

OPINION

by

Professor Boris Kirilov Serginov, PhD

for the candidacy for the academic position “ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR”,
area 5. Technical Sciences,
professional field 5.7 Architecture, Construction, and Geodesy,
New Bulgarian University, Graduate School, Department of Architecture
of

Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD,

and the documents, presented for the academic position
“ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR”

I. Relevance and significance of the submitted documents for holding the academic position "Associate Professor"

The theme of the monograph, presented for the competition and subject of this opinion, is “High Living Room Space in Houses”.

This paper studies the processes of integration of the high space in the sphere of the conceptual construction of forms in the living room in houses. In my opinion, the work of Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, presented for habilitation, is directed to the practical implementation and the conceptual life in the house. Special attention is paid to the concept of high living room space in houses and the information it contains, while a thorough historical review has been conducted and modern trends, methods, and forecasts have been derived. This monographic work has a high level of contribution, which is related to the totality of the elements of the space and to its implicit or real signature expression and presence in the house with the high living room space as an intervention in the living environment. The conceptualism here is combined with design, aesthetic, and philosophical interpretations. The analysis of the characteristics of the high living room space in houses emphasises the fact that it creates opportunities for

new experiences, different view and a different perspective on life and human activities. This potential proves to be present both in the specific creative process and in the social and living environment and settings.

The creative work and the documents, submitted for habilitation by Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, reflect various fundamental tendencies and basic aesthetic concepts, and present interesting and relevant creative examples from his work. The scientific and creative studies of Kliment Ivanov are also inspired by the various multidisciplinary techniques employed in creation of an architectural work art. His research is in line with the economic changes, cultural and technological development, and the general processes of modernisation in the evolution of the social and cultural life in Europe today. Kliment Ivanov writes: “My research work is focused on the residential buildings. It has been logically influenced by my teaching work over the last 10 years - the courses in the design of residential buildings and compounds. My research interests are focused on the high space in residential buildings, both in the interior and in the exterior. In my opinion, this compositional scheme is the most impressive example of private residential space and has enormous potential for improvement both in the quality of live and the dwelling experience. Research on the topic is almost non-existent worldwide but at the same time it is highly valued among the professionals and is of considerable interest among the students. These reasons led to the compilation of my research in the monograph “High Living Room Space in Houses”. I am confident that it will be very useful to researchers, practicing designers, and students of architecture, interior design, and spatial design. Many of the problems, addressed in it, have arisen during the work with the students on their academic architectural projects and their solutions have already become a part of the curriculum. I plan to continue my work on the research of the high space in other types of buildings, together with its application in the adaptation of existing buildings. I will also focus on the multidisciplinary approach to the architectural design through various interdisciplinary projects. My creative programme is directed towards the application of my theoretical studies in the architectural design practice through design and construction of real buildings and participations in architectural competitions.”

Based on the outlined creative approach, Kliment Ivanov presents his aesthetic and stylistic pursuits, activities, results, and achievements. His work is dominated not by the theoretical inception but by the creative and experimental one, and the vision and the judgement of the practicing architect and teacher, working with space and experimental architecture, who strives to enrich the means of expression and the design process in the art of architecture with various modern techniques, and to extend the diverse opportunities of interdisciplinary artistic and creative pursuits. This is a substantial contribution of the works, presented for the habilitation.

Similar combined practical and creative works on architecture from such a perspective have not been accomplished until now within the Bulgarian academic and university community, and are a rarity and exception even in the foreign academic environment. The presentation of an interdisciplinary view on the selected topic constitutes of one of the important issues, which the present work manages to elucidate.

In this context, the scientific and creative activities of the candidate are based, as has been noted above, on a syncretic approach to the issue, and in my opinion it combines creative, practical, cultural, philosophical, and other points of view and approaches.

The practical and creative work of the candidate demonstrate that the approach and design methods, used and presented by him, are well-grounded and help to solve and achieve the goals and objectives, set in the creative work, monograph, and documents, submitted for habilitation.

The work of Kliment Ivanov enriches the concept of modern architecture with solid ideas and methods in creative, scientific, and practical terms. It is an excellent representation of a complex and multidisciplinary issue.

Conclusion:

I evaluate positively the scientific and creative qualities and contributions of the design and research work of the candidate, the theoretical and practical work of Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, his public, social, scientific, and creative

significance, the personal contribution of the author, and the practical benefits and relevance of the submitted documents, and I propose to the esteemed members of the scientific jury to give their consent to confer the academic position “Associate Professor” on Kliment Ivanov, PhD.

4 February 2022

Opinion:

Sofia

(Professor Boris Serginov, PhD)