

Composition and Doctorate (PhD) Scholarship: Invitation to apply for a two-year funding period

The Claussen-Simon-Stiftung, the Hamburg State Opera and the Institut für kulturelle Innovationsforschung at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg are jointly calling for applications for a two-year composition and doctoral scholarship, starting on 01/10/2018. The scholarship is awarded in connection with the programme Dissertation Plus (www.dissertationplus.de), which supports doctoral students. The Claussen-Simon-Stiftung funds the scholarship with a monthly stipend of up to € 1.500.

The scholarship is intended for a composer interested in a doctoral project with a combined artistic and academic focus and who wants to obtain the Doctor of Music (Dr. sc. mus.) degree from the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg. The assessment of the doctoral thesis constitutes one part of the doctorate. The artistic part of the doctoral programme is a composition for music theatre, to be performed at the Hamburg State Opera in the spring of 2021. Both parts contribute to the doctorate in equal measure.

Applications are assessed by a **committee** into a two-stage process. Based on the documentation submitted, up to ten applicants will be selected to proceed to the second round and invited to attend a personal interview. The interview round will take place on September 4th and 5th. The applicants selected for the interview phase will be notified at the end of June.

Composers up to an age of 35 years and of all nationalities are invited to apply. Applications from immediate family members and spouses of jury members are not permitted.

Eligibility Requirements:

Doctorate

For admission to the doctoral programme at the Hamburg Hochschule für Musik und Theater, the current regulations for the Doctor scientiae musicae (Dr. sc. mus.) programme (available in German) apply (https://www.hfmt-hamburg.de/fileadmin/u/ordnungen/PrO_DrScMus.pdf). It is mandatory to have completed a master's degree and to provide proof of a qualification that entitles the applicant to carry out academic and artistic research and qualifies her/him to obtain a doctorate, moreover German language skills level B1 (DAF). The requirements for the scholarship candidate include outstanding skills in contemporary music theatre production, an exceptional reflective ability and a particular interest in obtaining a doctorate. The composer will be obliged to submit biannual reports according to the framework set out by the Dissertation Plus programme.

Composition

With Georges Delnon as artistic director, the opera stabile at the Hamburg State Opera has become a space for new forms and formats of music theatre. The successful candidate is expected to compose a full-length chamber opera for the opera stabile stage, taking into consideration the artistic, staffing, technical and financial conditions at the Hamburg State Opera. It is therefore expected that the composer will continuously keep the Hamburg State Opera informed about the progress of her/his work, will liaise with the Hamburg State Opera for coordination purposes and will be open to suggestions.

The planned cast: A maximum of five instrumentalists; a total of five female and male singers with the following voices: Soprano, mezzo soprano, 2 tenors, baritone, 2 bass parts. No choir, no special performers. The Hamburg State Opera has the final say in terms of how the cast will be structured.

The world première and further performances of the composition created in the context of the scholarship are scheduled at the Opera Stabile for the 2020/21 season in spring 2021.

The work to be composed must be unpublished, that is to say that it must neither have been performed in public, nor been broadcast, nor printed, nor been duplicated or distributed in any other way and must be free of any third-party rights. The composer must be prepared to transfer the customary and necessary rights for the performance to the Hamburg State Opera, in particular the rights to première the composition. The score needs to state: Composition commissioned by the Hamburg State Opera. It is expected that the composer is prepared to be present at the rehearsals.

Application documents

Please submit the following documents no later than 25/05/2018:

- Letter of Motivation (approx. 2 pages, max. 8.000 characters)
- proof of your master's degree or a comparable degree that qualifies you to do a doctorate
- a draft of your planned composition (approx. 3 pages, max. 12.000 characters)
- a comprehensive CV representing your skills and experience
- two letters of recommendation
- samples of your work showing comparable compositions as well as examples of your papers/your academic works

Please submit your complete application not including the work samples in one PDF (Max. 10 MB) to Dr. Jenny Svensson, svensson@claussen-simon-stiftung.de.

Please submit the work samples in a separate PDF (Max. 10 MB). You can also submit audio and video samples as well as large scores via a web or download link (e.g. YouTube or WeTransfer).

Further, please submit the application documents not including the work samples by post to the Claussen-Simon-Stiftung (no later than 25/05/2018, date as postmark). Please note that we are not able to return submitted documents.

Claussen-Simon-Stiftung

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