Master of Music in Choral Singing

at the Hochschule für Musik Dresden and the Sächsische Staatsoper Dresden – Semperoper

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Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber Dresden
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Master of Music in Choral Singing

The postgraduate Master of Music in Choral Singing programme offers vocal students who have already completed their Bachelor’s or Master’s studies the opportunity of spending two years performing in one of the world’s best opera choruses and of receiving accompanied vocal training and coaching.

During the four semesters, students are continually integrated into the Saxon State Opera Chorus in Dresden, and for performing with the chorus they receive a monthly stipend of 900 Euros. They appear on stage and work with renowned stage directors and conductors.

In the two-year programme, students will learn a broad repertoire of choral numbers from more than thirty operas, making the graduates coveted artists on the job market. After they have completed the programme, suitable graduates will have the opportunity to earn a regular position in the Saxon State Opera Chorus when positions become available.

The director of the choral programme is Jörn Hinnerk Andresen, choirmaster of the Saxon State Opera Chorus in Dresden.

Course Contents

Instruction fosters comprehensive knowledge and skill in the field of operatic and concert choral singing.

In the foreground of the programme is the teaching of the operatic choral repertoire and of requirements that are specific to singing in an opera chorus. Major works for choir and orchestra are also studied.

Special aspects of the programme include the cultivation of ensemble singing as well as the preparation of repertoire for future auditions. Primary instruction takes place at the university, and further training is provided in small groups for the intensive study of new choral parts.

Admission Requirements

Bachelor of Music, university degree or other similar qualifications

In addition, documentation of professional experience in the field usually of no less than one year is required. Practical professional experience in the field may also have been acquired during the student’s first degree programme.

The study programme can also follow the completion of a Master’s level opera or concert music performance programme.

Information about language requirements, details about the entrance examination and other information as well as the on-line application form are available at: www.hfmd.de
Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber Dresden

Singers are trained for their future professional careers in the excellent conditions for study and the extraordinary creative environment offered by Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber Dresden.

Singing is one of the most attractive fields of study at the school of music. First-class, internationally renowned instructors offer students practical training in all genres of classical singing.

For these purposes, modern classrooms, an excellent concert hall and a multifunctional rehearsal stage are available. The facilities for students also include the school’s own institutions, such as the Vocal Research Studio, unique in all of Germany, the sound studio and the library.

The school’s many laureates at national and international competitions, its world-famous alumni and its many graduates engaged in top opera choruses are evidence of the efficiency and sustainability of the music school’s educational concept.

Sächsischer Staatsopernchor Dresden

The Saxon State Opera Chorus has the reputation of one of the best opera choruses. Its appearances in operatic productions, collaborations in concert performances, radio, television and CD productions and its ongoing presence at festivals and on tour have earned it worldwide attention and esteem.

The Saxon State Opera Chorus, founded by Carl Maria von Weber, has been led by such outstanding figures as Joseph Metzner, Wilhelm Fischer, Karl Maria Pembaur, Ernst Hintze, Gerhart Wüstner, Hans Peter Müller-Sybel, Hans-Dieter Pflüger and Matthias Brauer. The chorus’s work with the conductor Giuseppe Sinopoli was especially formative, and the ensemble is acclaimed for the homogeneity and nobility of its sound and the cultivation of its singing at soft dynamics while maintaining the substance of its vocal timbre.

Since 2013, the Saxon State Opera Chorus and the Staatskapelle Dresden orchestra have been regular guests at the Salzburg Easter Festival, which is now under the artistic direction of Christian Thielemann.

In 2017, the chorus celebrated its jubilee 200th anniversary. For the 2019 International Opera Awards, the Saxon State Opera Chorus has been nominated in the “Chorus of the Year” category. Jörn Hinnerk Andresen has been the choirmaster since the 2014/15 season.