

Department of Postmodern Music

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What is Postmodern Music?

Commercial music has become the dominant music form in the 20th century. Commercial music is rock 'n' roll, ballad, dance, jazz and all music we can easily hear from many areas of media. The definition of Commercial music also allows us to consider all music that produces an enormous amount of money. This inevitably involves capitalism in music creation. Focusing on the business aspects of music often leads to an absence of artistic aspects in music because the word 'commercial' means 'similarity,' 'found-sound,' 'a copy,' and 'non-original'. Postmodern music makes an attempt to reveal originality in music creation and deeper artistic aspects. This investigation, to a certain extent, lends itself well to the definition of popular music given above. Performing and writing Postmodern music not only requires fluent skills in existing and established musical styles and techniques such as rock, pop, jazz, and computer music, but it also requires minds and senses of new vision to explore the creation of new music putting past, present, and future together. Postmodern music is to prepare for a new century to come.

Postmodern Music at Kyung Hee

Founded in 2000, this program is the premier institution for the study of contemporary and jazz music, offering a Bachelor of Arts in Jazz Performance and Composition. The program's students and faculty members function in an environment designed to provide a comprehensive learning experience covering all of the opportunities and challenges presented by the contemporary music industry. Through extensive facilities, students develop musical competency in every area of composition, performance, and production. The program's students also participate in regular concerts and work on individual album projects in the studio. Kyung Hee University has a strong tradition of teaching music subjects. The broad curriculum includes Jazz Harmony, Arranging, Film Scoring, Commercial Music, Piano Comping, Rhythm Study, Pop Chorus, Improvisation Analysis, Ensemble, Midi & Sound Design, Computer Music, 20th Century Western Music, Eastern Music, and Improvisation Technique. Every style of contemporary music is explored, including jazz, rock, popular, and contemporary classical, as well as music from many parts of the world. The program's primary goal is to provide students with a thorough technical, conceptual, and historical grasp of Jazz and contemporary music.

Students in the Postmodern Music Program work with the creators, not just the interpreters, of jazz and its offshoots - music that continues to stretch toward and reach ever new expressive and artistic horizons.

Degree Requirements

To receive the Bachelor of Art in Postmodern Music, a student must:

- complete a minimum of 130 credit units
- satisfy the general requirements of the School for professional degrees
- complete 21 units of Basic subject in majoring
- complete 12 units of required courses
- complete 55 units of common studies program for Postmodern Music
- acquire a minimum English proficiency test score of TOEIC 650

Courses

Year 1

Piano Class 1·2, Jazz Harmony 1·2, Jazz History 1·2, Lecture(Basic) 1·2, Ensemble 1·2, Minor Private Lecture 1·2

Year 2

Lecture(Basic) 3·4, Jazz Improvisation Technique 1·2, Computer Music 1·2, Ensemble 3·4, Commercial Music Composition, Commercial Music Arranging

Year 3

Film Scoring 1·2, Lecture(Advanced) 1·2, Ensemble 5·6, Latin Class

Year 4

Lecture(Advanced) 3·4, Oriental Music Analysis, Music Business Class 1·2, Ensemble 7·8, Conducting Class 1·2, Modern Classical Music Analysis, Graduation Thesis

Careers and Graduate Destinations

The rapid growth of the music industry in recent years has created new career opportunities for talented musicians in performance and entertainment areas, as well as other commercial music ventures. Skilled musicians can apply formal training that they received through the program to recording careers, studio performance, arranging or producing, and live performance. Careers can also be made in song writing, composing and directing television music, film music, advertising music, as well as music promotion, bookings, and music publishing. Students who majored in recording often pursue careers as recording engineer, mixing engineer, and sound designer. Graduates can also be hired as professional salespersons or advisors for musical items and instructors at music institutions. Retail outlets need musicians who can demonstrate the musical instruments or items they sell. Individuals who can teach music lessons are always in demand.

Faculty

Woo-Chang Lee, Master of Music, Manhattan School of Music, 1995, Professor, Jazz Piano & Jazz Composition/
Arranging, jazz@khu.ac.kr

Michael Staudacher, Master of Music, College for Music and Theater Hamburg, 1993, Associate Professor, Piano &
Film music Composition/Arranging, micstar@khu.ac.kr

Kyung-Hoon Han, Doctor of Church Music, Shepherd Unverity, 2009, Associate Professor, Computer Music
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Sung-Kyu Hong, Doctor of Literature, Korea University, 2015, Associate Professor, Commercial Music Composition/
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