



FACULTY OF FINE, APPLIED AND PERFORMING ARTS

Master of Fine Arts in Music with Specialisation in Improvisation Performance, 120 credits

Konstnärligt masterprogram i musik, inriktning improvisation, 120 högskolepoäng

Programme code: K2IMP

Second cycle / Avancerad nivå

1. Confirmation

This programme syllabus was confirmed by the Dean of the Faculty on 30-11-2017 (G 2017/622) and was last revised on 20-10-2020 (GU 2020/2459) to be valid from 30-08-2021, Autumn semester 2021.

Responsible Department/Equivalent: Academy of Music and Drama

2. Purpose

The aim of the degree programme is to provide students with the opportunity to deepen and broaden their artistic expertise and reflecting musical creation in the area of improvisation. The programme prepares the student for the professional role as a composer and freelance musician as well as for continued higher studies. A Masters degree (second-cycle, 120 credits) gives students eligibility to apply to doctoral (third-cycle) courses and study programmes.

3. Entry requirements

Bachelor degree of arts in music or equivalent, and musical knowledge and skills that are assessed at the admission test and are the basis for selection. The education is conducted in English. Applicants must prove their knowledge of English: English 6/English B from Swedish Upper Secondary School or the equivalent level of an internationally recognized test, for example TOEFL or IELTS.

4. Higher education qualification and main field of study

This programme leads to a Degree of Master of Fine Arts (120 credits) in Music with Specialisation in Improvisation Performance (Konstnärlig masterexamen i musik med inriktning mot improvisation).

5. Outcomes

General outcomes for Degree of Master in Fine Arts (120 credits)

According to Higher Education Ordinance (see SFS 1993:100, System of Qualifications, Annex 2):

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Master in Fine Arts (120 hec) the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including both broad knowledge of the field and a considerable degree of specialised knowledge in areas of the field as well as specialised insight into current research and development work, and
- demonstrate familiarity with methods and processes for dealing with complex phenomena, issues and situations in the field.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Master in Fine Arts (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to formulate new issues autonomously and creatively and contribute to the formation of knowledge, solve more advanced problems, develop new forms of personal expression as well as to reflect critically on his or her artistic approach and that of others in the main field of study
- demonstrate the ability to create and execute his or her own ideas with his or her own personal expression, to identify, formulate and solve artistic and creative problems autonomously and also to plan and undertake advanced artistic tasks using appropriate methods within predetermined time frames
- demonstrate the ability both nationally and internationally to clearly present and discuss his or her works and artistic issues in speech, writing or in other ways and in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the competence and knowledge required to work autonomously in a professional capacity.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree in Master of Fine Arts (120 credits) the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant artistic, social and ethical issues
- demonstrate insight into the role of art in society, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Local outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

- create and develop music through improvisation, composition and cross-genre cooperations

- substantiate and communicate their artistic ambitions with a personal profile in their musical exercise and composing
- contribute new artistic approaches and innovation in the music scene

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to develop and extend musical perspectives and methodical work in their independent artistic work
- demonstrate the ability to meet a music field and music industry in transformation, both musically and professionally
- work independently with requiring artistic challenges and initiate, implement and lead different projects

Judgement and approach

- independently and critically analyse material from artistic research as well as relate to and use this in their own work

6. Content and structure

The programme studies (second cycle level) are centered around the student's personal musical profile, qualifications and goals, and aims to give the student advanced knowledge, competences and experiences in the area of improvisation. The programme prepares for the professional role of a freelance musician and composer, as well as training them to conduct artistic research projects.

The programme is given in collaboration with the Rhythmic Music Conservatory in Copenhagen and the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo. A student who is admitted to the programme will complete semester one and four of the programme in Gothenburg, semester two in Copenhagen and semester three in Oslo. The student is registered and examined in courses at the Academy of Music and Drama during all four semesters.

The programme gives the student advanced knowledge and experience of artistic processes and different musical expressions of our time. The content of the programme links directly to the professional role and to the student's own choice of profile. The student is given opportunities, in their different modes of expression, to extend and deepen their perspective on concepts of improvisation and composition.

During the first three semesters four courses are given:

Main subject master improvisation/world music (in all 45 credits), where the course content furthers the students development of their personal musical profiles. Students prepare one concert per semester which are later used as the foundation for their independent project work, carried out in semester 4. The student also participates in international collaborative artistic projects together with other Master's programmes.

Master's seminars (in all 12 credits) are given to students in several of the Master's (120 credits) programmes at the music department. The course includes seminars, workshops and lectures on themes that are relevant to the main subject, often in an interdisciplinary context.

In *The Reflecting Artist* (in all 18 credits) students meet experienced practitioners from several artistic fields in seminars, discussion forums and workshops. In these courses the students present and discuss their independent projects from an artistic and theoretical view point.

The student's personal profile (in all 15 credits) is determined by their choice in elective courses offered at the department.

The module Core Values (semester 1, 1.5 credits) is given in collaboration with other Master's (120 credits) programmes at the department.

In semester 1 and 4 students study the Independent project (degree project) (30 credits) courses where they write a thesis on a methodological artistic research project within their main field of study. The text must be written in dialogue with the student's artistic work as a whole. The work culminates in a completed artistic project, that includes audio/video documentation or a score, as well as a written reflective text in an optional format.

The programme is divided into the following courses:

Semester 1:

MIV201	Main subject master improvisation/world music 1	15 credits
MAS201	Independent Project (Degree Project) master 1	7,5 credits
MAS231	Master's seminar 1	3 credits
MIV231	The Reflective Artist 1	4.5 credits

Semester 2:

MIV202	Main subject master improvisation/world music 2	15 credits
MAS232	Master's seminar 2	3 credits
MIV232	The Reflective Artist 2	4.5 credits
	Elective course	7.5 credits

Semester 3:

MIV203	Main subject master improvisation/world music 3	15 credits
MAS233	Master's seminar 3	3 credits
MIV233	The Reflective Artist 3	4.5 credits
	Elective course	7.5 credits

Semester 4:

MAS205	Independent Project (Degree Project) master improvisation	22,5 hp
MIV234	The Reflective Artist 4	4,5 hp
MAS234	Master's Seminar 4	3 hp

7. Other information

Studies on evenings and weekends can occur to a lesser extent. Follow up and evaluation of programme happens in accordance with current Policy for quality assurance and quality development of education at University of Gothenburg.