



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

birmingham.ac.uk/music

Music at Birmingham

The University of Birmingham is home to one of the most vibrant and exciting music departments in the world. With a history stretching back to 1905, when Edward Elgar was appointed the University's first Professor of Music, the Department of Music is one of the most distinguished in the UK.

Our postgraduate programmes embody the latest cutting edge developments in the practice and study of music.

Our world-class facilities include the £16 million Bramall Music Building, which is home to the Music Department and also features the 450-seat Elgar Concert Hall, the most adaptable space of its kind in any university in the UK. The building also contains a suite dedicated to the study and performance of early music, five electroacoustic studios and a large rehearsal room.

We are also an international leader in research, with over 85% of our research judged to be 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent' in the most recent *Research Excellence Framework* exercise.

Our Music MA is a flexible programme designed to cater for those with a wide range of interests and specialisms. It is conceived as a 'next step' after the undergraduate degree, either as a stepping stone to research, as a qualification for teaching in the FE sector or simply to satisfy a thirst for development.

Our postgraduate research programmes give students the chance to research alongside world-leading academics, composers, performers and scholars.

Most of our programmes are available to study full-time or part-time, with some also available via distance learning.

Programmes

- Music MA (with multiple pathways)
- Music Performance Practice PhD/MA by Research
- Musical Composition PhD/MA by Research
- Musicology PhD/MA by Research



85%

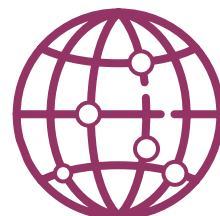
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REF 2014

75%

OF OUR MUSIC
POSTGRADUATES WERE IN
**WORK OR FURTHER
EDUCATION WITHIN SIX
MONTHS OF GRADUATING**

DLHE 2012-17





STUDENT PROFILE

'I'm already working as a cellist, but wanted to complete my Masters without giving up the playing I'm already doing, so part time was the answer. Added to that, I wanted to select which modules I wanted to do, but keep the performance aspect of it, so this course turned out to be perfect for me.

'I think the classes which have hit me the most would be the Performance Health and Wellbeing sessions. Despite my job as a performer, I still suffer sometimes with crippling performance anxiety, and this particular module has helped me identify the exact areas which need work.

'Visiting speakers on the subject shared some valuable information, help and advice. I've also learned that I'm more confident than I thought as a speaker, having done a few modules involving spoken presentations. Now I'm learning to transfer those skills to my performing.

'I'm also now looking forward to performing in The Barber Institute Concert Hall for my final recital project!'

JAY MOUNTFORD, MA Music
(Open pathway with performance) – Part time



Your career prospects

Birmingham's Music postgraduates work in a wide range of careers within and beyond the music world. A postgraduate degree in Music develops a broad base of skills including general skills such as communication, problem solving and research, and also specific skills developed by practice and performance such as self management, team work and presentation.

Scholarships

Each year, the College of Arts and Law offer a number of funding opportunities for Music students. For more information, please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/cal/funding

Your learning

The Department's performing and learning facilities also include:

- Birmingham Electroacoustic Sound Theatre (BEAST), which has an active concert presence around Europe
- The Centre for Early Music Performance and Research (CEMPR)
- The Centre for Composition and Associated Studies (COMPASS)
- A range of state-of-the-art performance and rehearsal spaces in the newly refurbished Frankland Building

The main University campus is within easy reach of the world-renowned Symphony Hall – home of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO) – and the Hippodrome – home of the Birmingham Royal Ballet. The Department itself mounts concerts in Symphony Hall, the CBSO Centre and the historic Town Hall, which was the venue for the premieres of many major works, including *Elgar's Dream of Gerontius*.

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This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be discontinued and new ones offered in their place.

Please note the information in this brochure is correct at time of publication but may be subject to change (November 2019).