

Martin Prchal
Chair of the Board
MusiQuE - Music Quality Enhancement



Ann-Charlotte Carlén
Rector
Malmö Academy of Music
Ystadvägen 25, 214 45 Malmö
Sweden

Brussels, 1 July 2019

Subject: Quality Enhancement Review of the Music Performance Programmes

Dear Colleague,

In September 2017, the Malmö Academy of Music (MAM) commissioned MusiQuE to organise a quality enhancement review of the performance programmes in 2018, including four visits by critical friends. 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 four-stage process:

1. Four visits of MusiQuE “Critical Friends” took place in spring 2018. The following departments were reviewed by a “Critical Friend”:
 - Composition
 - Jazz/Improvisation and World music
 - Orchestra and Piano
 - Vocal studies, Early music, Guitar and Church music (grouped)

These visits resulted in four “Critical Friends” reports structured along the MusiQuE Guidelines for “Critical Friends” (derived from the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review*) and including concrete recommendations addressed to each department. These reports were sent to the MAM by summer 2018.

2. MAM prepared self-evaluation material responding to the Critical Friend Reports and structured according to the *MusiQuE Standards for Institutional Review* (see [MusiQuE Standards for Institutional, Programme and Joint Programme Review](#), p. 18-29).
3. An international Review Team studied the self-evaluation material and the “Critical Friends” reports and conducted a site-visit at MAM between 30 September and 2 October 2018. Members of the Review Team met with students, teachers and Academy leaders, alumni and representatives of the profession, visited facilities and classes, and attended a symphony concert. They conducted Skype meetings with two of the “Critical Friends.”
4. The Review Team produced a report, structured following the *MusiQuE Standards for Institutional Review*.

The international Review Team was composed of Orla McDonough (Chair), Head of Conservatory, DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, Dublin, Ireland; Helena Gaunt (review team member), Principal, Royal Welsh College of Music &

Drama, Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom; Claus FINDERUP (review team member), Associate Professor at Rhythmic Music Conservatory (RMC), Copenhagen, Denmark; Antoine GILLIÉRON (student member), Haute École de Musique de Lausanne, Switzerland and Gretchen AMUSSEN (review team member acting as Secretary), Former director of External Affairs & Communication, Paris Conservatoire, France

Outcome of the procedure:

The report of the Review Team, after being adjusted in line with the comments sent by the MAM on the first draft of the report, has subsequently been scrutinised by the MusiQuE Board on 6-7 May 2019 to ensure its consistency with, and relevance to, the MusiQuE Standards, and was formally endorsed by the MusiQuE Board on 24 June 2019, following some adjustments to the report requested by the Board in May. 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 with “Critical Friend” approach, the results of the review procedure are both:

- 1) the various reports produced by the “Critical Friends” and addressed to specific departments, which include a number of tailor-made recommendations for each concerned department
- 2) and the final report of the Review Team, which includes the list of the MusiQuE standards met, substantially, partially and not met, highlights the institution’s strong points, and provides advice and suggestions/recommendations for change. This report is attached and includes, on page 44-47, 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 institution; 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 Review Team report on MusiQuE website and MusiQuE logo for reviewed institutions

Please note that the Review Team 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 Malmö Academy of Music 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 2025.

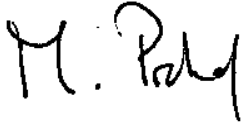
MusiQuE Follow-up Processes

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 the end of 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 September-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,

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

On behalf of the MusiQuE Board

Martin Prchal, Chair