

** Please check this space again in January 2022 when more elaborated information and syllabi will be provided. The launch date of the education program will be announced by March/April and start June 2022 at the earliest.*

Course Modules

Module 5: Transcultural Music

Presents diverse perspectives on the sonic through musical thinking and introduces students to analytical and applied methods that are used in performance practices and traditions around the world. We will approach theories of music-making in different times and places by examining concepts such as rhythm, melody, timbre, form, technology, creativity, interaction, body, movement, and sensory experience. The course provides students with introductions to various approaches used in music and sound, including historical, cross-cultural, ethnographic, cognitive, computational, and semiotic.

Objectives:

To experience and understand different sonic-musical traditions and practices from around the world.

To develop critical perspectives on how the disciplines of music theory, sonic arts and ethnomusicology approach analysis and trace current problems and debates in cultural studies related to sound analysis.

To explore how music analysis relates to science, (post)humanism, technology, gender, race, performance, language, creativity, culture, society, religion, politics, and ethics.

To develop an analytical toolkit with which the student can deepen understanding of different sonic and musical practices in their own lives.

Outcomes:

Knowledge of how to develop an analytical research question and implement a rigorous sonic-musical analysis project related to the students own interests.

Increasing the abilities to hear pitches, intervals, harmonies, complex timbres and tunings, to visualize and transcribe sound.

To gain a deeper understanding of the use of sounds in various musical traditions from around the world and their relationship to transcultural trends.

To gain a deeper understanding of the aesthetic breadth of the world's music and sounds.

To learn how to use software for the transcription and analysis of complex musical scenes and timbral analysis.

CLASSES and WORKSHOP TOPICS in MODULE 5

Week 1: Dominant music theories and general theorisation of music

Week 2: Cultural perception and cognition, sonic analysis tools

Week 3: Post-tonal and noise theory in musical contexts

Week 4: Experimental music in non-eurological context and transversal approaches

Week 5: Micro-timing and groove analysis

Week 6: Ensemble psychology, performance practices

Week 7: Performance and improvisation analysis

Week 8: Organology in cultural context, organology and technology, ecomusicology

Week 9: Rhythm, groove and concepts of time in culture

Week 10: Pitch nuance, variation, "ornamentation", microtonality and scale structure

Week 11: Phrasing concepts, melodic and formal grammar and metaphoric listening

Week 12: Timbre and tone color, music and speech, sound iconography

Week 13: structural, psychological, algorithmic, cognitive, computational, iterative, semiotic, ethnological, teleological and materialist sound analysis in context

Week 14: Transcription and analysis and meta-transcription

ONGOING TRAINING:

Assignments on the analysis of music and sound in everyday contexts. Focused observation of particular sound phenomenon in current cultural artifacts.