

Master Plan as part of admission for the master's programme

The admissions procedure

Students must pass an entrance exam before they enter the master's programme. The exam comprises the following elements:

1. A grade of "good" (= a grade of at least 8) for the artistic and playing aspect or for the compositional aspect attained in the bachelor's exam or, for students from outside the conservatoire, during a separate entrance exam for the master's programme;
2. A realistic study plan, the so-called Master Plan;
3. Students from outside the Royal Conservatoire must give a convincing performance during an intake interview, demonstrating their insight and motivation for the chosen study and associated elements of the curriculum as well as making it clear that they are aware of the course load during the next two years and are willing to devote sufficient time to their studies. These applicants are required to submit the Master Plan as well.

Master Plan

Students coming from the Bachelor of Music programme of the Royal Conservatoire wanting to apply for the master's programme must do this via Studielink **before the deadline of 1 March**. The student is required to follow the procedure for applying as published on www.koncon.nl, in which it is explained that the Master Plan (next to other documents) has to be uploaded in Osiris Aanmeld, the online application tool of the Royal Conservatoire.

Once the Master Plan is uploaded in Osiris Aanmeld it will be seen as ready for admission. In case any improvements should be made, the student will be informed about this via email. An approved Master Plan will be distributed to the members of the admission committee.

The components of the Master Plan

In the Master Plan, students are asked to describe how they think the master's programme will influence the attainment of their future career goals.

It is important to realize that the master's programme at the Royal Conservatoire comprises three main parts:

- a) The main subject;
- b) Professional practice/activities organized by the Career Development Office (CDO);
- c) Research.

The Master Plan must include these **three aspects** bearing in mind the points given below. **The total length of the Master Plan should be no more than 2 A4.**

a) Main subject

In this part you explain your ideas about the main subject component of your master's studies. Your ideas should encompass:

- ✓ the reasons why you want to continue your studies after the bachelor's study; the teacher you wish to study with and why;
- ✓ a specialization in the repertoire of certain composers, certain periods, or in certain styles;
- ✓ your ideas on a period of study abroad period through exchange programmes such as ERASMUS;
- ✓ your thoughts on improvisation, composition, and/or arranging;
- ✓ Composition students should indicate and motivate their choice of profile (instrumental/vocal music, electronic/computer music or multidisciplinary).

b) Professional practice

In this part of the plan you describe how, during your master's studies, you would like to develop, realize and maintain the relationships with professional music practice, and important movements and trends, nationally and internationally. You can also mention your ideas on your personal, present and future performances and/or projects.

c) Research proposal

The research component belongs to the core curriculum of the master's programme. In brief, each student in the master's programme has to conduct research that is ideally directly linked with the main subject and leads to an exposition, a presentation or a lecture-recital. The research of each master's student is supervised on an individual basis by research supervisors and discussed in Master circles, which consist of students in the same subject areas. Regarding research topics: students are advised to choose research topics that are closely related to their own artistic practice and continuing development.

This section of the Master Plan must include the following information:

1. Title of your research;
2. Research question;
3. Motivation/rationale and goal of your research project (for your own artistic practice as well as for others);
4. Methodology (give an indication of the methods you will use);
5. Research contextualisation (how does the research relate to the state of the art in the field of inquiry and to what others have done?);
6. Research process (including information on sources, media, information obtained from networks of colleagues/experts/teachers, etc.) and planning;
7. Chosen format of documentation (research exposition or thesis).

The assessment of the Master Plan

The Master Plan will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- ✓ The Master Plan should be realistic and serious enough to show that it will support two years of study and already give a broad indication of subjects or aspects to be researched;
- ✓ The plan must show that the student is already familiar with the demands that professional practice will make on him or her in the future and the plan and the application to join the programme must reflect those criteria;
- ✓ Students must also reflect on their attitude, motivation, dedication and drive in the Master Plan;
- ✓ The plan should be the second main criterion for admission to the master's programme, in addition to the artistic and/or playing aspect in the bachelor's exam;
- ✓ Accordingly, both internal and external candidates, must submit their Master Plan before the deadline of 1 March 2018 in Osiris Aanmeld, following the application procedure for Master candidates as described on www.koncon.nl.