



Faculty of Music  
in Belgrade



European  
Platform for  
Artistic  
Research in  
Music



## AEC European Platform for Artistic Research in Music (EPARM)

Faculty of Music of the University of the Arts, Belgrade

8-10 April 2011

Utrecht, 3 February 2011

Dear AEC members and friends,

The Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen (AEC) and the Faculty of Music of the University of the Arts, Belgrade are pleased to issue this general invitation for delegates to the conference **Sounds, Searchings, Sharings: Towards a Common Platform for the Development and Dissemination of Artistic Research in Music**

This conference was first announced in November 2010 with calls for nominations of student presenters. Many proposals were received and it has been decided to allocate places to ten presenters, making this the backbone of the entire conference programme. The Steering Committee is very grateful to all who submitted proposals, whether or not we were eventually able to accept them, and I am grateful to the Committee for its work.

Alongside these presentations are four important thematic sessions. The first three address the issue of artistic research from a trio of perspectives relevant to AEC member institutions. The first perspective is that of a successfully-completed artistic doctoral student now pursuing artistic research at post-doctoral level; the second is from a senior academic leader in an institution which has taken a strategic decision to develop its work in the area of artistic research; and the third offers a perspective from the AEC itself, highlighting the diversity of positions to be found amongst AEC member institutions as to their enthusiasm or scepticism towards artistic research and, for those who have embraced it, as to how advanced they are along this path. The AEC wishes to have something constructive and helpful to offer to institutions at all points on this spectrum and the final thematic session will take the form of a plenary discussion as to how this might best be achieved in future.

This is not the first conference to have been organised on artistic research in music and its purpose is not to duplicate the efforts of those events focussed solely on gathering together examples of work being done at the cutting edge of this new discipline. We hope that this cutting edge will be in evidence in several of the sessions, but our primary aim is to stimulate a broader dialogue and interaction: one where leading exponents will share knowledge and experience with newcomers; where contacts will be made and partnerships forged; and where the collegiate spirit that is one of the great strengths of the AEC may perhaps foster mutual understanding among the frequently polarised viewpoints that exist in this area.

I know that we will be given the warmest of welcomes by our hosts from the Faculty of Music of the University of the Arts, Belgrade. In cooperation with the AEC Office team, they are already preparing hard to ensure that EPARM 2011 is a joyous and convivial occasion, as well, we hope, as a stimulating contribution to the ongoing debates on artistic research. They and we are assisted enormously in financing this event by support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) to whom we are extremely grateful.

Over and above those already presenting and organising, we have space for about 70 delegates so I would urge you to register early if you wish to guarantee a place. In a new policy for the AEC, we are introducing a two-tier registration fee, with an 'earlybird' rate for those who supply their registration fee before 18<sup>th</sup> March.

I hope to see you in Belgrade in April where, together, we can search, share and, above all, celebrate the impulse that drives us to seek greater understanding of the realm of sound, which is our common specialist language and medium and for which our love and enthusiasm are the most potent of uniting forces.

Jeremy Cox

Chief Executive

Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen (AEC)