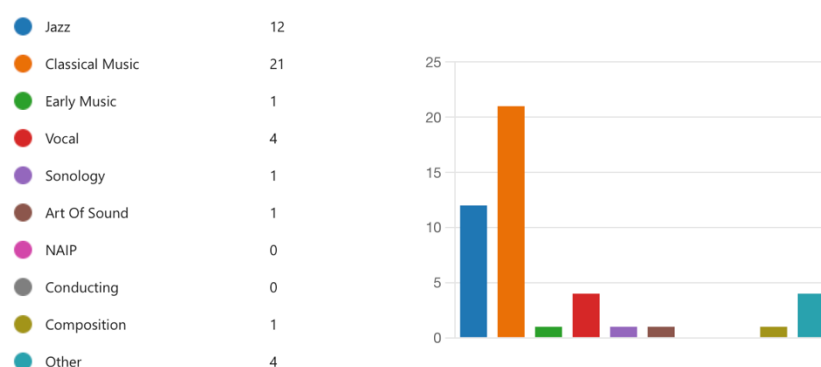


## Report: Questionnaire KC project (autumn 2022), Crossing Borders – (incl. project application)

In October 2022 I designed a questionnaire that had been send to 516 students (B2 - M2) students from all faculties. The Bachelor 1 students had been approached during the start-up week already. Only 45 students responded (8,72%). I asked for students' experience in and interest for cross-departmental activities, and for their wishes, needs and concrete ideas concerning these activities. In the same questionnaire students could sign up for a cross-genre projects that I held on November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. I was curious about the number of students that would like to participate in something like that. 28 students signed up for it, only a few did not want to participate, the rest had time issues but showed enthusiasm for the idea.

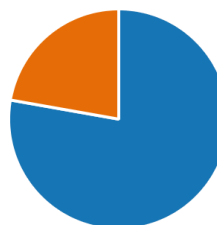
### 1. Departments of the participating students:



The majority came from the classical department and jazz, others have been students doing two studies or music theory.

### 2. Are you (or have you ever been) involved in cross-genre and/or interdisciplinary projects or activities?

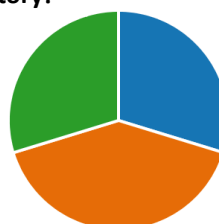
Yes	35
No	10



35 students have experiences in some kind of interdisciplinary activities, only 10 mention that they do not. Students who had experience in cross-genre activities mention a wide range of genres and contexts, such as combining music with visual arts, graphic design, dance or theater play, but also being involved in electronic music or free improvisation activities, coming from another genre. Some mention to feel comfortable with many genres like pop, rock and folk music.

### 3. Has these activities been organized by the Royal Conservatory?

YES	11
NO	15
Other	11



The majority did most of the project outside the conservatoire or by themselves.

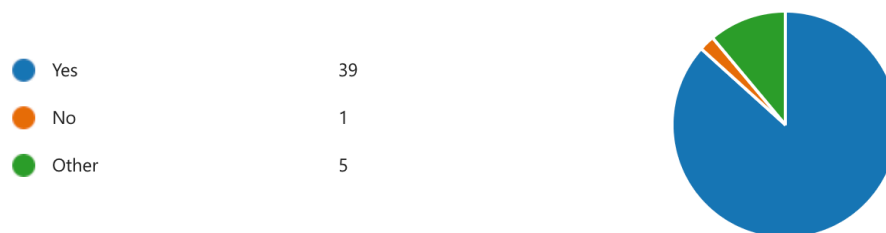
**4. In case you did already participate in an interdepartmental project that has been organized by the Royal Conservatoire: Which departments have been involved?**

Only 8 students respond to this question. They mention collaborations

- between the classical department and a visual artist (very enthusiastic)
- the KABK and the KC
- the departments of composition, vocal and the Early Music

as well as the Amare opening and the CMC elective. Asked for improvements students mention some minor issues about stiff communication between the institutions and certain departments.

**5. Do you think the Conservatoire's curriculum should offer more projects or activities in which students from several departments get the chance to work and create together?**



The majority answers with yes to this question. Only one student answers with no, others mention specific wishes as collaborations between the classical department and Jazz or Art of Sound.

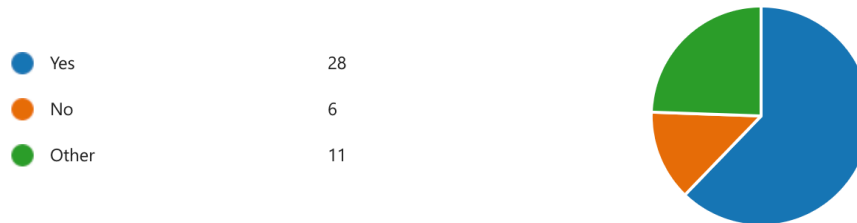
Asked for a concrete idea or wish for an interdepartmental project that a student would like to organize or to be part of within the Conservatoire, that is not offered yet, the majority responded. They mentioned wishes for:

- collaborations between the art school and the art of sound departments
- a more profession-oriented collaboration
- repertoire that includes a fusion between classical and jazz with elements of improvisation. (E.g Gene Pritsker "Reinventions" or Daniel Schnyder "toop ART reinventions")
- a project between dance and music
- a collaboration between the jazz department and the composition department
- an elective on recording sessions, where every week a jazz musician would have to come up with a few tunes to record, done by art of sound students.
- a collaboration between the classical department and sonology, connecting classical and electronic music.
- a collaboration with dance, choreography & composition and vocal department.
- a Royal Big band orchestra with Jazz, Classical (and/or early music), Composition, vocal, art of sound, conducting, possibly sonology involved.
- Improvisation sessions between jazz and classical musicians
- live music for the dance department
- more cross-over projects with the classic department and the vocal department, but especially with art of sound, sonology and composition to collaborate and create together. And with the dance department!
- working together with the ballet (dance) department.
- an orchestra project like the Metropole Orchestra, where Classical students and jazz students meet a
- the composition department working more closely with jazz (or non-classical/early music) students
- a project for sonology students working with students from the classical and composition department, to combine electronical sounds, classical acoustic instruments and own compositions.
- more lessons offered from the jazz department for any instrumentalists that would like to discover how to play this music even if they know very little about
- projects related to the Art of Sound department or even ArtScience program
- a monthly or weekly free improv session lead by a faculty member.
- working with dancers and singers in a big opera like project, with music from composition and sonology, and all departments involved.

- Interaction with KABK, organizing exhibitions inside the conservatory and little concerts in their academy

**6. Are you interested in participating in a compact creative interdepartmental project in the weekend of November 12th and 13th with peers from several KC departments?**

**Do you want to participate?**



Of the 45 responders the majority (28) answers with yes, only 6 with no. The remaining would love to join but mention availability problems or do not indicate a reason.

### Findings

Firstly, finding an effective way to reach out to students was a big issue. Only after quite a journey of talking to the right people within the school's organization it was possible to send the questionnaire in an official e-mail to the desired group of students. Secondly, the little response made measuring the students' interest and motivation difficult. A response less than 10% does not seem representative even if it still might be statistically valid. The question arises if maybe only the students who are generally into these activities did respond to the questionnaire? On the other hand, experience teaches us that the response rate for any kind of student survey is usually very low.

Unfortunately, I have to state that this survey did not have the desired outcome and therefore is less relevant for the findings of my research work. Nevertheless, I think the gathered data is still interesting and noteworthy. The following aspects represent the major findings:

- Mostly jazz and classical students responded.
- A majority mentions to have been involved in any kind of cross-genre activity before, but that most of those took place outside the KC.
- Almost all students think that there should be more activities in which students from several departments get the chance to work and create together.
- The majority shares a personal and interesting (and detailed) idea or wish for a cross-genre project or collaboration within the KC.
- A big majority responds positive to my offer for an extra-curricular cross-genre project, even if some aren't able to take part.