terms (particularly, those from the field of medicine) are left with their specialized definition which makes it difficult to understand without an additional vocabulary for the respective field.

In conclusion, I would like to add the following. I have known Todor Dimitrov since his first steps as a teacher at the NATFA "Kr. Sarafov". We started at one and the same time. I have always been deeply impressed by his dedication to the work process, his generosity in sharing his experience, his uncompromisingness, and the patience with which he works with students. That is why I think highly of him, as part of the teams I lead. I also know, how much sympathy and respect the students he works with, feel for him.

I am convinced that theatrical pedagogics needs teachers like Todor Dimitrov, and I hope for the scientific jury to back his candidacy for the position of ASSOCIATED PROFESSOR.

Earnestly and in accordance with my conscience, I vote with "YES".

Assoc. Prof. P. Gospodinov