



Qualification Objectives for the Bachelor's Degree Programme in Organ Artistic

Occupational field

Professional organists are largely freelancers. They perform as concert organists, organists for regular and special church services, as basso-continuo players in a wide variety of vocal and instrumental chamber music ensembles, in the orchestra and especially in cantatas and oratorios, and even improvise in concert or silent film performances; they work as repetiteurs, music directors, organ assessors, and give private lessons.

Professional organists face strong competition, especially from church musicians. Therefore, professional success is tied to two components:

- A) A comprehensive profile in the widest possible stylistic spectrum from early to contemporary music as an artist, improviser, and chamber musician, including jazz and silent film improvisation.
- B) Artistic qualification in specialized fields.

Qualification goals

Graduates of the bachelor's programme in "Organ Artistic" can sightread well, can realize figured bass well, have as precise a knowledge of Baroque and Romantic performance practice as possible, are open to modern playing techniques as well as their applications, and are able to lead ensembles. In addition, they are proficient in various keyboard instruments, including the modern piano and historical instruments such as the harpsichord, clavichord, harmonium, and regal.

The qualitative breadth of the spectrum is greatly expanded by the ability to improvise. The basics are worked out in the bachelor's degree program. Attention is paid to the fact that development possibilities and specializations regarding different styles can result from this.

Graduates of this programme have begun to specialize in one or more of the following areas:

- 1) as a concert organist specialized on certain styles, programme formats or performing specific organ types in conjunction with other keyboard instruments;
- 2) in the field of basso-continuo performance in professional Early Music ensembles;
- 3) advocating the performance and composition of New Music;
- 4) improvising in specific styles, including jazz/pop or silent film music.

Points 1 to 4 may also lead to specializations in the field of music research, be it in the field of performance practice, organology, or hermeneutic semantic research. The above-mentioned specializations can be continued in a wide variety of advanced master's degree programmes.

In addition, the programme aims for the students to master the theoretical and practical basics of music in general and have important musical experiences outside of their principal instrument, e.g. by playing a second instrument or singing in a choir. After completing their studies, they will be able to reflect on musical works and place them in context, find and develop their individual strengths, maintain their health even after many years of professional activity, and organize themselves in their later professional lives. They have relevant knowledge of self-marketing and self-management.

(Stand: September 2022)