



HOCHSCHULE
FÜR MUSIK
**HANNS EISLER
BERLIN**

No. 9 | Summer Semester: Opportunities for Digital Teaching

March 24, 2020

Dear Members of the School Community,

We hope you are all well and healthy.

Regarding the beginning of the semester on April 20: it is still the intention of Berlin's politicians to let the semester begin on April 20. Berlin's universities and academies have been called upon to switch to digital teaching.

This is a special challenge for us at the artistic academies! And we are aware that not everything can be conveyed digitally in a satisfying manner. Still, we accept and will rise to the challenge in order to enable our community at the Hanns Eisler School of Music to have a summer semester.

Our Prorector for Digital Transformation, Prof. Andrea Tober, has established task forces for digital teaching today for each faculty, after consultation with the faculty heads. Through the end of this week, the individual task forces will collect all experiences teachers at the HfM may have with digital teaching so far, so that we can start a test phase for the transition to digital teaching as early as next week.

The task forces are divided as follows:

- Group 1: Orchestral instruments, woodwind and brass, percussion and pianists. Leader: Claudio Bohorquez
- Group 2: Chamber music, lied, conducting, correpetition. Leader: Jonathan Aner
- Group 3: Vocal department. Leader: Byron Knutson (supported by stage direction: Claus Unzen)
- Group 4: Stage direction, music theory, composition, electroacoustic music, musicology. Leader: Jörg Mainka (supported by FÜP and KSI)

To all HfM teachers: exchange within your groups will take place during the coming days. Your group leader will contact you. We thank you at this early stage for your personal cooperation and for pooling all resources.

To all HfM students: starting on April 6, you will be informed within your courses how instruction and coursework will take place and which digital tools your faculty will be working with.

As part of this digital challenge, we plan to hold our admission exams online during the summer semester. We are currently collecting data and comparing notes within the German Conference of Music Academy Rectors and with our partner academies all over the world.

The corona crisis has given us an unexpected and special task: to make use of the possibilities offered by the digital world for our own purposes. None of us would deny that our art form quintessentially demands physical presence. And yet we wish to create an oasis for ourselves within the corona desert, so that our artistic dialogue and exchange do not dry out.

Please remain confident, trust in this adventure and let us all close ranks in this matter!

Kindest regards,

Sarah Wedl-Wilson
Rector