



AEC Pop and Jazz Platform 2024



Having completed a practice-led Ph.D. exploring Empathic Interaction using an artistic research methodology in 2021, I propose a 20-min information session on the structure my research and how it has provided a useful framing for a post-graduate module here at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama entitled: **Jazz Performance as Research**.

Using Henrik Borgdorff's (2012) *The Conflict of the Faculties* as an essential resource, this presentation will outline three of his main themes:

1. Artistic Research sets out to be research from its inception;
2. Any resulting output should be situated in both artistic and academic circles;
3. Artistic practice should be at the core of the research.

Aiming to differentiate itself from more general forms of performance practice, and research that might limit its impact by being situated only in academia, I have found this methodology to be extremely useful within the conservatoire/arts sector.

The module itself involves weekly delivery of various approaches to performance research, followed by each student finding an area of interest for themselves with a specific research question that they aim to answer. Assessment is via a 35-40 minute lecture recital that fully encompasses the research undertaken and resulting developments in performance. Source material, transcription and contextual information can be included, and any technical (instrumental/vocal) demonstration and performance should be between 15 and 20 minutes. The tutor helps to guide each student in their learning by passing on knowledge of similar research, current thinking on this subject, and assisting in deepening the student's project.

I look forward to presenting my methods and hope artistic research might be an extremely useful resource for all us arts practitioners and educators.



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Andrew Bain is one of the leading performers and educators in Europe having performed with luminaries such as Wynton Marsalis, Natalie Cole, Kenny Wheeler, Randy Brecker, John Taylor, NDR Big Band, Dave Liebman and Bob Mintzer.

Completing a trio of his own research projects in the past few years: *Player Piano* with Mike Walker, Gwilym Simcock, Iain Dixon, and Steve Watts; *Embodied Hope* (Whirlwind Recordings, 2017) with George Colligan, Jon Irabagon, and Michael Janisch; and *(no)boundaries* (Whirlwind Recordings, 2020) featuring Peter Evans, Alex Bonney, and John O'Gallagher, his latest project – *Mosvatnet* featuring Angelica Sanchez – performed live and in the studio in June 2023 with a commercial release planned for 2024.

Andrew is Head of Jazz at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, Director of Summer Jazz Camp Scotland, and sits on the steering committee for the *International Network for Artistic Research in Jazz*.