

Attn. of Stefaan De Ruyck  
Royal Conservatoire Antwerp  
Desguinlei 25  
2018 Antwerpen, Belgium

Brussels, January 2023

**Subject: Outcome of the follow-up programme quality enhancement review procedure for the Royal Conservatoire's Bachelor and Master in Visual Arts**

Dear Professor,

In November 2022 the Royal Conservatoire Antwerp (RCA) commissioned MusiQuE – Music Quality Enhancement to conduct the follow-up review of its Bachelor and Master in Visual Arts degree programmes. MusiQuE externally contracted EQ-Arts to conduct the procedure, while it remained as the coordinator for the procedure. On behalf of the MusiQuE Board, I am pleased to inform you about the outcomes of the review procedure.

**Context and phases of the procedure**

In July 2021, a MusiQuE review team assessed the Bachelor and Master in Visual Arts programmes at the Royal Conservatoire of the Artesis Plantijn Hogeschool Antwerpen, based on the EQ-Arts-MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review. It concluded that the programmes met the EQ-Arts-MusiQuE Standards but, given that the site-visit took place entirely online, due to the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the MusiQuE Board and EQ-Arts executive office recommended to conduct an in person site-visit when conditions allowed. The present procedure focused on the progress made by the programmes towards reaching its full compliance with EQ-Arts-MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review.

The follow-up review procedure followed a **three-stage process**:

1. The Bachelor and Master in Visual Arts study programmes prepared a Progress Report and related documentation based on the recommendations received during the 2021 assessment for the EQ-Arts-MusiQuE Standards.
2. An international Peer Reviewer studied the *Progress Report* and the related documentation provided, and carried out an in person visit on 17-18 November 2022. The visit comprised of meetings with representatives of the RCA's and the Visual Arts Department's management team, teaching and support staff, and students. The Peer Reviewer used the *2021 Review Report*, the specific recommendations set by MusiQuE and EQ-Arts in its Decision of 16 July 2021 and EQ-Arts-MusiQuE Standards.
3. The Peer Reviewer produced the Follow-up Review Report that follows, focusing on the aforementioned EQ-Arts-MusiQuE Standards.

**Peer Reviewer involved in the procedure**

Of the five members who performed the external assessment in 2021, one were available for the current review of the improvement measures in 2022. The current panel was composed of:

- Sarah Bennett, Associate Professor and former Head of the School of Art and Architecture, Kingston University, UK, chair

**Outcome of the procedure and consideration of the Report by the Board**

The Board scrutinised the Report produced by the Peer Reviewer, during its meeting on January 2023 to ensure that the programmes' progress and compliance with the framework of assessment was well substantiated, and the Peer Reviewer's judgement is well justified. Following this scrutiny, and, following further adjustments to the Report requested by the Board, the Report has been sent to the institution for factual accuracy check. I can confirm that the MusiQuE Board is satisfied with the quality of the report and

with the fact that the review procedure has been undertaken in line with the MusiQuE rules and regulations as described in the MusiQuE's Internal Regulations and Guidelines for Institutions.

We also take the opportunity to congratulate the RCA and its Visual Arts Department for all the effort invested in setting the Programme on a trajectory of change that goes above and beyond the recommendations set forth during the 2021 external assessment, laying a solid ground for its further enhancement.

We hereby certify that the programme fully demonstrated the realisation of the improvements deemed necessary in the 2021 Review Report and the subsequent conditions set forth by MusiQuE through its Decision from 16 July 2021. The report enclosed herein stands as proof that **the Bachelor and Master in Visual Arts programmes are now fully compliant with EQ-Arts-MusiQuE Standards.**

Further, we hope that the additional observations and recommendations included in the Report will be of assistance to the programme in its quality enhancement activities, confirming the strengths of its current achievements and good practice and stimulating its continuous enhancement.

#### **Publication of the Report and usage of the MusiQuE logo for reviewed institutions**

Please note, that the Report will be published in full version on the MusiQuE website under the section **Reports** and on the [Database of External Quality Assurance Results](#) (DEQAR). In addition, the present letter entitles you to publish on your website the attached MusiQuE logo together with the text: *"The Royal Conservatoire Antwerp has been reviewed by MusiQuE-Music Quality Enhancement in January 2023."* As the periodicity of MusiQuE review procedures is six years, the logo and text above may be published until January 2029.

I would also like to thank you and your colleagues for your hard work, and for the preparation of clear and relevant documentation that supported the review team to reach its positive conclusion. Please accept my congratulations on the outcomes of this review procedure on behalf of the entire MusiQuE Board.

Yours faithfully,  
On behalf of the MusiQuE Board  
**Jacques Moreau, Chair**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Moreau', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.