

## ACHIEVEMENT GOALS

### STUDY PROGRAM: CONDUCTING

#### Basic Principles

The present-day music scene is influenced by music from the most diverse epochs and cultures. This wide-ranging repertoire and the constant demand for higher performance determine the study plan for future conductors. The economic conditions of today's music business demand competent craftsmanship, efficiency in rehearsal work, communication skills, and the ability to engage in team work. The social and artistic environment requires increased reflection on one's own standpoint, which must combine personal integrity with media presence.

#### Achievement Goals for Graduates

The field of activity for university graduates of the study course in "conducting" embraces the whole area of musical leadership in the vocal as well as instrumental realm. The training program will enable them to pursue independent analysis and interpretation of music, based on music theory. Graduates will be able to meet the practical demands of both the instrumental and vocal repertoire. Their comprehensive knowledge of style periods and performance practices of old and new music, taking into consideration the results of recent research, will give them the necessary foundation to maintain an independent position with regard to established music traditions. They will have acquired leadership and management skills that enable them to engage fully in all the various branches specific to this profession.

#### *Orchestra Conducting:*

Graduates acquire comprehensive skills in all areas of orchestral conducting: (studying scores, preparing concerts, directing operas and operettas) and also in rehearsal work with choirs (involving the symphonic repertoire, oratorios, operas). They have organizational competency and can deal critically with philological problems (different readings, evaluation of sources, etc.).

#### *Choral Conducting:*

Graduates acquire comprehensive skills in all areas of choral conducting (a-cappella repertoire, symphonies, oratorios, operas, vocal chamber music, experimental music) and on different levels (amateur choirs, semi-professional choirs, professional choirs). They gain rehearsal skills and can direct performances. They have organizational competency and can deal critically with philological problems (different readings, evaluation of sources, etc.).

#### *Correpetition (Accompanying):*

Graduates acquire comprehensive skills in all areas of vocal coaching (rehearsals, auditions, judging vocal abilities) in the fields of opera, operetta, musicals and oratorios. They have fundamental knowledge of conducting, organizational competency and can deal critically with philological problems (different readings, evaluation of sources, etc.).

#### Study Plan and Content

The Bachelor's program in "Conducting" at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz is divided into the main areas of "Orchestra Conducting," "Choral Conducting," and "Correpetition (Accompanying)," each consisting of six semesters. The ensuing Master's

program consists of four semesters. The first two semesters in the Bachelor's program form the introductory phase of studies. In addition to acquiring basic knowledge, particular emphasis is placed on practical training by means of regular work-outs with vocal and instrumental ensembles. Public appearances during the course of studies help to provide an immediate link to later professional work.

The Bachelor's degree allows graduates to enter the profession at a high level. The subsequent Master's program increases knowledge of the repertoire on the one hand, and on the other hand allows more in-depth study of special subjects, to be chosen by the student.