

#### **Further development Joint Music Master**

Five European conservatoires and seven external partners have been working on the development of the 'Joint Master for New Audiences and Innovative Practice' since October 2006. After the initial starting up period, the programme is increasingly taking shape: the core modules and the quality assurance system are nearly finished. An overview of the optional modules that will be taught by the different institutions has been produced, and the members have found a solution for the different national regulations in relation to workload and European Credits. Some of the schools are currently involved in an accreditation procedure for the Joint Master. The steering group of the project has finished an extended business plan including a joint budget, in order to guarantee the continuation of a steady management of the programme after the development process.

The schools have decided to expand the Master to a 2-year programme, so more attention can be paid to the important core modules of the programme. A programme manager has been appointed, who will take care of the management of the joint part of the programme. Before the first students enrol in this innovative 2-year Master in 2009, the programme will be piloted in all participating schools.

#### **Pilot year**

Four compulsory modules are being developed especially for the Joint Master, in order to be able to adapt to the rapidly changing music profession: Leading & Guiding, Performance & Communication, Project Management & Entrepreneurship and Action Research. These new approaches to music training will be tested during the pilot year that starts in September 2008. The Joint Master will be underpinned by a mentoring process that will be piloted as well. Mentoring is ongoing throughout the years, and also during the semester abroad. It includes the process of personal/professional development of the student: the mentoring process should enable the student, amongst other things, to develop co-mentoring skills, skills of critical reflection and self-reflection and the ability to be reflexive in different contexts.

The IT-environment for students and teachers and the joint management of the programme will be part of the pilot year as well. For more information about the pilot year, please visit our website [www.jointmusicmasters.org](http://www.jointmusicmasters.org).

#### **Course brochure**

The advantage for students of a joint programme lies in the expertise that every school brings to the curriculum. In the course brochure, which is being prepared at the moment, future students will amongst other things make acquaintance with the different personalities of the five schools. This way the students will be able to choose the conservatoire whose profile best fits their personal interests. The optional modules that each institution has to offer during the semester abroad will also be referred to, in addition to the joint parts of the programme. The optional modules support the goal of the programme as well as train students in becoming artistically flexible practitioners, able to adjust to new contexts within a wide range of situations of societal relevance.

#### **Meetings**

In October 2007 the steering group and two working groups met in Jyväskylä (FI). The groups have continued working on their specific tasks, but since the work of all groups is overlapping more and more, joint meetings have taken place as well.

In January 2008 the yearly meeting with external partners will take place in The Hague. The partners will be asked for feedback on the process and their role in the professional integration project of the students will be addressed. National site experts are asked to attend part of the meetings to give input from their experience as well.

#### **Further information**

The topics in this newsletter are covered more in depth on our website. Please visit [www.jointmusicmasters.org](http://www.jointmusicmasters.org) or contact us at: [jointmusicmasters@org.hanze.nl](mailto:jointmusicmasters@org.hanze.nl)

