

# QUARTETT



Maynooth  
University  
National University  
of Ireland Maynooth

music

JOHANNES BRAHMS.

Bonn, bei N. Simrock.

Allegro.

Violine.

Viola.

Violoncello.

Piano-  
Forte.

*p* espressivo.

Maynooth University Music

MA in  
Performance  
& Musicology





# Fostering imaginative performers

The **MA in Performance and Musicology** balances and integrates advanced study in solo performing (or piano accompaniment) and musicology. It is designed to foster and develop your skills and insights as a performer and musicologist within a supportive and stimulating environment.

The degree programme entwines performance and musicology studies leading to an **interrelated recital and thesis**. You will develop and deliver a **professional public recital** supported by **regular one-to-one tuition** from an individual performance tutor and **regular participation in performance seminar classes** in the Department of Music.

Core modules encompass: cutting-edge training in **Research Methods and Digital Skills** (including work with a partner organisation on a project that allows you to apply your training in musicology and critical thinking); **Collaborative Music Performance** which challenges you to work with a composer on the development and public performance of a new work; **Musicology of Performance** in which you'll explore how performance grants access to music history. You will also select one **Elective Module** from a varied list—including non-Music Department modules—as available.



# What you can expect:



Funding towards first-study lessons; regular rehearsals with official accompanist; priority access to practice facilities. Workshop and masterclass participation, as available.



Expert advice on interpretative issues from musicologists, performers, composers and music technologists.



Regular opportunities to perform in Performance Seminar classes and to receive feedback on your research.



Dedicated collaboration with a composer from the MA in Composition programme in the creation of a new work that you will perform in a public University concert.



Public performance of part of your final recital programme at a University concert.

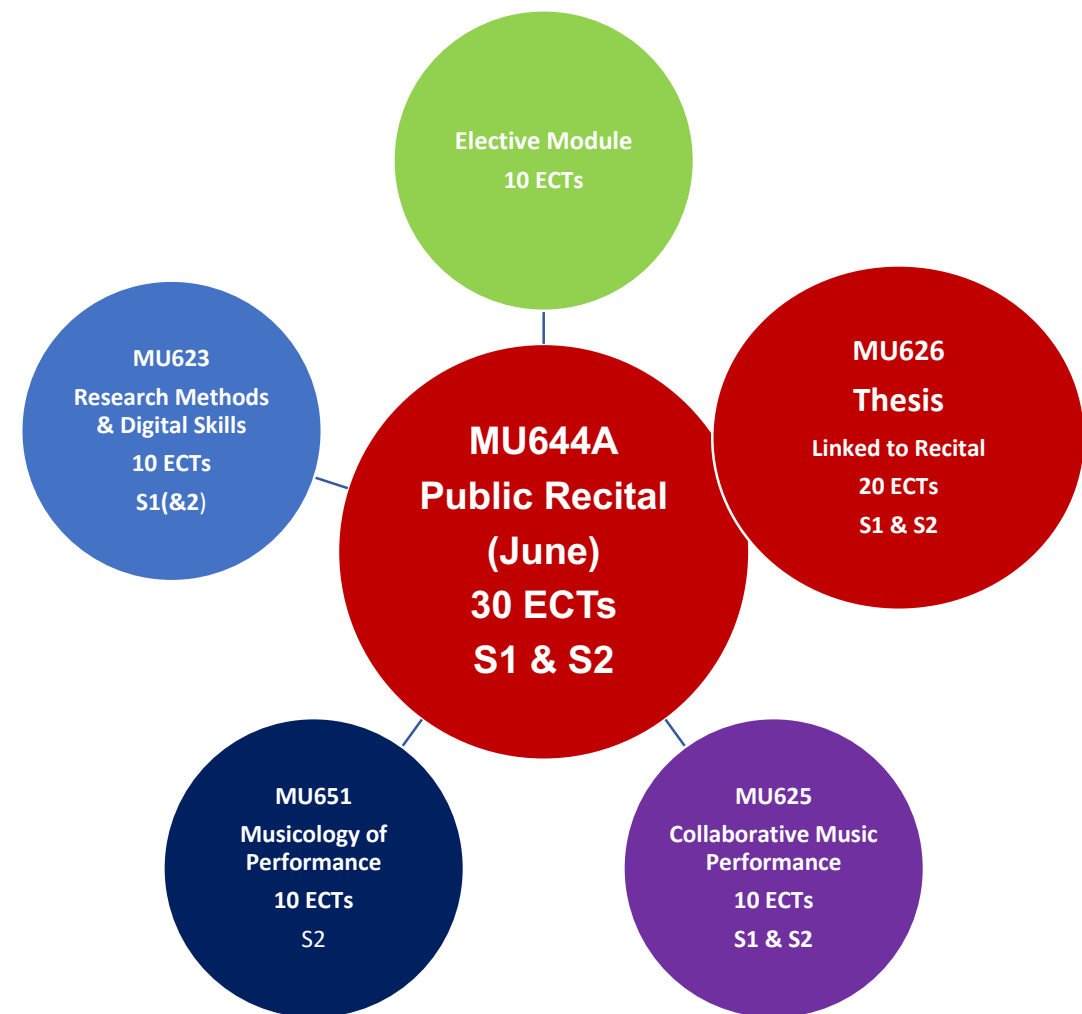


## COURSE STRUCTURE

The core of this course is the delivery of a **Public Recital** and submission of a related **Thesis**. These activities are supported by mandatory modules in **Research Methods & Digital Skills**, the **Musicology of Performance** and in **Collaborative Performance**.

You are free to **select one 10-credit elective module** from the menus of other taught MAs in the Department of Music or from the current list of modules delivered by other university departments available at this link: <https://bit.ly/2lsXXsK>

**When taken as a part-time course** modules MU623, MU651 and your elective are taken in Year 1. MU644A, MU625 and MU626 are taken in Year 2.



## CAREERS

MA Performance and Musicology students develop a portfolio of performance, communication, critical, and analytical skills, while the programme also trains students to work independently and manage their time effectively. These skills serve graduates well in a wide range of working situations, ranging from the freelance solo performing career, to arts administration and events management. The MA in Performance and Musicology is also an excellent option for those considering further postgraduate study or instrumental and vocal training. Employers look for creative, independent yet collaborative employees: the range of skills developed throughout the MA in Performance and Musicology are therefore relevant and mappable.



## CORE MODULES = 80 ECTs

### **MU644A Public Recital** (Semesters I & II; 30 ECTs)

A publicized public recital (45-50 minutes) fully marketed by the student (examined in June). The recital programme must be agreed in consultation with the programme convenors. The programme should be coherently structured and demonstrate technical, interpretative and communicative powers that are at a professional level. Brief spoken introductions are expected during the final recital. Professionally presented programme notes must also be supplied.

### **MU626 Thesis** (Semesters I & II; 20 ECTs)

An extended, individually supervised thesis (10,000 words) on a topic directly related to the final recital. Students will be required to give two presentations throughout the academic year (if part-time, this will take place in the second year of the degree). Regular individual tutorials are held with an assigned supervisor up to the end of June. A draft of the thesis should be shown to the supervisor by the end of June, the completed thesis must be submitted online (no hard copy) via Moodle by 31 August.

### **MU625 Collaborative Music Performance** (Semesters I & II; 10 ECTs)

In this 'long-thin' module, students are required to collaborate with student composers from the Department (PG/MA in Composition/3rd-year UG) towards the realisation and subsequent performance of a newly-composed work for their instrument/voice.

### **MU651 Performance of Musicology** (Semester II; 10 ECTs)

This module's aim is to explore how performance itself grants access to music history and musicology. In particular, it will show how performers create and give voice to music history through their own approaches to playing and interpreting.

### **MU623 Research Methods and Digital Technologies** (Semester I; 10 ECTs)

This module provides training in research skills, digitisation skills for music, musical thought and scholarship. The digital skills in music component runs across a full academic year, with the first semester dedicated to developing the project parameters with the organisation and to learning basic digitisation skills. The second semester involves working in the partner organisation on the project. All students are required to attend the seminars and submit associated assessed coursework in Semester 1 and 2.

## PLUS ONE OPTIONAL MODULE (ELECTIVE)\* = 10 ECTs:

Choose 10 credits from a wide range of elective modules offered by the Music Department and other University departments. Full details of these modules can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2lsXXsK> If you plan to choose a module offered outside the Music Department, please contact the relevant department for further information.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

An honours degree normally with a minimum of Grade 2.1 in music including performance. In exceptional circumstances, evidence of equivalent professional experience will be considered.

### **For International Applicants (Overseas):**

- A recognised primary degree equivalent to Irish university primary degree level. Appropriate proficiency in English.
- An audition and interview demonstrating a standard on the proposed instrument/voice equivalent to a minimum of a high II.1 Irish university bachelor degree. The audition should consist of c. 20 minutes of contrasting music. Vocalists are expected to demonstrate the ability to sing in three languages. Copies of music must be provided for examining panel along with the listed programme. Applicants may also be asked to submit an essay, the requirements of which will be advised separately.
- International applicants should contact [music.department@mu.ie](mailto:music.department@mu.ie) for full details of the audition process.

### **For External Applicants (Ireland):**

- A successful interview and audition demonstrating attainment equivalent to (minimum) high 2.1 Bachelor Degree. Submission of an essay (2,500 words with footnotes, bibliography and discography) in which you critically compare two recordings of a work you plan to perform in your audition. This essay submission should be uploaded to PAC at least five days prior to the interview/audition date.

### **For Internal Applicants (Maynooth University):**

- Applicants specialising in performance for their UG programme must obtain a minimum of a high 2.1 result for Single/Double Recital.
- Applicants who are not specialising in performance for their UG programme will be required to audition and interview demonstrating a standard on their proposed instrument/voice equivalent to a minimum of a high II.1 bachelor degree. The audition should consist of c. 20 minutes of contrasting music. Vocalists are expected to demonstrate the ability to sing in three languages. Copies of music must be provided for examining panel along with the listed programme.

\* N.B. All optional modules are subject to availability, and to meeting the individual module's prerequisites for entry and the relevant permissions from the course coordinator & module convenor.



# Contact

For more information or application queries, please contact the programme director:

**Professor Fiona M. Palmer**

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Maynooth  
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**e: [fiona.palmer@mu.ie](mailto:fiona.palmer@mu.ie)**

## HOW TO APPLY:

- The PAC course code for Performance and Musicology is MHT54 (full-time) or MHT55 (part-time).

More information can be found at:

[www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/postgraduate-studies/how-apply](http://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/study-maynooth/postgraduate-studies/how-apply)

- All applications are processed online via PAC: [www.pac.ie/maynoothuniversity](http://www.pac.ie/maynoothuniversity).

DISCLAIMER: All details are correct at the time of publication.  
The University reserves the right to amend them at any time.

