

Studyguide Creative project

Academic year
2024-2025

**Koninklijk Conservatorium
Antwerpen**

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1. General information

Creative Project takes place in the artistic-production field with social relevance. The focus is on exploring one's own artistic identity within a specific context or theme, and pushing artistic boundaries with a focus on originality and inventiveness. Elements to work with creatively include thematic exploration, interdisciplinarity, various forms of creation and improvisation, intercultural reflection, multimedia, immersive and genre-transcending forms of work, etc.

Collaboration and co-creation take place at an appropriate venue and in collaboration with an external professional organization. In addition to artistic performance, entrepreneurship skills are also addressed.

Creative Project 1 & 2 means participation in a project. A choice can be made between a project offered by the KCA (usually in collaboration with an external partner), or participation in a Creative End Project by Master 2 students.

Creative End Project (master 2) means the creation of your own artistic production in collaboration with other students or artists inside or outside the program, and with an external professional organization. The Creative End Projects takes place extra-muros, publicly accessible in Antwerp as part of a spring festival.

Masterexam Creative End Project means the creation of one's own artistic production with a unique creative approach, in collaboration with an external professional organization, and linked to the subject Research. For this course unit, permission from all teachers involved is a necessity.

Creative Project team

Principal teacher and coach: Jeroen Malaise

Coaches: Junior Akwety, Naomi Beeldens, Nabou Claerhout, Mathias Coppens, Isaak Duerinck, Sam Gevers, Pieter Matthyssens and Lieselot De Wilde. See digitap for contact info.

Introduction sessions and contact moments

At the start of the academic year, several introductory sessions are organized, participation is mandatory. More info can be found on the digitap page. The contact moments take place at variable times.

Online Portfolio Platform

An introductory video is available on the digitap page to explore the Online Portfolio platform.

The profile page of the Online Portfolio platform presents the artistic identity in text, image and video. Deadline to set up and/or update this profile page is 25 October 2025. During the course of the project a portfolio will be compiled that should contain the appropriate documentation, a template is available on the platform. Within a project, components of portfolios may be exchanged and combined, with the exception of individual components. Deadline for online portfolio submission is Friday 13 June 2025.

General agreements about communication, timing and evaluation

Communication is a very essential aspect of the Creative Project course. Good communication enables a good workflow and will help you achieve the artistic results you want. This includes communication with your whole network: coach, teachers, colleagues, (external) partners. Past experience shows that successful students have a constructive and proactive communication style. Important note: lack of constructive and proactive communication can lead to the cancellation of participation in a project, in which case the course cannot be completed in the current academic year.

Timing. In order to work with mutual respect and evaluate work properly, the Creative Project trajectory will be divided into clear time slots and deadlines. A good workflow and (self-) organization for all participants involved is a must. Important note: missing deadlines can lead to the cancellation of participation in a project, in which case the course cannot be completed in the current academic year.

Evaluation. Learning to engage with feedback, and how to react to it, helps us grow as artists. For this course we evaluate outcomes including performances, portfolios, and final contents. It is important to process feedback from coaches and teachers in a constructive way.

2. Creative Project 1 & 2 (3 ECTS)

Creative Project 1 & 2 means participation in a project. A choice can be made between a project offered from the program (usually in collaboration with an external partner), or participation in a Creative End Project by Master 2 students. Deadline for submission of choice: Friday 11 October 2024.

In addition to an artistic performance, there are several other important aspects where entrepreneurship skills apply: organization, production, communication, etc.

Creative Project 1 & 2 will take place between November 2024 and June 2025. Creative End Projects will take place in spring 2025 between March and the first part of June.

Pitch Creative End Project

During the academic year, a concept for a future Creative End Project will be developed in collaboration with other students and through discussions with Jeroen Malaise and one or more Creative Project coaches.

Reviews

Attending at least three Creative End Projects results in three different reviews that are added to the portfolio. These reviews are also given to the students of the respective projects. Erasmus students can request an exception to this from Jeroen Malaise. The reviews do not apply to students of collaborative piano, composition and conducting.

Evaluation

To pass, at least half of the points must be obtained.

The evaluation is divided into the assessment of the artistic performance and collaboration within the project (50% of the total) and the portfolio (50% of the total). Second exam round is possible only if the artistic performance was successfully completed before or during the first exam round.

Portfolio

In the course of the project, a portfolio is created that contains the appropriate documentation. A template is available in the Online Portfolio. Within a project, portions of portfolios may be exchanged and combined, with the exception of individual items (self-assessment, etc.). A pitch for the future Creative End Project is added as part of the portfolio. Beforehand, this will be discussed with Jeroen Malaise and one of the coaches. Deadline for submitting the portfolio on the Online Portfolio platform is Friday 13 June 2025.

Important dates and deadlines

1. Friday 20 September 2024 13:30-15:30: info session witte zaal
2. Friday 11 October 2024: deadline meeting Jeroen Malaise and submit project choice Creative Project 1&2.
3. Friday 25 October 2025 - deadline edit Online Portfolio profile page
4. Friday 13 June 2025 - upload portfolio (online portfolio platform)

3. Creative End Project (12 ECTS)

The Creative End Projects are publicly accessible and take place extra-muros in Antwerp as part of a spring festival. The project is a public-worthy, professional art production created in collaboration with an external location and/or organization, principal teacher Jeroen Malaise and the coach involved. Preferably, this project is a collaboration with one of the venues offered by District of Antwerp. If for artistic reasons another location is preferred, this requires the permission of Jeroen Malaise.

It is important to take the lead productionally and organizationally and a lead artistically. A concept is worked out, together with other students, in relation to one's own artistic profile. After approval by Jeroen Malaise, this concept is further elaborated into a realizable project, artistically, organizationally, business-wise and production-wise. A professional level is expected in all aspects of this production.

The coach is involved in the development of the concept and project, its progress and performance, and plays an important role in the final phase. In the final phase, the participants will schedule a run-through and try-out, in consultation with all parties involved. The try-out date should be communicated in a timely manner and communication should be optimal. Duration of the program is minimum 45 and maximum 90 minutes. Overlapping with repertoire from the chamber music and/or instrument/vocal repertoire are possible after approval by Jeroen Malaise.

District of Antwerp and other partners

For Creative Project, the KCA has a partnership with Antwerp District. There are several locations to work 'in residence,' if the concept of the project is approved by all parties involved. Performance space and technical assistance are provided at the location, and possibly publicity support. Some venues charge a financial fee for technical assistance, and possibly a 50/50 split of ticket sales revenue. It is important to meet a venue's specifications, such as general terms and conditions, timely submission of publicity materials and provision of a technical sheet. More info about the venues and technical possibilities will be given in info sessions and contact moments with Jeroen Malaise. Site visits will start in November 2024, after which a date will be chosen in consultation with the jury members (the coach, the principal subject teacher and Jeroen Malaise) and communicated by mail to all parties involved at the latest on Friday 29 November 2024.

Creative Project team, coaching and jury members

Principal teacher, coach and department chair: Jeroen Malaise.

Coaches: Junior Akwety, Naomi Beeldens, Nabou Claerhout, Mathias Coppens, Isaak Duerinck, Lieselot De Wilde, Sam Gevers and Pieter Matthyssens. For more info on the coaches see [digitap](#).

The number of coaching sessions depends on the needs of the project itself, but seven sessions are provided as a guideline. The main instrument teacher is also involved in following up the repertoire to be played, as well as general artistic advice. The main teacher(s) or assistant(s), coach and - if available - Jeroen Malaise should be present at the performance as jury members. It is therefore important to take the availabilities of those involved into account when setting a performance date. The coach is involved in the development and progress of the project, and plays an important role in the final phase. It is crucial that timely rehearsals and a try-out date are communicated where the coach can be present.

Based on an approved developed concept and approval from involved parties, a project can be coached by Music Theatre Transparent (www.transparant.be). Ask Jeroen Malaise for more info.

Financial support

The Conservatoire does not provide financial resources to support projects organized within the framework of Creative Project. In the partnership with District of Antwerp, an agreement has been reached which makes it possible to charge an entrance fee, subject to permission and clear agreements with the venue.

When an entrance fee is charged, it may in certain cases be necessary to pay SABAM rights. This concerns works that are not in the public domain. It is the responsibility of the students involved to find out what the correct procedures are for this.

When making an agreement with a venue, it is important to go over all the details and financial arrangements thoroughly. Questions about preparing expense reports or invoices can be directed to www.cultuurloket.be. Make in time an online appointment.

Next Doors project week

It is possible to develop Creative Projects with an interdisciplinary character during the project week NextDoors (24-28 February 2025). During this week, it will be possible to have a space and limited technical equipment in the KCA, only with the permission of the coordinators involved and Jeroen Malaise.

More information on this will be disseminated through other channels.

Promotion

Publicity, promotion and communication is entirely the responsibility of the student. The delivery of the usual info (title, image, participants, play date, starting time, a short description of the project, etc.) is passed on at the latest on Friday 7 February 2024, more info will follow via digitap announcements. In case of collaboration with a location of District Antwerp, the student will also deliver specific publicity material to the chosen location. All printed and electronic communications and promotional materials must include the correct logos of the Royal Conservatory of Antwerp and the AP Hogeschool. Templates for posters, flyers, leaflets, website, etc., can be downloaded by the student from the digitap page. For specific questions about communications, contact greet.vandenbulcke@ap.be.

Planning, organisation & deadlines

Projects can take place between March and 10 June 2025. The date must be approved by the main teacher, the coach and Jeroen Malaise.

Important dates and deadlines

1. Friday 20 September 2024 13:30-15:30: info session witte zaal
2. Friday 11 October 2024 - deadline meeting Jeroen Malaise and CEP pitch Online Portfolio (only master 2).
3. Thursday, October 24, 2024 - deadline meeting coach (only master 2).
4. Friday 25 October 2025 - deadline update Online Portfolio profile page
5. Friday 29 November 2024 - deadline info location, date and start time + confirmation coach and lead teacher
6. Friday 7 February 2025 - deadline to deliver event publicity and info
7. Date online publication trailer/teaser (date to be agreed with coach)
8. Date run-through of performance (date to be agreed upon with coach)
9. Date tryout of performance (date to be agreed upon with coach)
10. Friday 13 June 2025 - upload portfolio (online portfolio platform)

Failure to meet deadlines and (mail) communication may result in exclusion from Creative Project, in which case it is not possible to pass this course in the current academic year. A Creative End Project can only be completed if the coach involved has received the information about rehearsal moments, run-through and try-out well in advance, and has the opportunity to help shape the project.

Online Portfolio Platform

During the course of the project, a portfolio containing the appropriate documentation is compiled. A template for this is available on the Online Portfolio environment. The intention is to model the portfolio as a reflection of the project so that readers can gain a greater understanding. It will also be assessed as such. Per project, portfolios of participating students may be combined. Deadline for the complete portfolio is Friday 13 June 2025, submission is via the Online Portfolio. The template for the portfolio is available on the Online Portfolio platform, and has a number of mandatory components including a trailer or teaser (to be published before the performance date) and an aftermovie.

Entrepreneurial skills

Parallel to the creation process of the project, production aspects are highlighted using entrepreneurship skills, more specifically the Business Model Canvas. This is also incorporated into the portfolio.

Evaluation

To pass, at least half of the points must be obtained.

The evaluation is divided into the assessment of the artistic performance and organization within the project (50% of the project) and the portfolio (50% of the total). Evaluation of the performance is based on three domains: a production component, the artistic performance, and a societal relation. An evaluation document is available via digitap. There is no possibility for the project to take place during the second exam round. Second exam round is only possible if the artistic performance is successfully completed before or during the first exam round.

Lending RCA equipment

The Conservatoire does not provide materials or technical resources for the performance of a Creative Project. Exceptions are made for music stands and, if available, a selection of small percussion instruments. Percussion instruments can only be used after following a step-by-step plan (see manual on the digitap page).

Percussion and grand piano

The KCA has a limited budget to provide percussion equipment and a grand piano at one of the external locations. This is only available if several projects at the same location are clustered within a short period of time, planning for this should be clear by November 2024 at the latest. More info: Jeroen Malaise.

4. Masterexam Creative End Project (24 ECTS)

To transform a Creative Project into a Master exam, the project must contain high added artistic value and be characterized by a unique creative interpretation. Research is fully integrated as an important component. Since the Master exam builds on the basic model of Creative End Project, it is important to go through the associated requirements prior as well.

The intention is to think beyond the usual performance formats and exploit new forms of concert experience resulting in a performance that can find its way into the cultural landscape. In relation to its own artistic profile and a target audience, a concept is created that has the potential to be realized as a professional art project. In addition to an active artistic lead, all aspects associated with shaping the project are taken into account. Overlapping with repertoire from the chamber music and/or instrument/vocal exam are possible, subject to approval.

Accompanying the final project is not part of the duties of the piano accompanists.

Duration of program: minimum 60 and maximum 90 minutes.

In order to include the Master Thesis Creative Final Project in the curriculum, permission is required from Jeroen Malaise and Yves Senden in the year previous of the performance.

Communication

Communication is an essential part of the Masterexam Creative End Project. It is expected that the student will take initiative to regularly update the team of teachers and coaches involved.

Entrepreneurial skills

Since the Masterexam Creative End Project envisions creating a performance that can find its way into the cultural landscape, entrepreneurship skills are crucial. This is reflected in the work process, the portfolio and the Business Model Canvas.

Planning and organisation

Students contact Jeroen Malaise and Yves Senden at the beginning of the previous academic year to be admitted to this course unit. The content proposal is formulated in consultation with the main teacher (who serves as supervisor), the academic supervisor and Jeroen Malaise.

Projects can take place between 1 March and 10 June 2024. The date must be approved by the main teacher, coach, Jeroen Malaise and Yves Senden.

Important dates and deadlines

(see deadlines Creative End Project)

Not respecting deadlines and (mail) communication may result in exclusion from the Creative Project, in which case it is not possible to pass this course in the current academic year. A Masterexam Creative End Project can only be completed if the

coach and Jeroen Malaise have received the information about rehearsal moments, run-through and try-out well in advance, and have the opportunity to help shape the project.

Research

For more info on the research component, contact yves.senden@ap.be.

Portfolio

During the course of the project, the student assembles a portfolio that should contain suitable documentation. A template is available in the Online Portfolio. Per project, the portfolios of participating students may be combined.

Evaluation

To pass, the student must obtain at least half of the marks.

There is no possibility of organizing the project during the second examination period.

The evaluation is divided into the assessment of the production and artistic performance within the project (50% of the total), the assessment of the research part (25% of the total) and the assessment of the portfolio (25% of the total).

Jury members

The jury consists of the main teacher or assistant, the coach, Jeroen Malaise, Yves Senden and an external jury member. It is therefore important to take into account the availabilities of those involved when setting a performance date.