



Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Music (Composition)

School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture

Closing date: 05 January 2020

Interview date: 22 January 2020

Reference number: LAN100A



Introduction



Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Music (Composition)

We seek to appoint a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in Music. We welcome applications from high quality candidates of outstanding promise and/or with established reputations as a composer. The successful candidate will contribute work of outstanding international distinction to the research profile of the Department of Music. Candidates should also be able to demonstrate a strong commitment to, and experience of, teaching at undergraduate level and a strong profile in the compositional community.

Research interests amongst compositional staff at the department include choral and orchestral music and a strong focus on electroacoustic music and sound art. Musicologists are working in contemporary music, aesthetics and medieval music with a thematic strand cutting across the broad sub-disciplines of composition, musicology and performance of vocal music.

An ability to teach across a variety of compositional areas and be flexible and adaptable would be essential and, ideally, we would wish to appoint a composer with a specialism in contemporary chamber, instrumental and orchestral music, who would be able to contribute to general teaching in other areas.

Music at Aberdeen is an expanding unit within the School, with a wide research and teaching portfolio produced by dedicated and collegial staff. The *Times University Guide* recently ranked Music at Aberdeen in the top fifteen in the UK. Our research interests inform the design and content of courses at all levels of the programme, and, at Honours and Postgraduate level, students have the chance to study a wide range of topics which reflect the diverse areas of expertise in the discipline.

The appointment will contribute to the teaching of undergraduate courses in composition and postgraduate courses in the candidate's area of musical interest, including the development of shared courses as appropriate. The School also has an exciting track record of public engagement and impact-related activities to which the successful candidate will make their own contribution.

Staff profiles in Music can be viewed here:

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/music/people/academic-staff-104.php>

The School and the University are committed to promoting and maintaining an inclusive and supportive working environment that assists all members of our University community to reach their full potential. Diversity brings strength and we welcome applications from across the international, national and regional communities that we work with and serve.



Job description



Main purpose of the role:

The successful candidate will undertake research and teaching in an area of Music relevant to the requirements of the Department. A specialism in contemporary chamber, instrumental and orchestral music is desirable and an interest in a secondary area (such as popular music, ethnomusicology, aesthetics, music and gender etc.) might be favourable. They will teach on the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes offered by the Department of Music, including introductory courses and research-informed specialist options; will undertake supervision of postgraduate research students; will contribute to the work of the School's research centres; and will pursue external funding opportunities. Responsibilities will also include administrative roles as agreed with the Head of Music and the Head of the School in Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture.

The University of Aberdeen's recruitment initiative is based on the principle of sustainable further enhancement of our academic portfolio and our established strengths in research and teaching. All appointments – at all levels – will contribute to delivering the University and School's strategic objectives as regards research, teaching and other scholarly activities. They will make a substantial and proactive contribution to research, as evidenced by publication, research student supervision and to teaching which may be at undergraduate and/or postgraduate level. They will particularly contribute to the development of innovative programmes of study designed to generate new income streams. Undertaking administrative responsibilities as appropriate, post holders will work regularly with colleagues across the University and engage with external stakeholders as appropriate to further our academic ambitions and our contribution to society.

Key responsibilities:

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- Undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and course/programme development in composition and other areas as appropriate.
- Teaching, examination and assessment at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in composition topics, including introductory courses, specialist options and other courses.
- Recruitment and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate research students.
- Academic administration, such as course coordination, auditioning/interviewing prospective students, examination invigilation, student advising, and general contribution to the smooth running of the department.
- Other relevant activities in the School and University as agreed with the Head of School.
- See also the Person Specification below.

At a glance

Salary:

Lecturer Grade 7 - £41,526
- £49,552 per annum
Senior Lecturer Grade 8 -
£52,559 - £59,135 per
annum

Hours of work:

Full Time

Contract type:

Substantive

Candidate background



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You will have a PhD (or be near to completion) in an area of music relevant to the requirements of the post. Preference may be given to those with specialisms in chamber, instrumental and orchestral music and an interest in a secondary area (such as popular music, ethnomusicology, aesthetics, music and gender etc.) might be favourable. You will have a record of excellent research and publication appropriate to your career stage, a clear plan of research activity for the coming years, including plans for obtaining external research funding and research impact, and experience of teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate level. You will have native or near-native competency in English language, excellent written and spoken communication skills, and be able to engage with students and promote student learning in a range of ways. **Your covering letter should set out how you would envision making a contribution to the Department of Music at the University of Aberdeen.**



Terms of appointment

For appointments made at Lecturer level the salary will be paid at the appropriate point on the Grade 7 salary scale (£41,526 - £49,552 per annum) and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience. For appointments made at Senior Lecturer level, salary will be paid at the appropriate point on the Grade 8 salary scale (£52,559 - £59,135 per annum) and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 3 year probation period.

This position is expected to begin before the end of July 2020.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here

Should you require a visa to undertake paid employment in the UK you will be required to fulfil the minimum points criteria to be granted a Certificate of Sponsorship and Tier 2 visa. As appropriate, at the time an offer of appointment is made you will be asked to ~~demonstrate that you~~ fulfil the criteria in respect of financial maintenance and competency in English. Please do not hesitate to contact Heather Clark, HR Adviser on +44 (0)1224 273244 or email h.m.clark@abdn.ac.uk for further information



Person specification

	<i>Essential</i>	<i>Desirable</i>
Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PhD in an area of research relevant to the teaching and research requirements of the post. • A strong academic background in music. • An established reputation within the contemporary compositional community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PG Certificate in Higher Education or equivalent qualification • Assistant Fellowship or Fellowship of the UK Higher Education Academy
Work and Other relevant experience (including training) eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A track record of excellent research and publication in a relevant subject area appropriate to the career stage • A well-developed plan of research, including plans for publication, external research funding and impact-related activity • Experience of teaching activity at undergraduate and postgraduate level in an area or areas relevant to the post • Ability to provide supervision to doctoral students • Evidence of other indicators of peer esteem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of teaching in UK Higher Education • Evidence of Impact and Outreach generated by research and scholarship • Experience of public engagement or impact-related activity • Experience in academic administration
Personal qualities and abilities eg initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Native or near-native competency in English language • Excellent communication skills (oral and written) • Ability to work independently and as part of a team • Ability to build a rapport with students and impart enthusiasm for the subject • Demonstrable evidence of effective teaching at undergraduate and/or postgraduate levels • Ability and willingness to initiate and sustain international collaborations, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of commitment to the values of the School and the University

	<p>including international travel as required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to carry out research at the highest level appropriate to the post in the relevant specialism both independently and as part of a team • Potential to take leadership roles within the discipline 	
<p>Other eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing commitment to personal career development • Willingness to be involved in the full range of University activities including Knowledge Transfer and recruitment activities • Willingness and flexibility to respond to demands of the role, i.e. travelling and unsocial hours • Familiarity with all forms of electronic communication and Microsoft Office package 	

The University



Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is Scotland's third oldest University and the fifth oldest in the UK. Ranked within the world top 160 in the Times Higher Education Rankings 2019 and named Scottish University of the Year in the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019. Aberdeen is 'open to all and dedicated to the pursuit of truth in the service of others'.

Aberdeen is a broad-based, research-intensive University, which puts students at the head of everything it does. It has significant academic strengths and potential across a wide variety of disciplines. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas, Aberdeen has also been credited for its international reach and its commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies.

The University has over 14,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 130 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges, inspires and helps every individual to reach their full potential.

The University combines a distinguished heritage with a forward-looking attitude. In the past few years, the University has encouraged creativity in its academic staff, broken new ground with an innovative curriculum, and developed state-of-the-art facilities including the new Sir Duncan Rice Library and the Aberdeen Sports Village and Aquatics Centre. In looking to the future, the University seeks to enhance its reputation as one of the world's leading Universities by moving forward with ever more ground breaking research; ensuring students have an intellectual and social experience second to none; and capitalising upon the dual role as one of the major institutions of the north and as a cornerstone of regional economic and cultural life.

Situated within the **School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture**, the **Department of Music** has research expertise across the musical spectrum. Dr Edward Campbell is a leading scholar of Musical Modernity, Pierre Boulez and Contemporary Aesthetics and is currently co-editing the Cambridge Stravinsky Encyclopaedia as well as working on a monograph on the complex network of relationships linking musical modernism in France and East-Asia. Dr Frauke Jurgensen is a computational musicologist with publications in Medieval and Renaissance music studies. Dr Jonathan Hicks has produced some ground-breaking work on music and place, with studies on nineteenth-century Paris and London. In composition Professor Pete Stollery is internationally renowned for his electroacoustic work, and Dr Suk Jun Kim is also known worldwide for this electroacoustic music and has recently published a book on a unique project entitled *Humming*. Dr Phillip Cooke is a prominent composer of choral and vocal music and has recently written books on Herbert Howells and James MacMillan.

The BMus degree programmes are four years in duration and operate on a two-plus-two model. Equal emphasis is placed on performance, composition, music history and musicology. After a general grounding in music, students opt to take one of three programmes at honours level (years 3 and 4). The single honours music programme allows increasing specialisation, particularly with the options available in years 3 and 4. The music education programme combines the study of music with pedagogy and school placements: it is recognised as a teaching qualification by the General Teaching Council, and graduates

are guaranteed a job teaching in a Scottish school for a year after graduation. The Community Music programme follows the existing model of the music education programme and includes placements with partners from the locality.



We have a wide range of musical ensembles, including the Chapel Choir and Choral Society, Spectrum (the university's new music group), and the University Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. There are also student-led ensembles which include folk groups, a Gamelan ensemble and a well-established Gilbert & Sullivan Society and flourishing opera society. There is a concert series which provides opportunities for performance and includes outstanding visiting artists. For more information on the activities of the Department of Music, please visit:

<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/music/>

The **School of Language, Literature, Music & Visual Culture** is home to nine disciplines, including Celtic & Anglo-Saxon Studies, English Studies, Modern Languages (French & Francophone Studies, Gaelic Studies, German Studies and Spanish & Latin American Studies), Language & Linguistics and Film & Visual Culture. The School welcomed the Elphinstone Institute and the Department of Music (previously within the School of Education) in September 2015, consolidating a number of links and collaborations established over the years.

The School is home to one of the largest undergraduate cohorts in the University, with around 900 students enrolled on our courses. It runs a diverse series of Masters programmes reflecting the research and teaching interests of its staff, including TESOL, Professional Communication, Translation Studies, Creative Writing, Film and Visual Culture and English Literary Studies. It has a long history of excellent research across all its disciplines. In the REF 2014 assessment of UK research, the School's research in English Language and Literature, which included Linguistics as part of its submission, was graded at 93% 3*/4*, confirming the international recognition in which its work is held. The School's research strengths and interests are reflected in its various Research Centres, including the Washington Wilson Centre for Visual Culture, the Centre for the Novel, and the Grierson Centre for Textual Criticism and Comparative Literary History. It holds approximately fifty academic posts, accompanied by a further fifty part-time and temporary staff (including language assistants), and is supported by ten administrative and secretarial staff.

The city and the region

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

With a population of approximately 230,000, the city stands between the Rivers Dee and Don. This historic city has many architectural splendours and the use of its sparkling local granite has earned Aberdeen the name of the Silver City. Recognised as the oil capital of Europe, Aberdeen nevertheless retains its old-fashioned charm and character making it an attractive place in which to live.

Aberdeen enjoys excellent communication services with other European cities - e.g. flying time to London is just over one hour with regular daily flights. There are direct air links to London (City, Gatwick, Heathrow, and Luton), Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Southampton, Belfast and East Midlands within the U.K. There are also flights to international hub airports: Amsterdam (Schiphol), Paris (Charles De-Gaulle) and Frankfurt as well as flights to other European destinations. <http://www.aberdeenairport.com> Road and rail links are also well developed.

The Grampian Region which took its name from the Grampian Mountains has a population of approximately 545,000. It is made up of five districts – Aberdeen, Banff & Buchan, Gordon, Kincardine & Deeside and Moray. The city and the surrounding countryside provide a variety of urban, sea-side and country pursuits. Aberdeen has first class amenities including His Majesty's Theatre, Music Hall, Art Gallery, the Aberdeen Exhibition Centre, Museums, and Beach Leisure centre. Within a short time, beach pursuits, equine activities, salmon, trout and sea fishing, hill-walking, mountaineering, golf, sailing, surfing and windsurfing can be reached. The city and the surrounding countryside are repeatedly given high ratings for quality of life in surveys.

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland's most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire cater for a wide range of tastes in sporting and cultural activities.

To find out more about Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire go to www.visitabdn.com



How to apply



Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is 05 January 2020

Interviews will be held on 22 January 2020

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact

Dr Phillip A. Cooke, Head of Music

01224 274599

p.cooke@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Dr Cooke

Please quote reference number LAN100A on all correspondence

The University pursues a policy of equal opportunities in the appointment and promotion of staff.