



## **Admission Procedure Master of Arts in Musical Performance: Producing/Performance Jazz, focus on production**

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### **Guideline for the admission procedure**

The admission procedure of the Hochschule für Musik/FHNW for the Master of Arts in Musical Performance, Producing/Performance Jazz with focus on Production takes place in several phases.

*Please note: You choose one main subject (focus subject) and one complementary subject (combination subject). If you choose main subject (focus subject) Production, you choose between Performance and Composition as your complementary subject. Please state your main (focus) and complementary subject clearly in your motivation letter when applying and upload the requested materials for both the main and complementary subject before February 15, 2023.*

*In exceptional cases, you may be allowed to study two complementary subjects, both Performance and Composition, if your main subject (focus subject) is Production. A separate admission exam will be necessary if you want to audition for a second complementary subject. This additional audition will take place after the second round of the regular admission procedure, upon request. No material needs to be submitted for a possible additional exam at the time of applying.*

### **Production dossier**

A sound file of an independently produced recording/mix (studio production) and/or a film/video soundtrack or remix/sound design with a brief explanation of the production method (PDF) must be submitted.

### **Dossier Complementary Subject (Composition or Performance):**

#### *Complementary Subject Composition:*

Three compositions from the candidate's current compositional work must be submitted:

- Audio files in MP3 format
- Corresponding scores (PDF)

#### *Complementary Subject Performance:*

An audiovisual (image/sound) recording must be submitted. At least three pieces of the candidate's current musical work are presented with an ensemble and/or as a soloist. We are interested in getting to know the applicant's artistic identity, which can be rendered through musical interaction and expression as well as through personal compositions and arrangements by the candidate. The selection of the recorded music should document both the interpretative and improvisational skills and the applicant's familiarity and affinity with jazz and/or with jazz related musical genres.



### *Upload and transmission*

- For the upload the platform Vimeo (<https://vimeo.com>) or YouTube (<https://youtube.com>) has to be chosen.
- Access to video must be maintained through the end of June of the application year.
- The production dossier is labeled with the candidate's name and can be saved under "Work list/Work" in the registration tool.
- The links to the videos (instrumental/vocal performances) will be submitted simultaneously with the application no later than **February 15, 2023**.

### **Letter of motivation**

Please document your previous general and musical education in the letter of motivation. In addition, your motivation for and expectations of this Master degree study program should be outlined.

### **Master Project Plan**

During this master's program, students develop their individual artistic profile. In doing so, they commit to exploring and researching topics connected to their artistic development and documenting this process. Students look to contextualize their own work with the work of others and will share the artistic outcome. At the end of their studies, they will present the results of this exploration in a master thesis, documenting the artistic process and research. They will also publicly present their master project in a concert/presentation.

The **Master Project Plan** needs to be submitted with the application. In it, the candidate outlines her/his artistic interests and sketches a personal approach to artistic development and artistic research. During the course of study, research questions and the methodological approach can and may evolve.

When sketching the areas of your interest in the master project plan, please include aspects of professional development as well, outlining your plans to integrate your work in the professional field.

The following items should be addressed in the Master Project Plan:

- Musical/artistic interests and questions
- Contextualization of your own artistic work with that of other musicians and artists
- Aims and implementation of your master studies
- Plans for professional integration during and after studies

### **Pre-selection**

Based on the submitted dossier (production dossier, video recordings/composition dossier, letter of motivation, Master Project Plan), a committee decides on the admission to the second round that constitutes of a live audition. Candidates who are admitted to the second round will be notified about the date of the live audition.



## **Audition**

*-Hearing Production (Duration: 20 minutes)*

- Presentation of a recording/mix (studio production) and/or a film/video soundtrack or a remix/sound design on a common medium (sound files) that was realized independently. Subsequently, the candidate reports on the production method of the work. The presentation may include projects that were also submitted for pre-selection.
- Basic knowledge in production on a platform of choice (Pro Tools, Ableton Live, Max/MSP or similar) will be demonstrated by the presentation of a self-produced piece showing the artistic profile

In the compositions presented, a connection to the artistic interest outlined in the Master Project Plan should be apparent.

*- Complementary subject*

At the request of the examination committee, audition (for complementary subject performance; two to three pieces are to be prepared) or presentation (for complementary subject composition; short presentation/audition of one to two compositions).

*Accompaniment (for complementary subject Performance):* The audition can be completed with the student's own rhythm section (always the case for online auditions) or with a rhythm section organized by the university. If the audition is performed with a rhythm section (piano, bass, drums) organized by the university, the repertoire must be selected in such a way that it can be accompanied without prior rehearsal on the basis of the scores brought along by the candidate.

*- Master Project Plan: Hearing/Q&A with the committee (duration: 10 minutes)*

Following the presentations, the Master Project Plan is discussed. The candidates briefly present the intended study objective, and the commission asks questions.

## **Choice of audition mode**

At the Jazz Institute of the HSM/FHNW we offer the option to attend the second round (audition) in **presence** (on site) or **online** (live online audition). Both options will be assessed with equal attention. You must choose the mode of the audition (second round) already when submitting your application. Without expressing the wish to do the second round online, you will participate in a live (in presence) audition. Of course, local applicable COVID measures and regulations will apply at all times.

*Requirements for the online audition (if chosen at the time of application)*

- The online audition has to be performed with an ensemble (at least a duo).
- It is necessary to ensure the best possible conditions for a good transmission quality of the stream. We use the platform ZOOM. We recommend registering in advance on <http://zoom.us> to familiarize yourself with the platform.
- We recommend the use of an external microphone and, if necessary, an audio interface. For the online admission procedure, we will send a zoom link by e-mail in advance.