

The Mundus Musicalis Project

THE 'MUNDUS MUSICALIS' PROJECT

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology – department of music (NTNU) and the European Association of Conservatoires (AEC) have been successful in obtaining a grant for a project in the framework of the ERASMUS MUNDUS Programme. The project entitled 'Mundus Musicalis' (the first project in the field of music supported by ERASMUS MUNDUS) will study international comparability of systems and qualifications in the field of music training. The project builds on the successful outcomes of the EU/USA project 'Music Study, Mobility and Accountability'¹ and confirms the intention of the European professional music training sector to maintain and further develop contacts with professional music training institutions all over the world.

THE 'MUNDUS MUSICALIS' PROJECT AIMS

'Mundus Musicalis' has the following overall aims:

- Create a greater understanding of issues regarding professional music training in and outside Europe, leading to the removal of obstacles in relation to the recognition of music studies and qualifications, thus facilitating an increased mobility and employability of students, teachers and professionals
- Improve the quality of professional music training in Europe through the structured exchange of information regarding professional music training and the music profession at international level
- Strengthen the unique capacity of music, as the ultimate form of non-verbal communication, to contribute to an effective intercultural dialogue.
- Enhance attractiveness of the European professional music training sector through a) the development of a dedicated information website portal about studying music in Europe and b) the collection of information related to the participation of non-European students in European music programmes

THE 'MUNDUS MUSICALIS' PROJECT OUTCOMES

'Mundus Musicalis' intends to produce the following outcomes:

1. Various documents, both in printed and online versions, providing information and analysis on:
 - Systems and study programmes for professional music training at higher education level in the EU, the US, Canada, Australia, the Far East (primarily Korea and Japan) and Latin America (primarily Brazil and Argentina). This information will be presented in the form of national descriptions, which will be developed according to a set format in order to achieve maximum comparability and include information on structures, qualifications, number of institutions per country, funding mechanisms, structure of study programmes, credit systems, quality assurance/accreditation procedures and academic calendars
 - Policies and mechanisms concerning the recognition of studies through the transfer of credit, both in the framework of exchange programmes and the acceptance of students into advanced programs after completion of their first professional program
 - Policies and mechanisms concerning the recognition of qualifications at international level, including lists of regulated music professions and information on the relevant procedures related to these issues in the field of music

¹ See for more information about this project <http://msma.arts-accredit.org>



- Policies and mechanisms concerning the recognition of standards and quality assurance/accreditation procedures in music at international level
- Issues related to non-European students currently studying music in Europe in and outside the framework of exchange programmes.

These documents will be produced in the form of national descriptions, practical handbooks (e.g. the documents in relation to recognition issues) and analytical articles. They will be made available in downloadable format on the Internet in various languages.

2. An information website (www.studymusicineurope.org) providing information to non-European students on studying music in Europe.

THE PROJECT PARTNERS

'Mundus Musicalis' is coordinated jointly by the NTNU department of music in Trondheim and the AEC. Project partner organisations are:

- Birmingham Conservatoire (UK), represented by Prof. George Caird
- McGill University – school of music (Montreal, Canada), represented by Prof. Don McLean
- Conservatoire de Musique et d'Arts Dramatiques du Québec (Québec City, Canada), represented by Nicolas Desjardins
- University of Adelaide – Elder Conservatorium (Adelaide, Australia), represented by Prof. Charles Bodman Rae and Dr. David Lockett
- Queensland Conservatorium – Griffith University (Brisbane, Australia), represented by Ass. Prof. Huib Schipper
- Keimyung College of Performing Arts (Daegu, Korea), represented by Prof. Seung-Sun Lee
- National Association of Schools of Music – NASM (USA), represented by Sam Hope (executive director) and Karen P. Moynahan (associate director)
- Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul – Institute for the Arts (Porto Alegre, Brazil), represented by Prof. Liane Hentschke

A working group, chaired by Erling Aksdal (NTNU), has been established with one representative from each partner institution, which will collect and analyse relevant information, and draft the final documents that will be the outcome of the project.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The 'Mundus Musicalis' working group will meet 4 times throughout the course of the project. The first working group meeting has already taken place in Trondheim, 19-21 May 2006, while other meetings are scheduled in Canada (20-22 October 2006), Korea (April/May 2007) and Brazil (October 2007). A world-wide dissemination of the project results will not only be ensured through printed and online publications, but also through presentations at conferences of organisations such as AEC, NASM, ISME (International Society of Music Education), CUMS (Canadian University Music Society) and NACTMUS (National Council for Tertiary Music Schools) in Australia. The exact dates of these presentations will be posted on the 'Mundus Musicalis' web pages on the AEC website (www.aecinfo.org).

THE ERASMUS MUNDUS PROGRAMME

The Erasmus Mundus programme is a co-operation and mobility programme in the field of higher education funded by the European Union. It aims to enhance quality in European higher education and to promote intercultural understanding through co-operation with countries outside the EU. The programme is intended to strengthen European co-operation and international links in higher education by supporting high-quality European Masters Courses, by enabling students and visiting scholars from around the world to engage in postgraduate study at European universities, as well as by encouraging the outgoing mobility of European students and scholars towards countries outside the EU. More information can be found at <http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/index—en.html>

CONTACTS

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