

REVIEW

by prof. Stefan Altakov, PhD

about the procedure for occupying the academic position of

Professor

in the field of Higher Education 8. Art,

Professional area 8. 2. Fine Arts (Sculpture and Art Constructions)

Visual Arts Department

Faculty of Educational Studies and the Arts

Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

In the competition for the academic position “Professor” in the field of higher education 8. (Art), professional direction 8.2. Fine Arts (Sculpture and Art Constructions), only one candidate - Assoc. Prof. Anna Ilcheva Tzolovska, PhD, was presented. The competition was announced for the needs of the Department of Visual Arts of the Faculty of Educational Studies and the Arts, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. The announcement was published in State Gazette No. 63 / 30.07.2021.

By order of the Rector of Sofia University, a scientific jury was appointed. At the first jury meeting the statutory requirements for attendance and absenteeism were observed and reviewers as well as jury members were selected to draw up opinions. The competition procedure so far fully complies with the requirements of the state and university normative documents regarding the obtaining of academic positions.

Anna Tzolovska was born on 24th of December 1966 in Sofia, Bulgaria.

She has graduated the National College of Applied Arts in Sofia.

She has a doctoral dissertation in the specialty 05.01.06. "Aesthetics", Philosophy.

Ever since 2011 r. she is an associate professor of Sculpture and Art Constructions in PD 8.2 Fine Arts of the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Educational Studies and the Arts, Sofia.

In the period 2010 - 2016 she is a lecturer in "Computer Aided Design 2D", "Adobe Photoshop", "Adobe Illustrator", "CorelDRAW" and "Methodology of Web Design" at NBU, Sofia.

She is also a member of the Union of Bulgarian Artists and the Association Internationale des Arts Plastiques, UNESCO.

Anna Tzolovska's work as an artist is impressive both in quantity and quality, so here will be selected and numbered only few of her solo exhibitions and participation in joint exhibitions, symposia and publications from recent years, which prove her achievements in various fields of visual arts.

Solo exhibitions:

"Total Meditation", „Arosita“ Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria /2021/; "Balances", online /2021/, <https://artinitiativesproject.com/balance> ; "My wanders are outside the context of wandering", „Alma Mater“ Gallery, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", /2019/; Participation in Festival „Les Traversées du Marais“ with „Supra Humanum - Beyond the Humankind“, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France, /2018/; Open Studio Exhibition – “Reasoning”, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France, /2018/ Cerebrum simulation AI – improvisations, Alma Mater Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria./2018/; “MENTAL VAGABOND”, Gallery Bulgarian Cultural Center, Budapest, Hungary./2018/; "DNEVNICI", Bayer Gallery, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria/2017/; "CROSSPOINTS" - Anna Tzolovska, Gallery "Look", Lodz/2016/; “DIGITAL LOOP”, Poland/2016/; “DIGITAL GRAPHICS”, Alma Mater Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria/2015/; „The Observers - 2”, Gallery Bulgarian Cultural Center, Budapest, Hungary/2014/; “OBJECTS AND RIVER” - Anna

Tzolovska, Gallery „AROSITA” , Sofia, Bulgaria/2014/; „FOSSILI” Litografie - Anna Tzolovska, GALLERIA “VIA LARGA”, Firenze, Italia/2014/; „FOSSILIS” Anna Tzolovska, Gallery, IMPRESSION ART, Sofia, Bulgaria/2013/

Participation in joint exhibitions and symposia:

2021 - International Symposium KEVIS `2021, ETER - Ethnographic Open-Air Museum, Gabrovo, Bulgaria; 2021 - "Between sand and foam"; 2021 Sofia Press Bookstore Gallery - Exhibition by Landart Plein Air, Bulgaria; 2021 - 11th Lessedra International Painting & Mixed Media Competition; 2021 Lesedra Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria; 2021 - Festival "Process - Space" z "Rearrangement of Layers"; 2021 Cultural Information Center "The Mill", Balchik, Bulgaria 2020 - "Winds and Insomnia 2"; 2020 Online Exhibition 2020 - WorldWide Prints 2020, Italy; 2020 - "ArtRosaliada 2020"; 2020 "Rafael Mihailov" Gallery, Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria; 2020 - "Winds and Insomnia 1"; 2020 ETUDE Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria; 2020 - Daily News /East Meets West/; 2020 University of Silesia, Katowice, Poland; 2020 - VIII Forum "Small Graphic Forms 2020", KO-OP Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria; 2020 - Virtual exhibition "The Tree of Life Today and Tomorrow", 2020 Art Initiatives 2020; 2020 - Virtual exhibition "Roads", 2020; 2020 - FOUR WALLS; 2020 Artspace Luna /virtual exhibition/, 2020; 2020 - International annual exhibition-competition "Mix Media"; 2020 Lesedra Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria; 2020 - International Landart Plein Air "Between Sand and Foam" Kiten, Bulgaria; 2019 - 8th International Triennial of Graphics Sofia, "Shipka 6" Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria; 2019 - Exhibition "ArtRosaliada 2019", Exhibition Hall "Rafael Mihailov", Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria; 2019 - Exhibition, “Bulgarian Graphics and Art Book”, "WAUMCS" Gallery - Marie Skłodowska-Curie University, Lublin, Poland; 2019 - International Exhibition "Graphic Transformations - Bulgarian and Polish Graphics and Art Book", BCI Warsaw, Poland; 2019 - 18th International Annual Exhibition - Small Format Graphics Competition - MINI PRINT, Lesedra Gallery, Sofia.

She is the author of numerous publications in the field of visual arts and in the field of teaching of fine arts.

Anna Tsolevska participates in the current competition with a habilitation thesis "Foundations of Creative Reality", in which she presents and elaborates on the main paths and creative flows in her work as an artist and teacher: "My artistic and sculptural pursuit throughout the years has been in the field of sculpture, art constructions and their graphical equivalent and all the while these seemingly completely different types of art are mutually nourished and organically intertwined in images and forms generated by elements contained in each type separately. "

Her creative ideas and realizations in various fields of the visual arts are presented in an excellent, well-designed and richly illustrated habilitation thesis.

The skillful and professional use of various materials and techniques in her works, such as metal, glass, ceramics, which are combined in an inimitable way, makes them impressive and memorable. Through specific photographic methods and digital technologies, she creates original graphic images.

In the sculptural exhibitions: "Balances", realized virtually in the project "Art Initiatives 2020" of the Department of "Visual Arts" led by Prof. Dr. Laura Dimitrova, "Total Meditation" in Arosita Gallery, 2021 and "Detail" in Stubel Gallery , 2021 - Anna Tsolevska categorically proves her enormous potential in the plastic art, in which she improvises with the form and the space, in an original manner.

Her contribution and work in the field of conceptual forms should also be noted, as it is there where she demonstrates creative imagination by creating art installations, land art and interventions in the environment.

The habilitation thesis is a natural synthesis of all the aspects of her work and presents her as a contemporary, conceptually thinking author, skillfully using her means of expression to achieve a strong artistic implication.

The entire work of Anna Tzolovska so far proves her as an artist with a presence in contemporary visual arts. I would like to point out another aspect of her professional biography, which is particularly important in the context of this competition, namely her pedagogical activity. In the discipline "Sculpture and Artistic Structures", of which she is the head of, as well as in all other disciplines she teaches, among the bachelor and masters programs, she has proven herself as a competent and respected teacher.

I must especially emphasize her great and long pedagogical experience, the high level of her teaching work and her ability to work with students.

The contributions I could formulate are: - proven professional competencies in the field of sculpture and art constructions; - innovative approach in building the sculptural form; - ability to uniquely create artistic combinations of different materials and techniques; - original use of new media (including social media) in the field of visual arts; - indisputable creative achievements in the fields in which he works; - pedagogical knowledge and skills in working with students majoring in Fine Arts and Graphic Design.

In conclusion, I would like to express my personal positive opinion of Anna Tzolovska, as a person and colleague at the Department of Visual Arts, part of which she is. Referring to all the above and the indisputable professional qualities of the candidate as an artist and pedagogue, I strongly recommend Anna Tzolovska to be elected to hold the academic position of "Professor" of Sculpture and Art Constructions in the field of Higher Education 8. Art, Professional field 8.2. Fine arts for the needs of Sofia University "St. Climent Ohridski".

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