

Martin Prchal  
Chair of the Board  
MusiQuE - Music Quality Enhancement



Prof. Peep Lassmann  
Rector  
Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre  
Tatari 12  
10116 Tallinn  
Estonia

Brussels, 29 June 2018

**Subject: Outcome of the quality assessment of the performing arts study programme group at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre**

Dear Prof. Lassmann,

In 2016, the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre (EAMT) took the decision to commission MusiQuE - Music Quality Enhancement to organise a quality enhancement review in the context of the quality assessment of EAMT's performing arts study programme group. To this end, a tripartite agreement between the EAMT, MusiQuE and the Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education (EKKA) was signed. MusiQuE subsequently organised the external review of the following twelve programmes:

- Bachelor Music Performance
- Bachelor Music
- Master Music Performance
- Master Music
- Bachelor Composition and Electronic Music
- Master Composition and Recording Arts
- Bachelor Music Instrument Teacher
- Master Instrumental and Vocal Pedagogy
- Bachelor Music Education
- Bachelor Musicology
- Master Musicology
- Master Contemporary Performance and Composition (CoPeCo)

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. The EAMT prepared a self-evaluation report (SER) and supporting documents based on, and structured according to, the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review*.
2. An international review team composed by MusiQuE studied the *SER* and conducted a site-visit at the EAMT on 22-23 November 2017. The site-visit comprised meetings with representatives of the EAMT senior management, management teams, teaching and administrative staff, students, alumni, employers and external stakeholders. The review team was provided with samples of students' written work in the form of theses from Musicology programmes and from Masters Instrumental and Vocal Pedagogy. Additionally members of the review team visited classes and attended a concert. The review team used the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review* as the basis of its investigations.
3. The Review Team produced a report, structured following the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review*.

The international Review Team was composed of Mist Thorkelsdottir, Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California, United States (Review Team Chair); Claus Finderup, Rhythmic Music Conservatoire, Copenhagen, Denmark; Mary Lennon, DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, Dublin, Ireland; Antoine Gilliéron, Hochschule für Musik, Luzern, Switzerland (student) and Christopher Caine, Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, United Kingdom (Review Team Secretary). All review team members filled in and signed a questionnaire to avoid any possible conflict of interest.

### **Outcome of the procedure: review report**

The report of the Review Team, after being adjusted in line with the comments sent by the EAMT on the first draft of the report, has been scrutinised by the MusiQuE Board on 18 April 2018 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 fully, substantially, partially or not met, highlights the institution's strong points, and provides advice and suggestions/recommendations for change. This report is attached and includes, on page 54-56, a summary of compliance with the MusiQuE standards.

The main aims of 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 the EAMT and its programmes. 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 programmes offered by the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre have been reviewed according to the MusiQuE standards in 2017.*" As the periodicity of MusiQuE review procedures is six years, the logo and text above may be published until 30 June 2024.

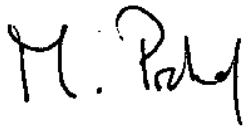
### **MusiQuE Follow-up Processes**

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 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 2019, 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 November 2017 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Prchal'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'M'.

On behalf of the MusiQuE Board,

Martin Prchal, Chair