



HUMANITIES

We offer specialisations in all of the following:

Western Classical Music

The South African College of Music provides musical training covering all aspects of the art. It boasts the largest student orchestra in South Africa with regular performances in the Baxter Concert Hall and at other venues throughout the Western Cape. The practical staff ranks among the best performers nationally, and many enjoy prominent international careers. In addition to performance studies and music education, the South African College of Music also has prominent research staff in theoretical and historical musicology. Its Composition Department is headed by award winning composer, Hendrik Hofmeyr.

Opera

The opera studies programme is world-renowned and offers full operatic training in conjunction with Cape Town Opera. This enables students to receive practical training while at the same time taking part in professional opera performances, as well as the South African College of Music's own productions at the Baxter and Artscape Theatres. The Opera School is widely recognised to as a leader in the transformation of opera, and also makes the art form accessible to a broader audience.

Jazz

The jazz studies programmes were introduced in 1989 and are now among the College of Music's most exciting offerings. The South African College of Music's Big Band has performed to critical acclaim throughout South Africa, and most prominently at the annual National Arts Festival in Grahamstown. The jazz staff, all of whom are among the top jazz artists and composers in our country, teach academic and practical courses, and also present public concerts featuring their students, members of the local jazz community and themselves. Courses in contemporary music practice are aided by a MIDI studio and a large range of sound equipment.

African Music and the World Music

Programmes in African Music and World Music include teaching, performance and research. Led by ethnomusicologists Dr. Sylvia Bruinders and Michael Nixon. The department's staff includes Dizu Plaatjies (former leader of Amampondo), who as one of South Africa's true musical ambassadors shares his cultural exchange ideas world-wide. In addition, guest lecturers from different parts of Africa and South America are invited regularly to give master classes.

Music Technology

The South African College of Music has launched an initiative to expand the existing Music Technology programme and infrastructure. At undergraduate teaching level, Music Technology courses have been implemented as part of the BMus General degree. The course content is theoretical and vocational in nature. Therefore, the trajectory that is followed encompasses the fundamentals of sound wave generation, propagation and manipulation, culminating in audio recording practices. These activities are currently housed in the Music Technology Sound Laboratory, and it is foreseen that the recording facilities at the SACM will continue to expand over the course of the next years.

WHY study Music?

The South African College of Music at UCT is considered to be the leading music school in South Africa. Additionally, it is the largest school and offers a diverse palette of degrees and diplomas in a wide range of disciplines including: African Music, Composition, Jazz, Opera, Music technology, Western Classical Music and World Music. The College_staff includes some of the foremost and internationally acclaimed performing artists, academics and composers; our graduates continue to dominate the arenas of performance and academia. Some of our alumni include: Maria Jooste (who was a finalist at the prestigious Metropolitan Opera auditions in New York City in 2002), Pumeza Matshikiza (who is already enjoying considerable success in the field of Opera in London), Salaelo Selota (jazz guitar), Jimmy Dludlu (jazz guitar), Melanie Scholtz (jazz vocalist); François du Toit (concert pianist) and Pretty Yende (soprano) to name a few!



Kirby Collection:

The South African College of Music hosts the Kirby Collection, one of the continent's largest existing collections of indigenous African musical instruments. The collection has recently been rehoused in a museum and research setting where, as part of their training, students are involved in documentation and research projects that form a vital part of the department's efforts to record and document Africa's vanishing cultural heritage as well as emerging endeavours to engage musicians and researchers in a dialogue that embraces both older and more contemporary African musical traditions and expressions.



WHAT can I do with Music?

Graduates can pursue careers in solo performance, research, librarianship, opera, orchestral music, academia, chamber music, composition, education and music technology, among others.

The Bachelor of Music degree is offered in the following programmes:

Composition and Arrangement

General

Library and Information Science

Musicology

Music Technology

Opera

Performance

The Diploma in Music Performance is offered in the following programmes:

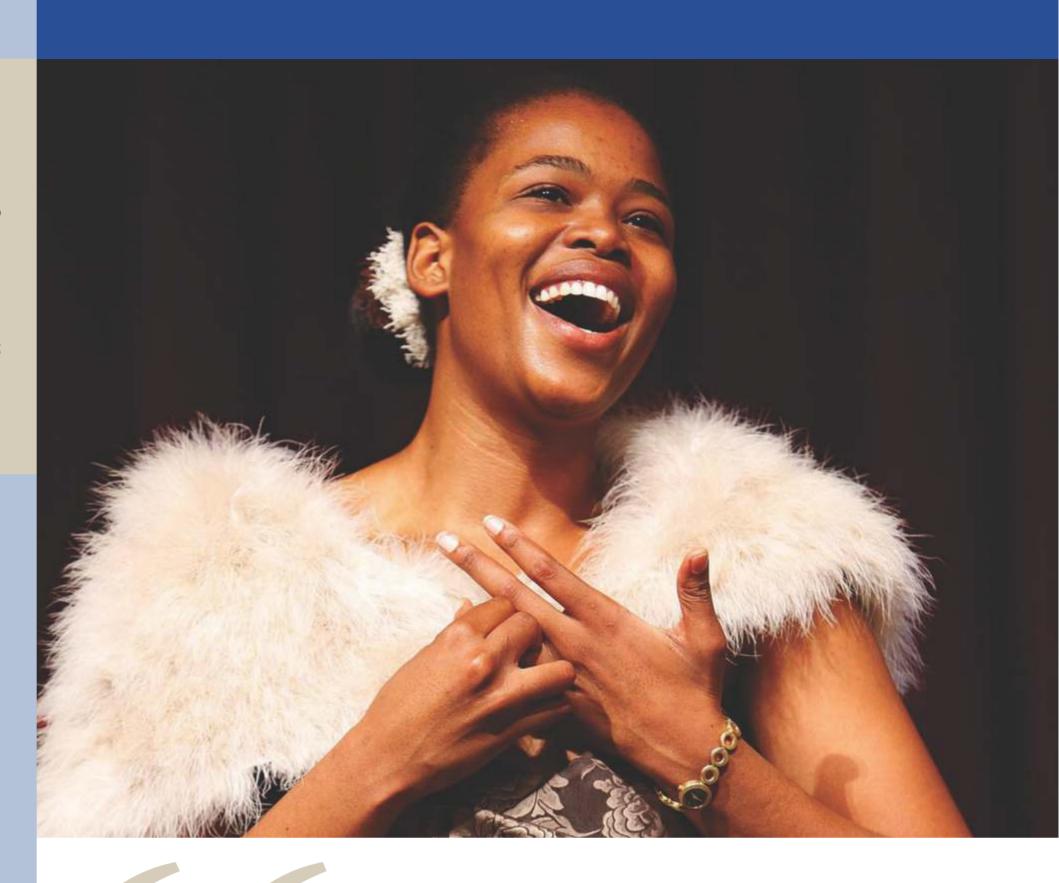
African Music

Classical

Jazz Studies

Opera

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES MUSIC



Pretty Yende

Having the quality, valuable, life-long educational treasure at the SACM at UCT is something that has made a huge difference between me and many other young international singers in the world. It offered me opportunities that have prepared me for this dauntingly hard career. I am very blessed to have been a student at the SACM.

Entrance Requirements:

For the admission criteria for programmes offered at the South African College of Music, please download the latest UCT Prospectus from the main UCT website: www.uct.ac.za

All applicants (for the degree and diploma) are required to write the NBT (National Benchmark Test), as well as perform in an audition.



For further information

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