Music and Performing Arts
Demands and creativity
HES-SO Faculty of Music and Performing Arts

In Western Switzerland, three schools, whose different sites spread across most of the territory, provide higher education in Music and Performing Arts:

- the Haute Ecole de Musique de Genève (HEM-GE and its Neuchâtel site)
- the Haute Ecole de Musique de Lausanne (HEMU and its Fribourg and Sion sites)
- the Haute Ecole de Théâtre de Suisse Romande (HETSR, La Manufacture)

Belonging to the HES-SO Faculty of Music and Performing Arts—HES-SO being the largest of the nine Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts with its six faculties and over 19,000 students — these three schools benefit from both the synergies of a solid central organisation and the riches of a strong regional presence.

All together, the two schools of music have around 1,150 students. The various study programmes offered cover all the disciplines related to music—playing, singing, composition, improvisation, thinking and teaching—and most of the musical styles, ranging from medieval music to contemporary creation, including jazz and Dalcroze Eurhythmics.

La Manufacture currently counts around 30 students in Acting and a dozen in Directing. It provides a training combining performance techniques, theory courses as well as practical and experimental theatre workshops.

Boasting an internationally renowned teaching staff and a front-rank artistic and academic environment, the three schools welcome students from all over the world. They also act as major regional cultural players and maintain close institutional relationships with the other HES-SO fields of study, with Swiss and foreign higher schools of arts as well as with universities and polytechnic schools.

The HES-SO Faculty of Music and Performing Arts develops and coordinates the following missions, respecting the identity of each higher education institution: basic education (Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees recognized by the Swiss Confederation), applied research and development (complementing the academic research fields), continuing education and service provisions (concerts, performances, cultural mediation).
Tradition and excellence
Haute Ecole de Musique de Genève | HEM-GE

The Haute Ecole de Musique de Genève (HEM-GE) descends from the oldest Swiss music education institution, the Conservatoire de Musique de Genève. Founded in 1835 by patron François Bartholoni, the Conservatoire has included among its professors artists as famous as Franz Liszt or Dinu Lipatti.

The HEM-GE is an internationally renowned educational and artistic community firmly established in the cultural regional life. It attracts around 650 students from across the world —some 100 of them studying on the education site of Neuchâtel— who are taught by approximately 100 professors and guest teachers of international reputation and professionally active. The HEM-GE academic study programmes are recognized by the Swiss Confederation, providing its graduated students with excellent career prospects.

As the other schools of the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts, the HEM-GE closely collaborates with the artistic and academic institutions of its environment, such as the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Orchestre de Chambre de Genève, the Ensemble de musique contemporaine Contrechamps, the Grand Théâtre de Genève, the Concours de Genève and the University of Geneva. It also cultivates a privileged partnership with non-vocational trainings in music and theatre housed by the Conservatoire de Musique de Genève [internships in teacher training, artistic projects, prevocational training]. Such proximity is extremely valuable for the students.

The HEM-GE historical and artistic fields range from medieval music—in the Centre de Musique Ancienne founded in 1975—to contemporary creation. A particular focus is put on the relationships between composers, improvisers and performers, providing unique opportunities for multidisciplinary collaborations in Western Switzerland. The institution also values the activities of music ensemble—chorales, orchestras, contemporary ensembles and chamber music ensembles.

The Neuchâtel education site

In a bright and open environment in Neuchâtel, the HEM-GE provides education in the following disciplines: singing, flute, violin, viola, cello and piano. The Neuchâtel site takes part in the cultural regional scene by organizing numerous artistic events.
Culture and infrastructure
Haute Ecole de Musique de Lausanne | HEMU

An heir of the Institut de Musique de Lausanne founded in 1861 by Gustave-Adolphe Koëlla, the Haute Ecole de Musique de Lausanne (HEMU) is an educational institution renowned in Switzerland and abroad for its famous teaching staff, its exacting and comprehensive teaching and for its commitment in the regional, national and international musical life. It closely collaborates with institutions such as the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, the Sinfonietta de Lausanne, the Opéra de Lausanne, the Montreux Jazz Festival, the Cully Jazz Festival and the Festival de Verbier.

The HEMU Classical and Jazz degree courses, the latter being unique to Western Switzerland, provide its students with an academic teaching, focused on theory and practice to ensure immediate access to professional life. The HEMU also actively works together with the non-vocational department of the Conservatoire de Lausanne (internships in teacher training, artistic projects), a partnership extremely beneficial to all students.

The HEMU provides to its approximately 500 students three centres of excellence, with complementary identities and qualities in Lausanne, Fribourg and Sion.

The Lausanne education site
In the heart of a cultural and academic metropolis among the most active in Europe, the HEMU provides its students with high standard premises in the vibrant Flon area and at Rue de la Grotte 2, the location of its main building—old commercial arcades completely refurbished in the late 1980s which also house a non-vocational conservatory of about 1,200 students. The number and the quality of rooms, the technical and instrumental equipment as well as the different HEMU ensembles (e.g. orchestras, chorales, contemporary and lyrical workshops, Big Band and Jazz bands) ensure ideal working conditions to the learning of musical art. The Bachelor’s programmes and most Master’s programmes are provided in Lausanne.

The Fribourg education site
The Fribourg site and its modern infrastructure are located a few kilometres away from Lausanne, in a city enjoying one of the greatest medieval architectural complexes in Europe. The site is specialized, among others, in the teaching of brass, singing, organ, piano and music education in schools.

The Sion education site
Surrounded by different scenery, but filled with the same energy, the Sion site lies in the heart of the Rhône valley and the Swiss Alps, in the canton of Valais. The legacy of Hungarian violinist Tibor Varga makes this institution a pole of expertise in strings and guitar.
Contemporary and interdisciplinary
Haute Ecole de Théâtre de Suisse Romande | HETSR, La Manufacture

The Manufacture approaches performing arts education from the perspectives of research and creation. A place for exchange and meeting of practices, the HETSR addresses the performing arts from a contemporary and interdisciplinary point of view.

Students, practitioners, artists, researchers, and teachers share the same environment, which promotes challenge, questioning and progress.

The Manufacture welcomed its first students in September 2003, in a former gemstone-cutting manufacture, from which it draws its name. Founded by the cantons of Western Switzerland, it delivers Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees recognized by the Swiss Confederation.

The school’s multidisciplinary dimension is reflected in each of its missions: basic and continuing education are provided by visiting teachers from different fields of practice; artistic research initiates projects in partnership with institutions and researchers in Switzerland and abroad. In addition, a wide range of services – always focused on the theatrical art – are offered.

Running a Bachelor’s programme in Theatre centered on actor training, and having recently launched a Master’s programme in Stage Directing, the Manufacture is about to expand its training provision to drama, movie acting, dance and theatre design, becoming a pole in performing arts for Western Switzerland.
Cooperation and innovation
Institut de recherche en musique et arts de la scène | IRMAS

The Institut de recherche en musique et arts de la scène (IRMAS), which started its activities in 2012, gathers the three schools of the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts (HEM-GE, HEMU, HETSR) and is in line with the HES-SO applied research and development (Ra&D) policy. Under the responsibility of the Faculty Board and housed by the HEM-GE, it aims to develop the quality of the Ra&D activities by promoting exchanges between researchers and increasing the visibility of the work carried out within the three institutions to professionals as well as to the general public.

The IRMAS ensures that the link between research and teaching is strengthened, by promoting the integration of the research results in the courses and seminars, while pursuing an inter-institutions research policy in accordance with the strategy of the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts. Supporting and supervising the researchers and professors at both scientific and administrative levels in the elaboration of their research projects is also part of the IRMAS objectives.

Institut Romand de Pédagogie Musicale | IRPM

Created in 2012, the Institut Romand de Pédagogie Musicale (IRPM) hosts the Master’s programmes in music pedagogy of the two higher music education institutions of the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts, the HEMU and the HEM-GE, and assembles all the majors of the Master in Music Pedagogy—Instrumental and Vocal Teaching, Music in Schools and Eurhythmics of Jaques-Dalcroze (music and movement). Under the responsibility of the Faculty Board, the IRPM has its administrative structure in Lausanne, at the HEMU.

An observer of the music pedagogy in Western Switzerland, the IRPM aims to federate the different approaches and aesthetics by becoming a major independent and dynamic player of the stylistic, pedagogic and societal evolution of musical education. It enhances the reflection on the profession and stimulates research projects in the pedagogic field, working closely with the IRMAS.

The IRPM supports the new tendencies in the conservatories and music schools, in associative structures, and in the private sector, as well as in public schools. These new approaches (e.g. group pedagogy, musical learning in an orchestral activity or early chorale, cultural mediation, music as tool of integration and conflict management in intercultural dialogues) induce a new review of practices and of pedagogic conceptions. The IRPM aims not only at coordinating, documenting and studying this evolution, but also at becoming one of its leading players.
Bachelor’s and Master’s programs

The three schools of the HES-SO Faculty of Music and Performing Arts apply the Bologna Process, which intends to harmonize the educational systems of European universities and higher education institutions.

The studies are divided into two cycles. The first cycle, the Bachelor’s degree (BA), lasts typically three years and is worth 180 ECTS credits. It aims to provide the knowledge and techniques specific to each discipline, while promoting an interdisciplinary and generalist approach. The first cycle leads to the title of Bachelor of Arts (in Music—a non-vocational qualification—in Music and Movement or in Theatre) compulsory to enter the second study cycle, the Master’s degree (MA).

The Master’s programmes last typically two years (three semesters for Theatre), are worth 120 ECTS credits for Music and 90 ECTS credits for Theatre and provide the title of Master of Arts. The higher education institutions of the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts offer five Master’s programs, allowing students to deepen the skills gained during the Bachelor’s degree. The Master’s studies aim to provide scientific skills in order to be prepared for professional life. In the Music programmes, students may enter a second Master of a maximum of 90 ECTS credits, as long as they have the skills required.

Haute Ecole de Théâtre de Suisse Romande

The Manufacture offers the following degree courses:

**Bachelor of Arts in Theatre**

**Master of Arts in Theatre**—major in Directing (Master-Campus-Theatre in partnership with the three other Swiss schools of theatre in Bern, Zurich and Verscio).

A Bachelor of Arts in Dance is currently being set up with the Zurich Hochschule der Künste and international schools.
Hautes Ecoles de Musique de Genève et de Lausanne

The HEM-GE and the HEMU offer the following degree courses:

**Bachelor of Arts in Music**

**Bachelor of Arts in Music and Movement** (Dalcroze Eurhythms—the Institut Jaques-Dalcroze was created in 1915 by the founder of Eurhythms, Emile Jaques-Dalcroze, and was named after him) (HEM-GE)

**Master of Arts in Music Pedagogy, with the following majors:**
- Instrumental and Vocal Teaching
- Music in Schools
- Eurhythmics of Jaques-Dalcroze (HEM-GE)

**Master of Arts in Music Performance, with the following majors:**
- Concert
- Orchestra
- Accompaniment
- Maestro al Cembalo (HEM-GE)
- Orchestral Conducting (HEMU)
- Wind Ensembles Conducting (HEMU)

**Master of Arts in Specialized Music Performance, with the following majors:**
- Soloist
- Historical Instruments in Practice (HEM-GE)
- Medieval Music (HEM-GE)
- Music and Musicology (HEM-GE)
- Specialized Orchestral Conducting (HEM-GE)
- Specialized Choral Conducting (HEM-GE)

**Master of Arts in Music Composition and Theory, with the following majors:**
- Composition classical and jazz
- Mixed Music Composition
- Music Theory (HEM-GE)
Applied research and development | Ra&D

Applied research and development (Ra&D) is part of the missions entrusted to all Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts by the Swiss Confederation, as are the basic and continuing education and the service provisions.

Ra&D is involved in all levels of training and includes various participants, from students to professors. In accordance with the Bologna Process, which is aimed at developing the thinking skills of students, the Bachelor’s programs have therefore included introductory research courses, while some courses of the Master’s programs are related to research projects in progress.

Ra&D has witnessed a remarkable development in recent years within the schools of the HES-SO Faculty of Music and Performing Arts. The strategy of the Faculty includes, among others, transferring Ra&D’s priority results in teaching, as well as reinforcing the cooperation within the Faculty and between the different HES-SO faculties. A Ra&D HES-SO institute (IRMAS) was created to serve these objectives.

Hautes Ecoles de Musique de Genève et de Lausanne

The research in higher music education institutions of the Faculty of Music and Performing Arts aims to establish fruitful relationships between education, music performance and creation, leading to cross-fertilization. Within the institutions, research is involved at all levels: students are introduced to it during the Bachelor and improve their working method during the Master; most assistants working on the research projects are students about to graduate; and professors of both institutions lead the projects. The results of different research projects are published in different formats: articles, books, scores or CDs, concerts or original performances, radio programs, lectures in conferences or congresses, websites, etc. These publications are designed for researchers, but primarily for musicians, performers, professors of instrument and for a wider public.

The research work underway for a decade is defined by its wide variety. In the field of pedagogy, research is focused on the instrumental, vocal and theoretical education—individual and collective, vocational and non-vocational—on a knowledge-mediation device, on new technologies, on degree courses and on the variety and specificity of learners. In the field of performance, research examines historical and innovative dimensions, the reflection on traditions, the status of performers and the relationships they develop with the public and the
society, their health and their emotional management. In the field of creation, research explores the issue of tools and techniques at the disposal of creators, the perception of work, and the boundaries between the fields of creation which are composition, improvisation and choreography.

Beyond the thematic differences, all the projects address in the same way a reflection on music, implementing applied research whose results must benefit both the pedagogic community and the artists working outside the institutional frame.

Research projects conducted within the HEM-GE allow forging successful partnerships with institutions in Switzerland and abroad (IRCAM and Opéra National de Paris in France, University of Montreal in Canada, Shanghai Conservatory in China, etc.), which contributes to the reputation of the institutions.

**Haute Ecole de Théâtre de Suisse Romande**

The Manufacture creates spaces of reflection and experimentation in the performing arts, from which new practices and original knowledge emerge. Research is based on the needs of the profession and developed with the close collaboration of artists, institutions and cultural associations. It produces new knowledge that in turn nourishes la Manufacture’s own teaching and is integrated into artistic practice.

In complement to academic research, the research projects of the Manufacture are oriented today along two strategic axes: “contemporary challenges” and “complicity in the arts and the disciplines”. In collaboration with the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, the Manufacture houses an original laboratory, the Sinlab, where artists and scientists undertake experiments at the crossroad of their respective fields.
Continuing education

In addition to the basic vocational education, the schools of the HES-SO - University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland Faculty of Music and Performing Arts develop continuing education programs responding to market needs and leading to the Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS), the Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS) and the Master of Advanced Studies (MAS).

Hautes Ecoles de Musique de Genève et de Lausanne

• CAS in Advanced Training in Instrument/Voice and Performance
• CAS in Chamber Music
• CAS in Dalcroze Pedagogy
• CAS in Didactics of Instrumental and Vocal Teaching in Music School
• CAS in Willems Musical Initiation
• CAS in Teaching of Theory in Music School
• DAS in Orchestral Practice (in collaboration with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande)

Haute Ecole de Théâtre de Suisse Romande

The Manufacture offers several continuing education programs primarily designed for professional performers, but also for participants from other fields for whom theatre can be a useful tool:
• Professional workshops
• CAS in Theatre Education (offered along with the Fondation Cours de Miracles in Delémont)
• CAS in Drama and Text Performance (jointly organized with the University of Lausanne)
• Training designed for teachers (in collaboration with the Haute Ecole Pédagogique Vaudoise)
Service provision, national and international relations

The service provision mandate of the Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts enacted in 2009 by the Swiss Confederation is clear: “The Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts offer service provisions to private companies and to public authorities. According to their regional presence, they provide service provisions to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Thus, in addition to research, they are able to create significant impetus for regional development.”

In the case of the higher institutions of the HES-SO Faculty of Music and Performing Arts, the service provision includes concerts and performances. Organized mainly in collaboration with other schools or institutions, it plays an increasingly important role in the training of students for their future career.

Beyond these “practical” offers, schools are also encouraged by the HES-SO to develop an international network which can benefit their students.

Haute Ecole de Musique de Genève

The HEM-GE offers a rich and varied range of service provisions. The HEM-GE orchestra, consisting of students subjected to professional requirements, participates every year in academies with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande or the Ensemble Contrechamps. The orchestra regularly performs work of contemporary composers, such as Holliger, Kurtág, Dutilleux and Lindberg who directly collaborate with the students, by conducting them or by attending the rehearsals. Famous conductors, such as Koopman, Fleisher and Krivine, are in charge of conducting the ensemble, and several audio and video recordings of the concerts have been made.

The other privileged collaborations include those with the Haute Ecole de Musique de Lausanne. They allow an artistic emulation between the students of the two schools and the development of their professional network in Western Switzerland. Thus, every year, a joint lyrical production is organized, alternatively by the HEM-GE and the HEMU.

Through an agreement concluded between the University of Geneva and the HEM-GE, students of both institutions can benefit from interesting opportunities of training in the music and musicology fields. A Bachelor’s programme in music with a major in Music and Musicology enables them to combine training in music at the HEM-GE and studies in musicology at the University of Geneva. This qualification provides access to the Master of Arts in Musicology at the University and to the HEM-GE Master’s programmes (only if completing additional training and passing the entrance exam) and the joint Master’s programme between the University and the HEM-GE.

At an international level, the HEM-GE regularly collaborates with other higher institutions of the Association Européenne des Conservatoires (AEC) and overseas (Brazil, Venezuela, USA, Canada, India, China).
Haute Ecole de Musique de Lausanne

In addition to its relationships with universities and foreign higher education institutions (CNSM de Paris, New York Manhattan School of Music, Como and Fiesole conservatories, Leipzig University of Music and Theatre, Liszt School of Music Weimar, Baltimore Peabody University and West Chester University in Pennsylvania, Young Siew Tow Conservatory of Music in Singapore, etc.), the HEMU works closely with many local and national institutions.

First among these are the two music schools in Lausanne, the Conservatoire de Lausanne and the Ecole de Jazz et de Musique Actuelle (EJMA), but also the Conservatoire de Fribourg and the Conservatoire Cantonal du Valais-Sion. The HEMU participates in musical events of international reach, such as the Montreux Jazz Festival, the Cully Jazz Festival and the Festival de Verbier. It also collaborates with the Opéra de Lausanne, which often offers students in singing their first role, with the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne and the Sinfonietta de Lausanne which work with the HEMU on various concerts and welcome numerous students as trainees, with the Haute Ecole Pédagogique Vaudoise and the Universities of Lausanne and Fribourg with which the HEMU conducts, among others, applied and development research projects in the field of music education, performance and creation.

The Haute Ecole de Musique de Genève, the Ecole Rudra-Béjart, the Haute Ecole de Théâtre de Suisse Romande, the Jeunesses Musicales de Fribourg, the Schubertiade de Sion, or even the Musée Olympique de Lausanne are among the HEMU collaborators.

The HEMU is a member of the Association Européenne des Conservatoires (AEC), of the International Association of Jazz Education (IAJE) and of the International Association of Schools of Jazz (IASJ).

Haute Ecole de Théâtre de Suisse Romande

The Manufacture offers a wide range of service provisions including performances, animating and training activities for theatres, schools, public collectivity and companies of the private sector.

Always in relation with its training and research activities, the Manufacture creates and supervises the creation and production of performances, performance-lectures, training workshops in oratory art designed for those interested in improving their public speaking skills, as well as dining shows for companies or collectivities.

The Manufacture has built a dynamic network of collaborations and exchanges at a local, national and international level. Enjoying a particularly dense cultural environment, it works together with many theatres as well as professional associations. It maintains privileged partnerships with the University of Lausanne and the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne and with the departments of performing arts, music, design, and visual arts of other schools. The Manufacture develops, among others, projects with the ECAL/Ecole cantonale d’art de Lausanne and the Haute Ecole d’art et de design (HEAD) de Genève, as well as the Zurich Hochschule der Künste (ZHdK).

La Manufacture is a member of the Conférence Suisse des Hautes Ecoles de Théâtre, of the international network Ecole des Ecoles and of the European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA).
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