

Program artistic entrance exam Jazz

1. Video recording

Admission test instrument/vocals (Round 1)

The video recording consists of two compositions from the jazz repertoire. Both compositions are different in tempo. See "Repertoire video recording and live test per instrument" on p.2 for more details. You may accompany yourself (e.g. via backing track, play-along CD, etc.) or have others accompany you. Playing without accompaniment or, for example, only with a metronome is allowed as well.

Admission test Live Electronics

The video recording consists of work that is representative of what the candidate is working on. The video recording is filmed from a single point of view, where it should be clearly visible how the work is interpreted. The video recording lasts a minimum of 5, maximum 10 minutes.

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

If you don't live in Belgium, the live audition can be replaced by extra recordings + a zoom meeting. **International students who can't come to the live audition, have to record all three pieces for round 1.** See "Repertoire video recording and live test per instrument" on p.2 for more details. Please, send us recordings on which we can see you play with a live band.

If you are selected to go to round 2, you have to send a recording of the obliged piece within the time frame of one week. For the recording of the obliged piece you may accompany yourself (e.g. via backing track, play-along CD, etc.) or have others accompany you. Playing without accompaniment or, for example, only with a metronome is allowed as well for the recording of the obliged piece.

During round 2 (the 'live audition'), you'll be invited to come online for a motivation talk with the jury. Please make sure to keep your instrument close during this online meeting in case the jury wants to hear some additional exercises.

2. Motivational video

Tell why you want to study jazz at the Royal Conservatoire Antwerp. Make sure the following questions are answered:

- Why do you want to study jazz?
- Why are you choosing the Royal Conservatoire Antwerp?
- How long have you been playing your instrument?
- Where and with whom have you taken instrument lessons in the past?
- Did you do any other studies after secondary school?

- Maximum 3 minutes

- Please do not use a motivational text generated through ChatGPT, we receive a lot of videos from candidates with the exact same formulation. Please formulate your own original and personal motivation.

3. Live audition instrument/vocals

- Performance: performing a prepared composition from the jazz repertoire. This composition should preferably be of a different tempo than the compositions on the video recording. The admission committee may also request the candidate to perform one or both compositions from the video recording live. See "Repertoire video recording and live test per instrument" for more details.
The candidate will be accompanied by a rhythm section and must bring the parts for these instruments himself (melody + chord diagram are sufficient).
- Prima vista: playing a simple excerpt from a jazz piece on sight: melody + improvisation (except for bass) + chord progression (piano and guitar only)
- Technique: the admission committee may ask the candidate to take a short technique test: major and minor scales, (broken) chords
- Ear training: the entrance committee may ask the candidate to reproduce a melodic line or rhythmic pattern or to recognize pre-played chords or chord progressions.
- Obligated piece: the candidate will receive the obligated piece by email one week prior to the admission test.

Repertoire video recording and live test per instrument

Trumpet, Trombone, Saxophone, Flute

1 blues, 1 ballad, 1 piece of the candidate's own choice (swing or latin): melody + improvisation on each of these pieces. Blues or piece of choice in medium or fast tempo. Candidates choose which two pieces they will record and which one they will prepare for the live test. International students who don't live in Belgium can record all three pieces.

Guitar

1 swing piece (medium or fast tempo), 1 ballad or medium-slow, 1 piece of the candidate's own choice. For each of these pieces: melody, improvisation and 1 chorus accompaniment of a piano solo. Candidates choose which two pieces they will record and which one they will prepare for the live test.

Double bass, Bass guitar

1 swing piece, 1 'even-eights' piece, 1 piece of the candidate's own choice. The candidate must incorporate the following elements into his playing: 1 theme, at least 1 improvisation, two-beat and walking-bass. Candidates choose which two pieces they will record and which one they will prepare for the live test.

Drums

2 swing pieces (1 piece or a fragment with brushes), 1 Latin piece. Improvisation: at least once '4 for 4' or '8 for 8' (alternated with piano solo). Candidates choose which two pieces they will record and which one they will prepare for the live test.

Piano

1 swing piece, 1 ballad, 1 piece of the candidate's own choice; swing piece or choice piece in medium or fast tempo. For each of these pieces melody, several choruses improvisation over the chord changes and 1 chorus accompaniment of a bass solo. Candidates choose which two pieces they will record and which one they will prepare for the live test.

Vocal studies

1 swing piece (medium or fast tempo, theme with lyrics, improvisation on a full structure), 1 ballad or medium-slow piece (theme with lyrics, improvisation not compulsory), 1 piece of the candidate's own choice (with improvisation on the full structure).

*You (the candidate) choose which two pieces you will record and which one you will prepare for the live test, but you have to improvise (on a full structure) on the song you choose to sing live.

*Know all the tunes by heart (as well for the video as for the live exam).

*For the video, put the camera / phone on a frontal position and not down.

Imposed piece:

- You can choose the right key (bring scores in correct key for the musicians)
- Improvisation on the full structure is compulsory

4. Content of the Reading and ear training exam

Ear training: written test (in group)

Recognizing and writing down by ear:

- A melo-rhythmic dictation played in advance
- scales (major and minor), pentatonic (major and minor), blues scale
- single intervals (major, minor, pure, diminished, augmented)
- Triads with inversions (major, minor, diminished, augmented)
- Four-note chords in root position (major, dominant, minor, minor-major, half diminished, diminished) as consonant and broken
- Simple progressions (I-VI-II-V/II-V-I)

Reading: oral test (individual)

Singing a prima vista of a melody in treble and bass clefs on note names