

The Master Plan for admission to the master's programme



**Composition, New Audiences and Innovative Practice (NAIP),
Instrumental and Vocal learning & teaching, Music Education
according to the Kodály Concept, Theory of Music**

PLEASE NOTE: this document only applies to students wishing to be admitted to the Master of Music programme in the following disciplines:

- Composition
- New Audiences and Innovative Practice (NAIP)
- Instrumental and Vocal Learning & Teaching
- Music Education according to the Kodály Concept
- Theory of Music

The admissions procedure

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

- a. A realistic study plan, the so-called Master Plan;
- b. **Students from the Bachelor of Music programme of the Royal Conservatoire**

A high artistic and instrumental level attained in the bachelor's exam at the Royal Conservatoire;

Applicants from outside the Royal Conservatoire

A convincing performance during an intake interview, demonstrating your insight and motivation for the chosen study and associated elements of the curriculum. You must show that you are aware of the course load during the next two years and are willing to devote sufficient time to your studies.

Timeline

Students from the Bachelor of Music programme of the Royal Conservatoire wanting to apply for the master's programme: you must do this via Studielink **before the deadline of 1 March 2020**. You are required to follow the procedure for applying as is explained on 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.

External applicants: you should submit the Master Plan with your other documentation as part of the admission procedure as explained on koncon.nl **before the deadline of 1 March 2020**.

Once the Master Plan is uploaded in Osiris Aanmeld it will be seen as ready for admission. In case any improvements should be made, you 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, you are asked to describe how you think the master's programme will influence the attainment of your future career goals.

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

- a. Artistic Development
- b. Research
- c. Professional preparation

The Master Plan must include these **three aspects** bearing in mind the points given below¹. **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;
- if applicable: the teacher you wish to study with and why;
- a specialisation in the repertoire of certain composers, certain periods, certain styles, teaching strategies, didactic material;
- 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)
- Students in Instrumental and Vocal Learning & Teaching, or Music Education according to the Kodály Concept should give their thoughts on teaching and learning music.

¹ Please note that the disciplines Instrumental and Vocal Learning & Teaching, and Music Education according to the Kodály Concept have a fourth aspect: Music Educational Theories and Didactic Skills. Please include this aspect in your Master Plan.

b. 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 or teaching 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 or teaching 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).

c. Professional preparation

In this part of the plan you describe how, during your master's studies, you would like to develop, realise and maintain the relationships with the 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.

Assessment

The admission to the Master of Music programme will be an assessment of the following selection criteria, based on an entrance audition/interview (for external students) or Bachelor of Music examination (for Royal Conservatoire students), and the information provided in the Master Plan:

1. High artistic and (where applicable) instrumental level in the main instrument or subject.
2. In the Master Plan and during the interview there should be evidence of:

- Own initiative (independent and pro-active thinking) and dedication
- Creativity: the ability to synthesize and integrate the three master domains
- Understanding of the student's wider cultural and professional context
- A realistic approach showing that the proposed activities can be supported by two years of study.

It should be clear from the assessment that you have understood the purpose of the Master of Music programme, i.e. that the programme is not just a continuation of two more years of individual lessons, but is rather based on an holistic educational philosophy that will help you to develop your own identity as a reflective practitioner of a high artistic level in preparation of your entrance into the music profession.

Please note that the Master Plan is primarily meant as an assessment tool during the entrance examination. It is therefore possible that your final plan will be different from what you have described in your Master Plan, but it could also be the same.