

Programme admission tests Jazz

1. Video recording

The video recording consists of two compositions from the jazz repertoire. Both compositions are different in tempo. See "[Repertoire video recording and live audition per instrument](#)" for more details. Candidates may accompany themselves (e.g. via backing track, play-along CD, etc.) or have themselves accompanied, depending on their capabilities. Playing without accompaniment or e.g. only playing with a metronome is also allowed. While recording you need to put the camera/phone on a frontal position, not sideways and not down and pay attention to the sound quality.

FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

If you do not live in Belgium, the live audition can be replaced by additional recordings + an online meeting. International students who cannot come to the live audition must record all three pieces for round 1. See "[Repertoire video recording and live audition per instrument](#)" for more details. Send us recordings where we can see you playing with a live band. Drummers must play on an acoustic drum set

If you are selected for round 2, you must send a recording of the compulsory piece within a week. For the recording of the compulsory piece, you may accompany yourself (e.g. via backing track, play-along CD, etc.) or let others accompany you. Playing without accompaniment or e.g. only with a metronome is also allowed for the recording of the compulsory piece.

During round 2 (the 'live audition'), you will be invited to come online for a motivational interview with the jury. Make sure you keep your instrument handy during this online interview, in case the jury wants to hear some additional exercises.

2. Motivation video

Tell us why you want to come and study jazz at Antwerp Conservatory. Be sure to include the following questions:

- Why choose to study jazz?
- Why choose Antwerp Conservatoire?
- How long have you been playing your instrument?
- Where and with whom have you taken instrument lessons in the past?

- What field of study did you pursue in high school?
- Did you do any other studies after high school?

The motivation video may be maximum 3 minutes of length

3. Live audition

- Performance: performing a prepared composition from the jazz repertoire. This composition should preferably be of a different tempo to the compositions on the video recording. The admissions committee may also request the candidate to perform one or both compositions from the video recording live. See "Repertoire video recording and live audition per instrument" for more details.
The candidate will be accompanied by an on-site rhythm section and must bring his/her own parts for these instruments (melody + chord progression will suffice).
- Prima vista: playing a prima vista a simple excerpt of a work from the jazz idiom: melody + improvisation (except bass) + chord progression (piano and guitar only).
- Technique: the admissions committee may ask the candidate to take a short technical test: major and minor scales, (broken) chords.
- Ear training exercises: the admissions committee may ask the candidate to imitate a melodic line or rhythmic pattern or to recognize chords or chord progressions.
- Imposed work: the candidate will be sent the imposed work by email one week prior to the admission test.

Repertoire video recording and live audition by instrument:

Trumpet, Trombone, Saxophone, Flute

1 blues, 1 ballad, 1 piece of the candidate's own choice (swing or Latin): melody + improvisation on each. Blues or choice piece in medium or fast tempo. Candidates choose which two pieces to record and which piece to prepare for the live test. If you wish, you may add to your recordings an additional piece in which you show a little more of your musical personality (e.g. own composition, other genre, ...)

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 on the chord progression and 1 chorus accompaniment to a piano solo. Candidates choose which two pieces to record and which piece to prepare for the live test. If you wish, you may add to your recordings an extra piece in which you show a little more of your musical personality (e.g. own composition, other genre, ...)

Double bass, Bass guitar

1 swing piece, 1 'even-eights' piece, 1 piece of the candidate's own choice. Candidates must incorporate the following elements into their playing: 1 theme, at least 1 improvisation, 'two-beat' and 'walking-bass'. Candidates choose which two pieces to record and which piece to prepare for the live test. If you wish, you may add an extra piece to your recordings in which you show a little more of your musical personality (e.g. own composition, other genre, ...)

Drums

2 swing pieces (1 piece or a fragment of it with brushes), 1 even-eights piece. Improvisation: at least once '4 by 4' or '8 by 8' (interspersed with piano solo). Candidates choose which two pieces to record and which piece to prepare for the live test. If you wish, you may add to your recordings an extra piece in which you show a little more of your musical personality (e.g. own composition, other genre, ...)

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, multiple choruses improvisation on the chord progression and 1 chorus accompaniment of a bass solo. Candidates choose which two pieces to record and which piece to prepare for the live test. If you wish, you may add to your recordings an extra piece in which you show a little more of your musical personality (e.g. own composition, other genre, ...)

Voice

1 swing piece (medium or fast tempo, theme with lyrics, improvisation on a full structure), 1 ballad or medium-slow or latin piece (theme with lyrics, improvisation not compulsory), 1 piece of your own choice (with improvisation if possible). This piece can be one of your compositions, a jazz standard (American or European), a traditional folk, a popular music tune, etc... Candidates choose which two pieces to record and which piece to prepare for the live test keeping in mind that you need to improvise on the piece for the live test.

Please note: All the tunes must be played by heart (for the video as well as for the live audition).

4. Content theoretical tests: Reading and Ear training

Ear training: written test (in group)

Recognizing and noting by ear:

- a melo-rhythmic dictation
- scales (major and minor), pentatonics (major and minor), blues scale
- single intervals (major, minor, pure, diminished, excessive)
- triads with inversions (major, minor, diminished, excessive)
- Four-note chords in root position (major, dominant, minor, minor-major, semi-diminished, diminished) as consonants and broken
- simple progressions (I-VI-II-V/II-V-I)

Reading training: oral test (individual)

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