

Christoph Brenner
Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana
Via Soldino 9
CH-6900 Lugano
Switzerland

Brussels, 24 June 2019

Subject: Programme Quality Enhancement Review of 6 programmes at the Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana in Lugano

Dear Mr. Brenner,

In December 2017, the Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana (CSI) requested a programme quality enhancement review with MusiQuE – Music Quality Enhancement in order to engage in a quality enhancement process that is musician and music educator centered. The procedure covered 6 programmes offered by CSI, 2 Bachelor programmes (BA in Music and BA in Music and Movement) and 4 Master programmes (MA in Music Pedagogy, MA in Music Performance, MA in Specialized Music Performance and MA in Music Composition and Theory). On behalf of the Board of MusiQuE, I have pleasure in writing to you concerning the outcomes of the review procedure.

Stages of the procedure and Review Team composition

The review followed a three-stage process:

1. CSI wrote a self-evaluation report (SER) based on, and structured according to, the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review* (see MusiQuE Standards for Institutional, Programme and Joint Programme Review, pp. 18-29).
2. An international Review Team studied the self-evaluation report and conducted a site visit at CoM from 23rd – 25th October 2018. This comprised of meetings with the management of CSI, member of the Advisory Board, Senior Administrative Officers, Students, Teachers, former Students, Representatives from the music sector, as well as a guided tour of the campus and visit of classes.
3. The Review Team produced a report, structured following the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review*.

The international Review Team was composed of Dame Janet Rittman Chancellor, Middlesex University; Vice-President, Royal College of Music, London, United Kingdom (Review Team Chair); Helena Maffli, Former President of the European Music School Union (EMU); Michael Uhde, Former Vice-rector of the Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe, Germany; Federico Forla, Student at the Royal Conservatoire The Hague, The Netherlands; and Gabriela Mayer, Head of Department of Keyboard Studies (and Erasmus Coordinator), CIT Cork School of Music, Cork Institute of Technology, Ireland (Review Team Secretary).

Outcome of the procedure: review report

The report of the Review Team, after being adjusted in line with the comments sent by the CSI on the first draft of the report, has subsequently been scrutinised by the MusiQuE Board on 20 June 2019 to ensure its consistency with, and relevance to, the MusiQuE Standards. I can confirm that the MusiQuE Board is satisfied that the review has been undertaken in compliance with the MusiQuE standards and procedures as described in the MusiQuE Framework Document.

In the case of a Quality Enhancement Review, the result of the review procedure is the final report itself, which includes the list of the MusiQuE standards met, substantially met and not met, highlights the institution's strong points, and provides advice and

suggestions/recommendations for change. This report is attached and includes, on pp 47-49, a summary of compliance with the MusiQuE standards.

The main aims of the MusiQuE Quality Enhancement Reviews are to provide an opportunity for institutions to engage with quality enhancement issues outside the constraining framework of a formal review; to stimulate the process of internal reflection on quality issues and, where relevant, to assist institutional leaders in implementing quality-related reforms; and to bring fresh ideas and wider perspectives into institutions, encouraging the principle of 'many correct answers' to questions concerning the pursuit of quality in higher music education.

The attached report can, therefore, serve as an advisory and informative document for institutions; it is not a substitute for existing national legal requirements for external quality assurance. Nevertheless, we hope very much that the observations and recommendations included in the report will be of assistance to your institution in its quality enhancement activities, confirming the strengths of your current achievements by their recognition of good practice and guiding your future endeavours through their suggestions for further development.

Publication of the report on MusiQuE website and MusiQuE logo for reviewed institutions

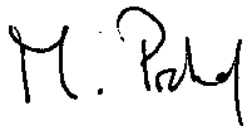
Please note, that the report will be published in full version on the MusiQuE website under the section [Completed reviews](#). In addition, the present letter entitles you to publish on your website the attached MusiQuE logo together with the text: "*The Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana has been reviewed according to the MusiQuE standards in 2018.*" As the periodicity of MusiQuE review procedures is six years, the logo and text above may be published until July 2025.

MusiQuE Follow-up Processes

Please note that, in order to assist visited institutions in the post-site-visit process and to enable MusiQuE to assess its impact, a peer-reviewed follow-up process is provided to institutions and programmes in the framework of the MusiQuE Quality Enhancement Reviews. You will therefore find attached the *Template for MusiQuE Follow up Procedures*, which lists in its first column the issues pointed out by the Review Team as elements to be developed/ further developed. We would like to recommend that your institution makes use of this opportunity of a follow-up process provided by MusiQuE and fills in the second column of the template by 30 June 2020, with short reports of the actions undertaken for each element of improvement and each recommendation. One or more members of the Review Team which visited your institution in October 2018 will then be asked to study the template filled in by the institution, as well as the evidence provided, and to fill in the third column of the *Follow-up Template* with comments and, if appropriate, further recommendations.

I would like to thank you and your colleagues for your hard work in relation to the formulation of the self-evaluation report and the excellent organisation of the site-visit. Please accept my congratulations on the outcomes of the procedure on behalf of the entire MusiQuE Board.

Yours faithfully,



On behalf of the MusiQuE Board

Martin Prchal, Chair