

## **Orpheus Institute**

DocARTES doctoral programme in creative and performing arts

### **Location**

Ghent (Belgium)

### **Since**

Orpheus Institute since 1996

Doctoral programme since 2004

### **Disciplines**

Music

### **Degrees**

MA, PhD

### **Students**

3 Laureate students

29 Doctoral students

### **Structure**

Orpheus Institute has been providing postgraduate education for musicians since 1996 and a doctoral programme DocARTES since 2004. Acting as an umbrella institution for Flanders the Orpheus Institute is co-governed by the music and dramatic arts departments of all four Flemish colleges: the Royal Conservatoires of Antwerp, Brussels, and Ghent, and the Lemmens Institute Leuven.

The DocARTES programme results from an alliance between Orpheus, Leiden University, the Amsterdam Conservatoire, the Royal Conservatoire The Hague, and Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Association.

In 2006, the DocARTES partners entered into an alliance with three UK partners: the Royal College of Music; Royal Holloway, University of London; and Oxford University, in order to realize a European doctoral curriculum in musical arts. This English-spoken curriculum runs at Orpheus Institute in collaboration with the Royal College of Music since 2008.

Orpheus Institute hosts the Orpheus Research Centre in Music, whose principal areas of research are: The Musician's Listening; The Musician's Analysing; Creativity in Musical Practice; Notation; and Compositional Techniques.

### **Entry Requirements**

Candidates for admission are highly accomplished and reflective practicing musicians with original, clear and well-articulated ideas for practice-based research, holding an MA or equivalent level of qualification.

Although advanced research experience is not explicitly required. The artistic component may outweigh the theoretical one or vice versa; high standards are set for the written reporting.

### **Programme Requirements**

The docARTES programme starts with a two-year doctoral curriculum (monthly gatherings in Ghent – 10 sessions per year.) After that, they continue their research both through performances and through systematic theoretical reflection. The written thesis may be either a monograph or a collection of interrelated articles accompanied by an explanatory introduction. Doctoral candidates may supplement their theses with CDs, DVDs, CD-ROMs and/or a website

The completion of the doctorate involves one or more artistic presentations, such as concerts, performances and demonstrations, as well as a public defense.

### **Supervision**

The supervising panel usually consists of a directing supervisor, an academic and an artistic specialist. Supervision involves a binding cooperation between the student, directing supervisor and specialists at all stages of the research project. This cooperation is formalised via a written study contract.

### **Publications and conferences**

Eight conference proceedings, volumes of essays, and monographs have appeared so far in the series *Collected Writings of the Orpheus Institute*, published by Leuven University Press. A subseries, devoted specifically to issues of artistic practice was presented in September 2009. Papers from several seminars and study days are available online at <http://www.orpheusinstituut.be/en/publications/web-publications>.

Apart from regular seminars, workshops, master classes and lectures, Orpheus organizes the yearly (largely musicological) *International Orpheus Academy for Music & Theory*. In 2009 a first *ORCiM Research Festival* was held; this will recur yearly.

[www.orpheusinstituut.be](http://www.orpheusinstituut.be)