

Curriculum Handbook

• Artist
Certificate
Music



**Royal
Conservatoire
The Hague**

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Artist Certificate Music – Introduction

If you have a Master of Music degree from the Royal Conservatoire or an equivalent institute and a real desire to further develop your professional and artistic skills or concentrate on specific repertoire or techniques, you can apply for our Artist Certificate Music course.

The Artist Certificate Music course is a full-time, one-year programme. Students are expected to complete the course within one academic year, as it is not possible to extend the course to a two-year course. The course acts as a continuation of the Master of Music programme in which you can focus solely on your artistic development. It is important to realise that while the Artist Certificate Music is a post-second cycle level programme, it leads to a non-degree certificate. This means it is not a Bachelor, Master or Doctoral degree programme and students are therefore not entitled to Dutch student finance or a student travel product. After successful completion of the Artist Certificate Music course you will receive a certificate.

The Artist Certificate Music course is offered in the following departments: Classical Music (including choral and wind band conducting), Jazz, Early Music, Vocal Studies, and Composition.

Curriculum

The curriculum of the Artist's Certificate Music programme consists of the Main Subject course.

Besides these individual instrumental, vocal or composition lessons, it is possible to participate in ensembles and orchestral projects. Please note that you are not required to do any examinations as part of these ensembles or projects. In addition to this, you have access to the Career Development Office (Podiumbureau), the Royal Conservatoire's external bookings office, which organises regular performance opportunities.

The Main Subject course does not attract any credits (ECTS) but once you have successfully completed the Final Presentation at the end of the year, you will be awarded the Artist Certificate Music.

Department contact details

If you want to participate in (orchestral/big-band) projects within the conservatoire, don't hesitate to contact your department. You can find all contact details on the [KC Portal](#).

Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Instrument/Voice course description

Course title	Artist Certificate Music - Main Subject Instrument/Voice
Prerequisites	Master of Music
Course content	<p>Together with your main subject teacher you devise a programme for your one-to-one lessons tailored to your personal wishes and needs. The focus lies on continuing your artistic development in relation to your personal goals. At the end of the academic year you are expected to do a Final Presentation.</p> <p>You will receive individual lessons of 60 minutes per week, 34 weeks per academic year.</p> <p>Main subject teachers often offer group lessons during which students can play for each other. In addition, there are master classes given by visiting guests - for example the ASPIRE guest teachers in the Jazz department.</p>
Course objectives	<p>At the end of this course, you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ are able to perform on a level that can be qualified as 'high at an international level'; ▪ relate your position and artistic profile towards the music and the music profession independently and at a post-master level, through a deepened development of craftsmanship and artistic growth; ▪ create your own work/interpretations based on an original artistic vision and research; ▪ develop, through an inquisitive attitude, advanced knowledge of repertoire and translate this knowledge musically into a convincing and original interpretation; ▪ are able to act as your own teacher as a reflective practitioner, by being able to assess and evaluate the quality of your own performance, keep this quality up-to-date and develop it further by continuing to learn independently.
Credits	n/a
Level	Artist Certificate Music (post-master, non-degree)
Work form	Individual lessons, group lessons, master classes
Literature	Repertoire etc. to be discussed with teacher.
Language	English
Scheduling	60 minutes per week, 34 weeks per year
Date, time & venue	See ASIMUT
Teachers	See www.koncon.nl for list of main subject teachers.
Contact information	Main subject teachers and relevant head of department.
Assessment	This course is assessed using the following assignment. The assignment needs to be passed in order to pass this course.
Assignment	Assignment 1
Assignment type	Final Presentation
Assignment description	Practical exam: recital
Assignment requirements	Final Presentation of 60 minutes. You are free to choose the programme.
Assignment planning	May/June

Assessment criteria	See the relevant assessment criteria of your department on the next pages.
Weighting	100%
Grading scale	Numeric (using halves)
Re-assignment description	Same as assignment(s) above
Re-assignment planning	Re-assignments take place in consultation with the department, based on hall, coach pianist (if applicable) and committee availability.
Practical Information about Final Presentations	<p>The date for your Final Presentation will be published on ASIMUT. The date and time cannot be changed and swapping with another student is not allowed. However, if you need to postpone your Final Presentation due to serious circumstances, you must inform your Head of Department or coordinator as soon as possible. The Final Presentations are normally public.</p> <p>For practical information about Final Presentations go to this KC Portal page and make sure you take a look at the Final presentations at the Royal Conservatoire document.</p>




Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Composition course description

Course title	Artist Certificate Music - Main Subject Composition
Prerequisites	Master of Music
Course content	<p>Together with your main subject teachers, you devise a programme for your one-to-one lessons tailored to your personal wishes and needs. The focus lies on continuing your artistic development in relation to your personal goals. You will receive individual lessons of 60 minutes per week, 34 weeks per academic year. In addition, you can participate in the Studium Generale: these are weekly meetings of 2 hours, 36 weeks per academic year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In the individual lessons, you receive intensive supervision as you deepen your compositional skills, carry out research (which is an inextricable element of the composition of any music work), and discover a personal artistic expression. You receive coaching by two main subject teachers (team teaching). You are given assignments that are specifically geared to your goals. In the lessons, you further develop the techniques of composing, on the basis of fundamental principles of structure, form, musical content and significance, as well as the development of a musical language. You are challenged to experiment and deepen your knowledge in specific areas of personal artistic interest. During the lessons on the main subject, connections are made to your own research. Aspects such as instrumentation, harmony, part-writing, notation, aesthetics, performance practice, new technology, and being able to hold a discourse on your work, are fundamental components of the lessons. ▪ An important element of the Composition main subject is the Studium Generale. This is a weekly group lesson for all students of the Composition Department facilitated by composition teachers. In these lessons (inter)national guests are invited to give lectures about their work but the Studium Generale is mostly a platform for students to present their own work and research. The lessons can also take a more practical form when ensembles present themselves and specific projects are initiated. The purpose of the Studium Generale element is to give students ample opportunity to discuss music matters but also matters related to political, social and cultural aspects which are relevant to society and which shape the framework in

	<p>which artists work. Studium Generale is the place where students can sharpen and fine-tune their views through discussions with their peers and teachers.</p> <p>At the end of the academic year you are expected to do a Final Presentation, a concert of your own works.</p>
Course objectives	<p>At the end of this course, you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ have strong skills in conceptual thinking; ▪ have added to your compositional oeuvre related to your research and artistic development; ▪ demonstrate the capacity to find creative compositional solutions at post-master's level; ▪ show a progressively deepening development in an artistic sense and a craftsmanship that enables you to operate independently as a professional, often in an international context; ▪ have a clear awareness of current (international) developments in the arts in general, and contemporary music in particular, and are able to position yourself and your work in relation to those developments; ▪ can act as your own teacher by knowing what determines the quality of your work and how to maintain and further develop that standard, by continuing to learn independently.
Credits	n/a
Level	Artist Certificate Music (post-master, non-degree)
Work form	Individual lessons, group teaching in Studium Generale, project coaching
Literature	To be discussed with teacher.
Language	English
Scheduling	Individual lessons: 60 minutes per week, 34 weeks per academic year Studium Generale: weekly meetings of 2 hours, 36 weeks per academic year
Date, time & venue	Weekly individual lessons by appointment, weekly Studium Generale sessions on Monday evenings.
Teachers	See www.koncon.nl for list of main subject teachers.
Contact information	Main subject teachers and relevant head of department.
Assessment	This course is assessed using the following assignment. The assignment needs to be passed in order to pass this course.
Assignment	Assignment 1
Assignment type	Final Presentation
Assignment description	Practical exam: recital
Assignment requirements	Final Presentation of 60 minutes consisting of repertoire you have worked on during your Artist Certificate Music course.
Assignment planning	May/June
Assessment criteria	See the relevant assessment criteria of your department on the next pages.
Weighting	100%
Grading scale	Numeric (using halves)
Re-assignment description	Same as assignment(s) above
Re-assignment planning	Re-assignments take place in consultation with the department, based on hall, coach pianist (if applicable) and committee availability.
Practical Information about Final Presentations	The date for your Final Presentation will be published on ASIMUT. The date and time cannot be changed and swapping with another student is not allowed. However, if you need to postpone your Final Presentation due to serious circumstances, you must inform your Head of Department or coordinator as soon as possible. The Final Presentations are normally public.

	For practical information about Final Presentations go to this KC Portal page and make sure you take a look at the Final presentations at the Royal Conservatoire document.
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Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Assessment Criteria – Classical Music

	Technique	Musicianship & performance	Artistry
	<p>sound</p> <p>precision facility</p>  <p>virtuosity intonation</p> <p>control</p>	<p>phrasing</p> <p>style rhythm</p>  <p>presence character</p> <p>dynamics communication</p>	<p>creativity</p> <p>booklet vision</p>  <p>personality innovation</p> <p>listener experience concept</p>
Grade	Description		
10	Extraordinary and remarkable technical ability	Extraordinary and remarkable application of the elements of musicality and performance	Exceptional artistry shades grade upward
9	Highly advanced and distinctive technical ability	Imaginative and inspiring application of the elements of musicality and performance	
8	Convincing and balanced technical ability with room for further growth	Convincing application of the elements of musicality and performance with room for further growth	
7	Proficient technical ability, still requiring more consistency and coherence across its elements	Proficient application of the elements of musicality and performance, still requiring growth in musical conviction	
6	Acceptable technical ability, but in need of consistency in order to support convincing music making	Acceptable application of the elements of musicality and performance, but in need of development to create a compelling musical argument	
5	Insufficient technical ability	Insufficient application of the elements of musicality and performance	

Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Assessment Criteria – Early Music

	Technical Skills	Musicianship & Style	Artistry & Communication
	<p>sound</p> <p>accuracy</p> <p>facility</p> <p>virtuosity</p> <p>control</p> <p>intonation</p>	<p>sense of style</p> <p>character</p> <p>variety</p> <p>dynamics</p> <p>phrasing</p> <p>timing</p>	<p>creativity</p> <p>programme</p> <p>stage presence</p> <p>audience experience</p> <p>vision & concept</p> <p>musical interaction</p>
Grade	Description		
10	Full focus on all musical intentions through an exceptional and remarkable mastery of the technical demands.	Extraordinary transmission of personal musical statements within the context of musicianship and style.	Performance marked by flawless concentration on the musical and artistic message while continuously inviting ensemble and/or audience into a shared conviction.
9	Very good control of the instrument, realising all musical intentions.	Imaginative and advanced application of musicianship and personal stylistic awareness in a convincing programme.	Compelling performance with imaginative artistic choices throughout: an engaging and inspired musical interaction with ensemble and/or audience.
8	Good instrumental technique and freedom in the use thereof with room for further growth.	Convincing awareness of pertinent aspects of style and musical language with room for further growth.	Convincing performance showing an artistic vision throughout: good musical interaction with ensemble and/or audience.
7	More than adequate ability to handle the instrument in all technical aspects with room for further growth in terms of consistency and coherence.	Basic yet coherent stylistically-defined realisation of the elements of musicianship and style, with room for further growth.	Satisfying the general needs of musical communication, with room for creative and artistic growth.
5,5 - 6	Basic security of instrumental skills, in need of consistency to support convincing music making.	Limited realisation of stylistic aspects in need of development to create a compelling musical argument.	Able to engage with basic elements of music making (within an ensemble) and directing this to an audience, in need of development to create a convincing performance.
0 - 5	Inadequate control, seriously impinging on the capacity to project musical intentions.	Very limited application of the musicianship elements and awareness of style and no proof of contextual knowledge.	Inadequate throughout in actively sharing musical content in a performance setting.

Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Assessment Criteria – Vocal Studies

	TECHNICAL SKILLS	MUSICALITY AND ARTISTRY	COMMUNICATION AND PRESENTATION
10	Distinction on all aspects.	Distinction on all aspects	Distinction on all aspects
9-9.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophisticated and secure control of the voice, intonation, and physical engagement of the breath support system. • Dynamic articulation and pronunciation, with a vocal sound quality that is both refined and convincingly shows a broad range of musical intentions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambitious and imaginative artistry and expressive ability, using in-depth knowledge of musical language and style. • Excellent textual awareness, phrasing, and understanding. • Excellent musicality, showing advanced rhythmic and harmonic awareness, and dynamic range. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compelling capacity to move an audience. • Excellent collaborative ethos between members of the ensemble resulting in an integrated and engaging performance. • Artistically meaningful and innovative programming concept, and it is explained well in the programme handout.
8-8.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accomplished control of the voice, intonation, and physical engagement of the breath support system. • Clear articulation and pronunciation, with a vocal sound quality that shows a convincing capacity to communicate a wide range of music intentions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convincing artistry and expressive ability, showcasing knowledge of musical language and style. • Accomplished textual awareness, phrasing, and understanding. • Passionate musicality, showing confident rhythmic and harmonic awareness, and dynamic range. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and convincing capacity to engage an audience. • Clear and confident ensemble playing that shows good communication between team members. • Attractive and coherent programming, and it is justified in the programme handout.
7-7.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly convincing control of the voice, intonation, and breath support system. • Adequate articulation and pronunciation with a vocal sound quality that is largely consistent and shows good potential to project musical intentions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modest artistry and expressive ability with considerable awareness of musical language and style. • Generally convincing textual awareness, phrasing, and understanding. • Generally convincing musicality, showing proficient rhythmic and harmonic awareness, and dynamic range. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General capacity to engage an audience. • A basic level of ensemble playing and reacting to those in the team. • Good programming choices, and information in the programme handout.
5.5-6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passable control of the voice. Issues with intonation and engagement of the breath support system may be present. • Articulation and pronunciation are admissible. • Limited sound quality and capacity to project musical intentions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some awareness of stylistic details. • Basic textual understanding and phrasing. • Limited musicality. Issues with basic rhythmic and harmonic awareness may be present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some capacity to engage an audience. • A recognisable attempt to engage with the musical ideas of the ensemble. • Nice programming with limited challenges, and adequate information in the programme handout.

0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate control of the voice, intonation and/or engagement of the breath control system. • Poor articulation and pronunciation. • Insufficient sound quality and capacity to project musical intentions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited and inconsistent presence stylistic awareness. • Inadequate textual awareness, phrasing, and understanding. • Inadequate artistry with no rhythmic or harmonic understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited capacity to engage an audience. • Inadequate interaction between ensemble members. • Technically below standard and artistically uninteresting programming, and the programme handout contains insufficient information.
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Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Assessment Criteria – Composition

	9 - 10	7,5 - 8,5	5,5 - 7	0 - 5
Authenticity/Originality	Very authentic approach, highly individual musical language resulting in original works. Shows strong artistic personality.	Has found a genuine and sincere musical language but not very original.	Works clearly in a general defined and known musical idiom.	Shows no artistic personality. Can't get away from beaten tracks.
Craftsmanship/ Technique (working with/ developing musical material)	Shows fantasy and knows exactly to define the right technique for specific compositional matter. Is capable of developing new techniques for new situations.	Is capable of applying a diversity of composition techniques with good result.	Use of enough composition techniques with average result.	No insight in good use of composition techniques or in individual development of them.
Instrumentation	Has found a highly personal way of instrumentation (electronics included) that fits the musical concept perfect and/or a very detailed knowledge about instrumentation in general.	Working from a diverse palette of instrumentation with good results.	Instrumentation level is functional but not innovative or personal.	Shows no fantasy or affinity with instrumental colour or instrumental techniques.

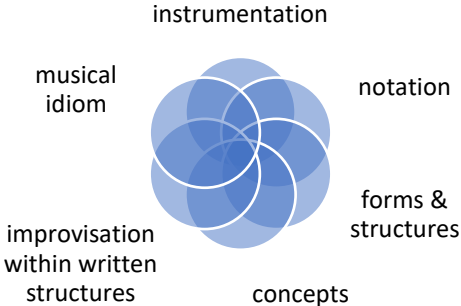
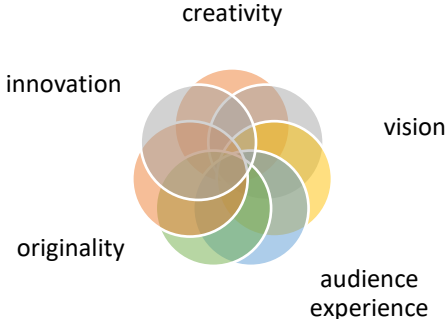
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	9 - 10	7,5 - 8,5	5,5 - 7	0 - 5
Conceptual thinking	Found very solid balance between conceptual starting points and pragmatic issues. Is capable of building musical structures from pure conceptual thoughts.	Is aware of potency of conceptual thinking and can apply this with good results.	Conceptual abilities are average. Shows not much evidence of consistent and deeper abstract thinking.	Does not know how to apply conceptual strategies to composition or how to transform a concept into musical language/material.
Notation grade	Developed a specific notation that suits the musical idiom very well and/or a very refined mastery of instrumentation in general.	A good level in notation. Is able to notate/document any musical idea.	Notation is enough to make a musical idea clear to performers.	Shows no affinity with notating/documenting a musical idea in detail.
Composition research	Is inventive and consistent in defining and performing composition research as a preparatory phase to the composition process.	Research results in enough ideas or strategies to develop the composition process with good results.	Composition research is average resulting in acceptable but not high quality artistic planning.	Very shallow research resulting in meagre artistic planning.
Self-reflection/ Analytical capacities	Very capable of describing their artistic process. Able to take distance from own process. Can see own output in perspective of traditional canon. Is able to decide on the next artistic step as result of being self-reflective.	Is analytic but could be more inventive in drawing artistic conclusions based upon that analyses. Is able to direct himself into new directions with good results.	Self-reflective and analytic qualities are enough to be able to come up with ideas to explore into new directions with average result.	No abilities in self-reflection. Can't see own development in greater perspective.

Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Assessment Criteria – Jazz (Instrumental & Vocal)

	Technique & Sound	Musicianship & Performance	Artistry
	<p>sound / timbre</p> <p>accuracy</p> <p>facility</p> <p>virtuosity</p> <p>control</p>	<p>improvisation</p> <p>harmonic & melodic sense</p> <p>presence</p> <p>communication</p> <p>rhythm</p> <p>phrasing</p> <p>dynamics</p>	<p>creativity</p> <p>innovation</p> <p>vision</p> <p>personality</p> <p>concept</p> <p>audience experience</p>
Grade	Description		
10	Extraordinary and remarkable technical ability and sound	Extraordinary and remarkable application of the elements of musicianship and performance	Exceptional artistry shades grade upward
9	Highly advanced and distinctive technical ability and sound	Imaginative and inspiring application of the elements of musicianship and performance	
8	Convincing and balanced technical ability and sound with room for further growth	Convincing application of the elements of musicianship and performance with room for further growth	
7	Proficient technical ability and sound, still requiring more consistency and coherence across its elements	Proficient application of the elements of musicianship and performance, still requiring growth	
6	Acceptable technical ability and sound, but in need of consistency in order to support convincing music making	Acceptable application of the elements of musicianship and performance, but in need of development to create a compelling musical argument	
5	Insufficient technical ability and sound	Insufficient application of the elements of musicianship and performance	

Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Assessment Criteria – Jazz (Composition)

	Craftmanship & Technique	Artistry
		

Grade	Description	
10	Extraordinary and remarkable craftmanship and technical ability	Exceptional artistry shades grade upward
9	Highly advanced and distinctive craftmanship and technical ability	
8	Convincing and balanced craftmanship and technical ability with room for further growth	
7	Proficient craftmanship and technical ability, still requiring more consistency and coherence across its elements	
6	Acceptable craftmanship and technical ability, but in need of consistency in order to support convincing composing	
5	Insufficient craftmanship and technical ability	

Artist Certificate Music: Main Subject Assessment Criteria – Choral / Wind Band Conducting

	9 - 10	7,5 – 8,5	5,5 – 7	0 - 5
Musical awareness	Shows personal concepts on a very high artistic level combined with outstanding ways of expression.	Shows personal, artistically interesting concepts and clear ways of expression.	Shows less original concepts, but has sufficient ways of expression.	No sign of original concepts, insufficient ways of expression.
Communication	Makes their ideas completely clear to the orchestra and the audience verbally and by gesture in an inspiring way.	Has sufficient means to make their ideas clear to the orchestra and the audience.	There are moments of misunderstanding between conductor and orchestra but the performance comes out in an acceptable manner.	There are too many moments of misunderstanding between conductor and orchestra leading to a poor performance.
Rehearsal technique	Shows great pedagogical, didactical and psychological skills in improving the quality of the orchestra.	Shows pedagogical, didactical and psychological insight to improve the quality of the orchestra.	Manages to improve the orchestra on a technical level but lacks profound psychological insight.	Does not manage to improve the orchestra due to a lack of didactical skills and poor non-verbal means.
Conducting technique	Shows full understanding of the score, transmits their musical ideas non-verbally in a completely clear manner.	Shows good understanding of the score, transmits their musical ideas non-verbally in a clear and proficient manner.	Is able to transmit their ideas non-verbally but lacks means to make contact with the orchestra in an inspiring way.	Does not show a sufficient understanding of the score. Serious impediments in the non-verbal communication with the orchestra.
Programme/Programme notes/ Presentation	Artistically meaningful and innovative programme. Clear vision on the current musical landscape Illuminating presentation and personal view on the programme.	Artistically attractive programme, with affinity with the current musical landscape. Good presentation with a personal view on the programme.	Artistically well-chosen programme, taking into consideration practical and artistic limits. General presentation of the programme.	Programme lacks originality and a personal view. Presentation with apparent mistakes.