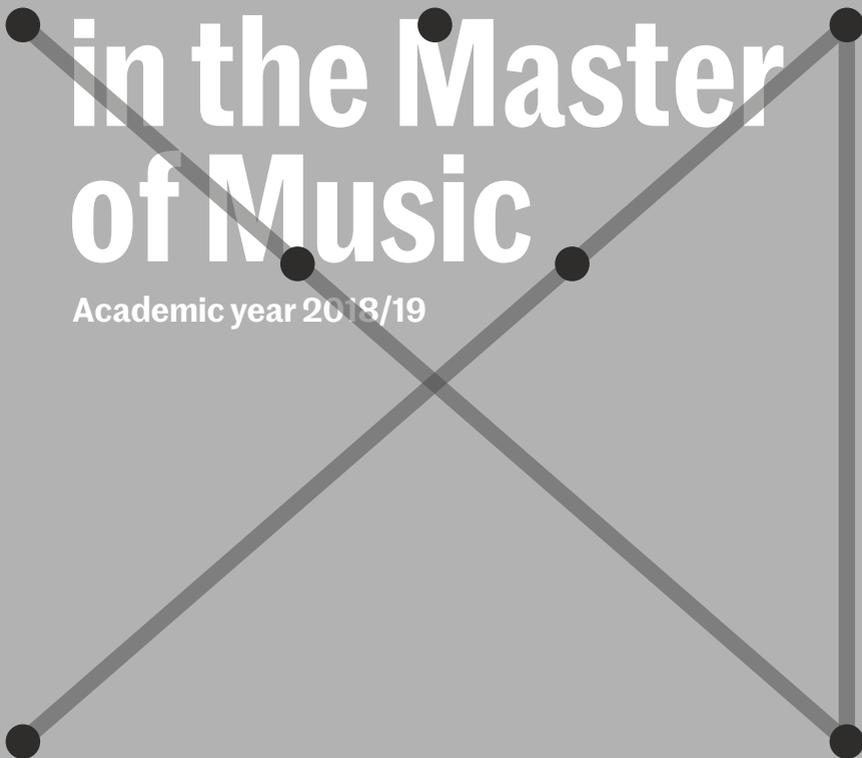


Handbook for Research in the Master of Music

Academic year 2018/19



**Royal
Conservatoire
The Hague**

New master's students* are expected to attend one of the welcome sessions on research in the Master of Music during the Royal Conservatoire's First Year Festival:

Dates/time:

Tuesday 4 September, 11:00-12:00 OR:
Thursday 6 September, 16:00-17:00

Place:

Royal Conservatoire's Lecture Hall

* Only for master's students from the following departments:

- Classical Music (including specialisations Chamber Music, Orchestra Master, Ensemble Academy, Percussion Ensemble and Reed Kwintet Calefax)
- Early Music
- Jazz
- Vocal (including specialisation Ensemble Singing)
- Composition
- Conducting – does not include specialisation National Master Orchestral Conducting
- Specialisations Theory of Music and Theory of Early Music
- Specialisation Music Education according to the Kodály Concept

Contact Royal Conservatoire

Become a part of our online community too!

 [facebook.com/royal.conservatoire](https://www.facebook.com/royal.conservatoire)

 [@koncontweets](https://twitter.com/koncontweets)

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I. Preface

This handbook provides you with information about the background, structure and content of the research component in the Master of Music programme at the Royal Conservatoire. It also provides teachers, circle leaders and supervisors with relevant information. Further information for circle leaders and supervisors can also be found in the 'Guidelines for internal and external research supervisors and Master circle leaders'.

The handbook should be read in combination with the Royal Conservatoire's Study Guide, the Curriculum Handbooks, the Master Electives Guide 2018-2019 and information on intranet and our website. Information is included concerning administrative and financial affairs, registration for Master Electives, exemptions, the individual departments and specialisations and its curricula. Further information can be read about the Master Plan, admission, presentations and exams, the different curricula per department or specialisation, our Lectorates, the ERASMUS programme, the University of the Arts, The Hague and collaboration with Leiden University and the Academy of Creative and Performing Arts (ACPA).

The Royal Conservatoire's vision of music education at master level comprises three elements: artistic development, the development of research skills and professional integration. It is in the master's programme that these three elements most clearly come into their own. The master's programme should therefore not be seen simply as an extension of the bachelor's programme, during which you spend two years learning more about your principal subject. You will also have to engage in the two other elements, research and professional integration, as an integral part and in support of your principal study. This model also creates the responsibility for the Royal Conservatoire to create a clear structure in the curriculum and to inform you and teachers about it.

This handbook focuses mainly on the Master of Music programme. Two other master's programmes offered by the Royal Conservatoire, the Master of Music in Sonology (including the specialisation Instruments & Interfaces and

Audio Communication & Sonology) and the Master in Opera (Dutch National Opera Academy – DNOA), are registered separately. Additional information about those programmes can be found via our website.

We sincerely hope this handbook will give you all the necessary information on the research component in the Master of Music programme. Nevertheless, if you are in need of further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Master Research Team.

Kathryn Cok, Head of Master Research
 Klarijn Verkaart, Coordinator Master Research
 Casper Schipper, Research Catalogue support
 Martin Prchal, vice-principal Royal Conservatoire

I. Timetable for the master of music curriculum 2018/19

First Year

Welcome sessions	4 and 6 September
Deadline registration Master Electives 2018/19	3 - 17 September
Requests supervisors	1 October
Final assignment research supervisor	October
Deadline research proposal	10 December
Master Research Symposium: attendance of 3 presentations required	1 – 5 April (Kodály: 11 – 13 June)
Deadline abstract 1	1 May
First Year Research Assessments	May (t.b.a.)

Second Year

Requests date Symposium and format	1 October
Deadline preliminary version research exposition	11 November (Kodály and Composition: 14 January 2019)
Deadline abstract 2	11 February
Deadline exposition or thesis	4 March before 12:00 (Kodály and Composition: Monday 13 May)
Master Research Symposium: research presentations	1 – 5 April (Kodály: 11 – 13 June)
Deadline material re-examinations	6 May
Re-examinations research presentations	20, 21, 22 May

Contact and office hours Master Research Team

Kathryn Cok, Head of Master Research

k.cok@koncon.nl

+31 70 315 14 01

Room: M203

Monday and Tuesday from 10.00 to 13.00,

Wednesday and Friday afternoon by appointment

Casper Schipper, Research Catalogue support

schipperc@koncon.nl

Room: M203

Tuesday and Friday by appointment

Klarijn Verkaart, Coordinator Master Research

ma.studies@koncon.nl

+31 70 315 14 01

Room: M203

By appointment

III. Research in the master of music

Regular information updates will be posted throughout the year on the Intranet of the Royal Conservatoire at intranet.koncon.nl: Students -> Education -> Master Research. Please visit this website regularly. Additional information will be sent to your koncon e-mail address. Note: we do not use private e-mail addresses.

Scope of the research component of the Master of Music Programme

All students from the Classical Music, Early Music, Jazz, Vocal, Composition and Conducting departments, and the master specialisations Chamber Music, Orchestra Master, Aus LICHT, Ensemble Academy, Percussion Ensemble, Ensemble Singing, Theory of Music, Theory of Early Music and Music Education according to the Kodály Concept, follow the regular master's curriculum as described in this handbook. Students of one of the following specialisations may be required to follow certain parts of the curriculum: National Master Orchestral Conducting (NMO), New Audiences and Innovative Practice (NAIP) and Music Education. Additional information about these departments and specialisations can be obtained through the various department heads and our website.

Important: always check the online curriculum overview of your instrument, department, and/or specialisation.

- Students of the specialisations Music Education and New Audiences and Innovative Practice (NAIP) are required to follow the Introduction to Research in the Arts course and may register to our Master Electives. More information will follow via Heads of department Adri de Vugt (a.devugt@koncon.nl) and Renee Jonker (r.jonker@koncon.nl).
- Students of the Composition department may register to 'alternative' Electives from the Composition department

as well. More information about these Electives can be obtained through Head of department Martijn Padding (m.padding@koncon.nl). Students of the Composition department follow the regular master's curriculum as described in this handbook, but will have a separate Master Research Symposium. You will be assigned a research supervisor via the Composition department. Designated deadlines regarding when to hand in the preliminary and final version of the research exposition or thesis may differ.

- Students of the specialisation National Master for Orchestral Conducting (NMO) follow the regular master's curriculum as described in this handbook, but will not participate in a Master circle and will be registered for Master Electives by coordinator Marloes Kouwenberg (m.kouwenberg@koncon.nl).
- Students of the specialisations Orchestra Master, Aus LICHT and the Ensemble Academy follow the regular master's curriculum as described in this handbook, but will participate in a separate Master circle designed specifically for Orchestra Master, Aus LICHT or Ensemble Academy students. Students of the specialisation Aus LICHT will be assigned a research supervisor via Renee Jonker.
- Students of the specialisation Music Education according to the Kodály Concept follow the regular master's curriculum as described in this handbook, but will be assigned a research supervisor via Suzanne Konings. You will have a separate Master Research Symposium together with the students of the specialisation Music Education. Designated deadlines regarding when to hand in the preliminary and final version of the research exposition or thesis may differ. More information will follow via Head of department Suzanne Konings (s.konings@koncon.nl).
- Students from the specialisations Theory of Music and Theory of Early Music follow the regular master's curriculum as described in this handbook, but will be assigned a research supervisor via coordinator Paul Scheepers (p.scheepers@koncon.nl). You will join one of the Master circles of the specialisation Music Education according to the Kodály Concept.

Content of the research component of the Master of Music Programme

A. Courses

The core of the research component is your individual research project (see paragraph B). In addition, you are expected to participate in the following mandatory elements of the research component of the master's programme:

1. Introduction to Research in the Arts course in the first semester;
2. Master Electives in the first year;
3. Master Circles in the first and second year.

Your schedule for all courses is available via our online scheduling system ASIMUT (koncon.asimut.net) at the beginning of the school year. Any changes will be communicated via ASIMUT (Planning department) and/or teacher.

For more information about the mandatory elements and research please check the course descriptions in the Curriculum Handbooks of every programme via <https://koncon.nl/opleidingen> (choose the programme and the page 'Curriculum & Vakken') and our Study Guide.

For more information about our Master Electives please check the Master Electives Guide 2018-2019 and course descriptions via intranet: intranet.koncon.nl: Students -> Education -> Master Research and koncon.nl/masterelectives and/or contact Milla Cuperus (ma-electives@koncon.nl).

Registration: between 3 – 17 September via koncon.nl/masterelectives.

B. Individual Research Project

Research training in the master's programme centres on performing a research project, where you specialise in your own field. As a rule your artistic/musical practice will be the point of departure when choosing a research topic and when formulating the research question.

The Research Catalogue (researchcatalogue.net) is an international database for the documentation and publication of artistic research, and you will use it to document and present your research. You will receive an introduction to the use of the Research Catalogue through a series of workshops by Casper Schipper.

Supervisor

The curriculum provides that you will have a personal research supervisor in the first year, from the beginning of your study up to your research presentation in March or April of the second year. You will be assigned a research supervisor in **OCTOBER 2018**, selected from a pool consisting of both teachers whose duties also include research supervision, as well as specialised supervisors. A list of these teachers can be obtained from Head of Master Research Kathryn Cok (k.cok@koncon.nl). In addition you may choose a supervisor from outside the pool of supervisors, with whom you can work part of the time in conjunction with your assigned supervisor. Such an external supervisor could be an eminent musician or scholar who is not connected to the conservatoire and who is specialised in the area of research you are planning to undertake. A proposal for an external supervisor will have to be discussed by **1 OCTOBER 2018** with Kathryn Cok.

You have 15 minutes a week, or 60 minutes a month, for personal instruction by your research supervisor. This represents 15 hours of individual supervision, including preparation of and attendance at the trial presentation and final research presentation, over the entire course of the programme (including time spent with an external supervisor). The method and frequency of supervision is entirely up to the supervisor and to you and will differ from one individual to another. Both you and your (internal) supervisor use the online Research Catalogue as collaborative workspace.

Information about payment and guidelines for research supervisors in the master's programme can be obtained via Coordinator Klarijn Verkaart and via intranet and will be sent to all supervisors. The Royal Conservatoire will not pay your travel expenses if you want to visit supervisors abroad or in other cities than The Hague, nor will the school pay travel expenses for supervisors who travel from outside The Netherlands.

Format

While the format of presentation and documentation may vary greatly depending on the nature of the research, its outcome, and your main subject study, there must be a

coherent relationship between the research subject and the resulting documentation and presentation. You should clearly be aware of the importance of the research subject for your own artistic development, for other students and/or for the music world at large. In the three semesters leading up to the presentation of the research, you will have developed a viable research question, and undertaken research with the guidance of a research supervisor. The results should have a significant impact on your performing practice.

The final documentation of the research results must take the form of a research exposition or thesis and must be presented on the Research Catalogue. The exposition or thesis must be written in English and adhere to one of the following formats:

a) Research exposition

The research exposition is the culmination and final product of an in-depth period of research, and should include: critical thinking, source evaluation, and documentation. The research exposition should also serve as a vehicle for sharing new or expanded knowledge with the wider world. It should be centered upon a process that concerns your musical practice, and at the same time should demonstrate acquired research skills.

In the research exposition, the balance between the use of text and the use of other media (audio, video, scores, images) may vary. Whatever style you choose for the final dissemination of your research, your artistic practice should remain central to the research and the resulting research exposition. You should decide, in consultation with your supervisor(s), what balance and configuration of words, sounds and images, are appropriate to the communication and publication of your research project. Here the multimedia possibilities of the Research Catalogue make it possible to choose the most adequate format of the final research exposition.

You are encouraged to embed non-textual elements of your research directly into your written work on the RC, the action of doing so providing you with additional multimedia research and documentation skills. This, in addition, aids the presentation and dissemination of your research results to the wider world.

During the Master Research Symposium (see page 15) you are required to give a research presentation of 30 minutes, in which the artistic result should be demonstrable.

The research exposition must contain the following information:

1. A title Page (including title, your name, main subject, student number, date, Royal Conservatoire The Hague, name(s) of research supervisor(s) and the final chosen format of documentation (Exposition).
 2. The research question or issue addressed and its relevance for peers, your own artistic development and the music world at large;
 3. A description of the research process (the search for the solution to the research question) including methodology ;
 4. An analysis or critical discussion of the findings;
 5. Conclusions;
 6. A list of the sources consulted: next to the bibliography this may also include a list of interviews, experiments, etc;
 7. The exposition may include performance registrations, transcriptions, original compositions, musical analysis, instruction manuals, images or other material relevant to the research. It should be structured and embedded within the Research Catalogue.
- You must also adhere to the rules for quoting sources as addressed in the Introduction to Research in the Arts course;
 - Suggested word count: 5.000-10.000 words.

b) Thesis

If you wish to write an academic thesis, you should produce a substantial document with a defined structure, including an introduction, a body and a conclusion, in which you document your research through reasoning and the use of evidence and the correct use of sources. Students planning to continue on to a PhD programme, are advised to choose this format. Your artistic/ musical practice will still be the point of departure.

During the Master Research Symposium (see page 15) you are required to give a research presentation of 30 minutes, during which you defend your research subject and results and in which the artistic result should be demonstrable. The committee will include at least one member with a PhD.

The thesis must contain the following information:

1. A title Page (including title, your name, main subject, student number, date, Royal Conservatoire The Hague, name(s) of research supervisor(s) and the final chosen format of documentation (Thesis).
2. The research question or issue addressed and its relevance for peers and your own artistic development;
3. A description of the research process (the search for the solution to the research question) including methodology;

4. An analysis or critical discussion of the findings;
5. Conclusions;
6. A list of the sources consulted.

- You must adhere to the rules for quoting sources as addressed in the Introduction to Research in the Arts course.
- Suggested word count: 15,000-20,000 words.

Students and supervisors are advised to discuss which format best suits the chosen research topic of the student with Kathryn Cok (k.cok@koncon.nl).

Abstract

All students must also hand in an abstract of their research project twice. The second abstract will be included in the Master Research Symposium programme book.

The abstracts must be in English and must contain the following information:

1. Your name;
2. Main subject;
3. Name of research supervisor(s);
4. Title of research;
5. Research question;
6. Summary of the results of the research and an explanation of the chosen format of presentation (max. 250 words);
7. Short biography (max. 100 words).

You can find examples in programme books of Master Research Symposia via intranet.koncon.nl: Students -> Education -> Master Research.

Master Research Symposium

In the second semester of your second year of study, you are required to give a 30 minutes-presentation of your research in English to the examination committee in front of an interested audience, having chosen an appropriate format of presentation and documentation. The presentation should include live performance or audio and/or video examples in order to demonstrate the outcomes of your research project. You are in particular encouraged to demonstrate outcomes of your research project with your instrument or voice. The presentation is followed by questions from the examination committee and if time allows, members of the audience. You will be given the results of your research and presentation immediately following the deliberations of the committee.

Master Research Symposium

Final presentation of research results (2nd year master's students)

(Students Music Education according to the Kodály Concept: 11 to 13 June 2019; Composition t.b.a. via department)

1 to 5 April 2019

9:00 a.m. to 22:00 p.m.

Studio 1 and Studio 3

Re-examinations research presentations (2nd year master's students)

20, 21, 22 May 2019

Studio 3

Once the schedule has been made and communicated via our online scheduling system ASIMUT (koncon.asimut.net), it is no longer possible to change times, dates and/or locations. Any requests should be made by 1 OCTOBER 2018 via Klarijn Verkaart (ma.studies@koncon.nl). In order to make a correct schedule for the Master Research Symposium in April 2019, all 2nd year students should inform Kathryn Cok and Klarijn Verkaart if their final chosen format is a thesis, by **1 OCTOBER 2018**. After this date it is no longer possible to alter the format.

A computer (PC or a Mac; this depends on venue and availability), internet connection, beamer and monitor will be present. You can bring your own computers but you can also use a USB stick or CD ROM for presentations, which you should test beforehand. If other materials are required (instruments other than a grand piano, equipment, technology, etc.), you must arrange this yourself (via Planning Department, IT Department: 1st floor, and Electronic Workshop: basement). We will make sure the grand piano has been tuned, but we are not responsible for the tuning of other instruments.

The presentations will be recorded and filmed for quality assurance purposes. This material will only be for internal use and school archives, and cannot be shared with students for personal use.

All first year students are obliged to visit at least three presentations during the Master Research Symposium. Additional information on the schedule of the presentations will be distributed to all candidates well in time via KonCon e-mail addresses and internet/intranet.

Assessment of the research results

Agreements have been made at international level on the requirements that master's programmes in music should meet. The criteria were adopted as part of the Bologna process and are intended to promote the international comparability of new bachelor's and master's programmes and to make international recognition of degrees easier. The requirements are laid down in the so-called 'Polifonia/Dublin Descriptors', which were published by the European Association of Conservatoires (AEC) in 2010. According to the descriptors, the principal requirements for master's students are the ability to apply skills, knowledge and artistic understanding, together with research, the ability to formulate judgements, the ability to communicate about their own work and/or process, and the capacity to continue studying in a manner that is largely self-directive.

The research is personal to the student, so it is difficult to give a general frame of reference for the assessment of what will by definition be very diverse presentations. Therefore it has been decided to base the Royal Conservatoire assessment criteria on the "AEC/Polifonia Learning Outcomes for the 2nd cycle" (= master's study). These were formulated after lengthy study by a working group of international experts and are applied by a growing number of music academies in Europe. You can find more information about the assessment via intranet.koncon.nl: Students -> Education -> Master Research and in the course description 'Musician's Research and Development' in the Curriculum Handbooks.

Assessment criteria for master research presentations according to international standard

In general, master's students should attain the following learning outcomes, as described in the Learning Outcomes for master's studies defined by the European Association of Conservatoires (AEC):

- *Knowledge and understanding of repertoire and musical materials:*
At the completion of their master's studies, through individual in-depth research and study, students should have acquired comprehensive knowledge of Principal Study repertoire.
- *Knowledge and understanding of context*
At the completion of their master's studies, students should have a profound understanding of the interrelationship between their theoretical and practical studies and should have a sense of how to use this knowledge to strengthen their own artistic development.
At the completion of their master's studies, students are expected to have extended their contextual knowledge, developing it independently in ways relevant to their area of specialization.
- *Verbal skills*
Where required, students should be able to demonstrate their command of verbal skills in extended written or spoken presentations.

Assessment Criteria master research Royal Conservatoire

At the presentation all students are required to demonstrate the following points:

Relevance

- Artistic development
Is the research relevant for the artistic development of the student?
- Wider context
Is the research relevant for others, e.g. other students, musicians, for the professional field or musical life at large?

Project design and content

- Questions, issues, problems
Are the research questions, issues or problems well formulated or articulated? And how do they relate to the student's main studies?
- Contextualization
Is it clear how the research relates to the (artistic, historical, cultural, theoretical) state of the art in the field of inquiry and to what others have done in this area?
- Methods
Are the chosen methods adequate to answer the questions, issues or problems? And how is musical practice as method employed?
- New knowledge, insights, experiences, techniques and/or devices
Does the research deliver something that we did not know, understand, experience or have?
- Process
Is the research process sufficiently well described or otherwise communicated?
- Outcome
Is the balance between the research process and the (artistic) outcome of the research satisfactory?

Argumentation, documentation, presentation

- Reasoning, writing, documentation
Does the research make a clear case or claim and how does the use of text relate to the use of non-textual, e.g. artistic material? And does the form of documentation support the claim of the research?
- Information, source material, referencing, language
Is the information accurate, is the handling of source material and the referencing correct, and is the use of English acceptable?
- Public presentation
Is the verbal and public presentation of the research well-structured and convincing? And is the role of the artistic work in the presentation clear? Is the use of English acceptable?

Qualifying results: Excellent; very good; good; sufficient plus, sufficient, insufficient, non appearance.

Deadlines for submitting proposals, interim results and final results

You are expected to hand in written proposals or (interim) results during the two-year master's programme on the Research Catalogue so that the progress of the individual research projects can be monitored. There are a few deadlines during the course of 2018-2019. Please note that deadlines for master's students in the Composition department and specialisation Music Education according to the Kodály Concept differ. Further information can be obtained through Master circle leaders or Heads of department Martijn Padding and Suzanne Konings.

Deadline I

10 DECEMBER 2018 – Research proposal (1st year students only)

You must write and develop your personal research proposal in English as soon as possible in the first semester of the first year of the master's programme in consultation with your research supervisor, Master circle leader, and Head of Master Research Kathryn Cok. This proposal will be the conclusion of the Introduction to Research in the Arts course.

The proposal must be uploaded to the Research Catalogue. Please make sure your (internal) supervisor has approved your proposal on the R.C. – by means of a digital 'post-it note'! Precise instructions about this process on the R.C. will be sent well in advance to you and your supervisors by Casper Schipper (schipperc@koncon.nl). This proposal should remain part of your exposition on the Research Catalogue and be listed under 'Contents'. You can find examples via intranet.koncon.nl: Students -> Education -> Master Research.

Deadline II

1 May 2019 – abstract 1 (1st year students only)

An abstract of the current state of your research must be submitted in English to the Research Catalogue. Please make sure your (internal) supervisor has approved your abstract on the R.C. – by means of a digital 'post-it note'! Precise instructions about this process on the R.C. will be sent well in advance to you and your supervisors by Casper Schipper (schipperc@koncon.nl).

Every first-year master's student must attend a **First Year Research Assessment** in May 2019, where you will be given the opportunity to present your abstract and discuss the planning for your second academic year. You will receive notification of this approaching assessment via e-mail. Your approved abstract will be published online.

Deadline III

11 NOVEMBER 2018 – Preliminary version of research exposition (2nd year students only) (Students Music Education according to the Kodály Concept and Composition: 14 JANUARY 2019)

A preliminary version of the final research exposition or thesis, must be submitted in English to the Research Catalogue. The preliminary version of the research exposition or thesis should adhere to the same format (length and content) as the final version. The only difference being that at this stage you are still permitted to alter and add material, e.g. text, after comments of the Head of Master Research and supervisor(s).

Deadline IV

11 FEBRUARY 2019 – abstract 2 (2nd year students only) (Students Music Education according to the Kodály Concept and Composition: 13 MAY 2018)

The following must be submitted in English: a digital version of the abstract to Kathryn Cok (k.cok@koncon.nl), with your full name and Abstract in the e-mail subject heading. This abstract will be included in the Master Research Symposium programme book.

Deadline V

4 MARCH 2019 12:00 - final research exposition or thesis (2nd year students only)

(Students Music Education according to the Kodály Concept and Composition: 13 MAY 2018)

The following must be submitted in English: a complete digital version of the final research exposition or thesis on the Research Catalogue. Please make sure your (internal) supervisor has given a confirmation of submission of your research on the R.C. – by means of a digital ‘post-it note’! Precise instructions about this process on the R.C. will be sent well in advance to you and your supervisors by Casper Schipper (schipperc@koncon.nl).

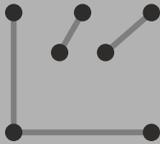
Study abroad periods as part of the ERASMUS programme

Master's students from the Royal Conservatoire who take part in the ERASMUS programme must contact Kathryn Cok and Klarijn Verkaart before the first semester of their time abroad. Erasmus students coming from abroad wishing to register for a Master Elective or the Introduction to Research in the Arts course should also contact Kathryn Cok and Klarijn Verkaart. For further information regarding the ERASMUS programme, please contact the International Office via koncon.nl/international-office.

Cooperation with the Academy for the Creative and Performing Arts and Leiden University

Taking a master's degree at the Royal Conservatoire, you have a unique opportunity to combine the arts and academic study at a high level. Since September 2001 Leiden University's Academy for the Creative and Performing Arts (part of the Faculty of the Humanities) and the University of the Arts, The Hague have been collaborating intensively in a programme designed to integrate arts and academic study and to develop a new course that combines artistic input and research. Consequently, in this phase of the course many of the hundreds of subjects taught at the Leiden University are open to you. For more information please check studiegids.leidenuniv.nl, our Study Guide and the Master Electives Guide 2018/19.

Although the information in this Handbook has been put together with great care, it may contain errors or omissions. It may be amended or updated at any time. Any updates will be communicated via intranet.koncon.nl: Students -> Education -> Master Research, ASIMUT or KonCon e-mail. Please always make sure that you read the latest information: this is version I: updated 1 JULY 2018.



**Royal
Conservatoire
The Hague**