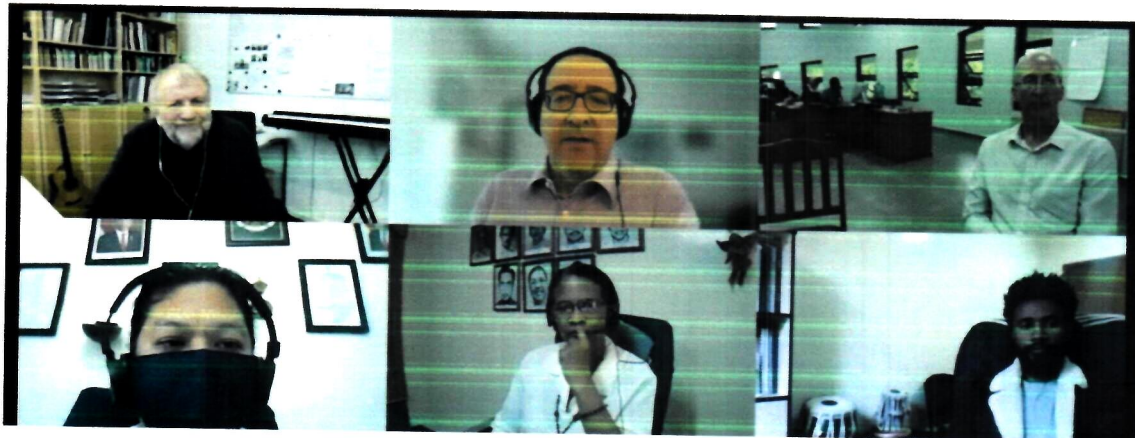


Consultation ref. "Online study course International Church Music"  
Tuesday, 30 March 2021, 8:00 – 9:30 CET, ZOOM

**Participants:**

- Prof. Dr. Junita Batubara (Universitas HKBP Nommensen, Medan/Indonesia),
- Rev. Dr. Jeaneth Harris-Faller (Divinity School, Silliman University, Dumaguete/Philippines)
- Mr. Amare Teklu (Mekane Yesus School of Jazz Music and Media, Addis Ababa/Ethiopia),
- Rev. Seth Ole Sululu (Tumaini University Makumira, Makumira/Tanzania)
- Prof. Hartmut Naumann (University College for Church Music of EKvW – Evangelical Pop-Academy, Witten/Germany)
- Mr. Joerg Spitzer (United Evangelical Mission / University College for Church Music of EKvW – Evangelical Pop-Academy, Witten/Germany)



1. Joerg Spitzer welcomed the participants. The meeting shall serve the following objectives:
  - a) Information and clarifications about the idea of the online study course "International Church Music",
  - b) Sharing about possible improvements/modifications of the idea and
  - c) Agreement on general commitment, time-line, next practical steps, date for next meeting
2. Hartmut Naumann presented the concept of the online study course "International Church Music" to the participants
3. Remarks from participants:
  - The course will not lead to a degree but only result in a certificate
  - 15 students - what "level" of students do we accept? What is the qualification we expect?
  - What shall be the content of the curriculum? 2 – 3 semesters? How many units / credits are we offering per semester

- How do we decide on the lecturers?
  - Appreciated: Idea of "how could we learn from another?", other worship traditions
  - How does the concept work in terms of financial responsibility?
  - Are the students going to pay tuitions?
  - How to deal with time zone differences?
  - Need to clearly define the requirements for students (basic knowledge of music needed)
  - The course shall serve as an *additional* training, not substituting any of the already existing diploma/BA/MA programmes
  - If an integration of the curriculum of the course into the existing programmes will be able this would be nice but not a must
  - Main purpose of the course: *Learning from each other*. The focus is on the multi-/transcultural aspect of music, therefore the "target group" for the study course is not only students within the existing music programmes, but also church musicians from "outside"
  - How many workshops? Suggested: 2 workshops/week (=4 hours), i.e. 14 weeks = 56 hours/semester, should not be more, it is supposed to be part-time
  - Financial contributions: We need to level the fees, we are looking for people who are talented/skilled and motivated/committed.
4. In the todays deliberations it becomes visible that the representatives of the five training institutions commit themselves to jointly develop the concept for a online study course "International Church Music"
5. As next step is agreed: Preparation of curricula for specialized seminars, e.g. :
1. Music and church music in Ethiopia
  2. Music and church music in Tanzania
  3. Music and church music in Indonesia
  4. Music and church music in the Philippines
  5. Music and church music in Germany
- Until the next meeting each partner (institution) will develop the curriculum for the respective a.m. specialized seminar (e.g. Pop-Academy will prepare the curriculum for "5. Music and church music in Germany").
- The draft curricula shall be circulated to all others early before the next meeting so that all others can study the documents.
6. It it consent that it is too early to define a starting point for the programme. We should first work on the conditions (curricula, funds, communication tools, etc.) and then see when the time is right for a launch of the programme.
7. **Date for next meeting:** As in June our colleague Amare Teklu will be in the US, and in view of the great time difference (7 hrs to Germany, 12hrs to Medan, 13 hrs to Dumaguete) in the meeting it is proposed to meet on Saturday, 19. June early morning (Germany) + afternoon (Medan/Dumanguete), However, after consulting with the colleagues in Medan and Dumaguete, it is proposed to have the meeting already on Friday, 18 June (different times: See mail)



# Study of "International Church Music"

at the University of Church Music Herford-Witten (Germany) , the ...., the...., the... and in cooperation with UEM

## Basics

Against the background of an increasingly globally networked world, the issue of *internationality in church music* is becoming more and more popular. Transcultural experiences, but also bilateral and multilateral processes of knowledge and understanding can be seen in many places. In many Christian churches a growing diversity in musical styles and forms can be observed: classical forms, traditional hymns, mixed forms or songs, melodies and rhythms from other cultures. Styles mix and are mixed with musical forms from the respective regional cultures. Melodies and rhythms "travel", they are changed, adapted and crossed. Such processes show a development into greater musical diversity. In an international understanding of church music, the appreciation of different regional characteristics and traditions is as important as mutual inspiration for new, innovative forms of music. An appreciative attitude and praxis towards all styles and dynamics of musical forms of expression is fundamental when dealing with "international church music".

## The Studies

The "International Church Music" course is a kind of contact course or guest course that is offered on the basis of international cooperation between training institutions. After a determined suitability of the students, the different aspects of this topic are studied within a certain number of semesters (2 to a maximum of 3). Lessons as well as entrance and final exams take place online as far as possible. The language of instruction is English. At the end, the graduates receive a certificate as proof of their qualification. - The course is feasible also part-time (during employment).

## The Co-operation

The existing cooperation between universities and training institutions and the UEM provides an ideal basis for the course. As a result of the cooperation to date, training institutions in Germany, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Indonesia and the Philippines have become cooperation partners, each providing training in the field of church music in different ways. There are also good contacts to church music institutions in Botswana, India, the DR Congo, Lithuania and Hungary. The further expansion of this international network is progressing. The "International Church Music" certificate course should be carried out as a cooperation between 4 to 5 institutional partners based in different continents. This cooperation has several desirable effects: knowledge processes and professionalization in dealing with different musical traditions and characteristics, development of global and diverse forms of church music, acquisition of interested parties for the training institutions involved, diversity of teaching and teaching staff, joint certification international level.

## The students

The students come together from different parts of the world and form a seminar group. They have previous musical training and aptitude for studying, they speak and understand English well and have the necessary technical equipment and know-how for digital networking. Diversity is seen as a given normality in the seminar group and is not dealt with separately through intercultural training. The students are accompanied by a tutor who accompanies and supports the learning process. Joint music productions and joint learning are part of the program, as is the imparting of music-theoretical, theological and socio-cultural knowledge. Getting to know each other and the close exchange as well as imparting and deepening knowledge are mainly ensured with the help of electronic tools (online lessons). In addition, as far as possible, teaching units can take place on site. The possibilities for this must be considered in each individual case. Common prayer and church services are part of the study program.



## **The course content**

- Building blocks of music (rhythm, melody, harmony)
- Aspects of Christian singing and making music in an international context
- Christian worship and its theological and liturgical forms in different traditions
- Instrumental playing of an instrument suitable for community accompaniment
- Singing, singing with groups, choir work
- Specialized seminars, e.g. :
  1. Music and Church Music in Ethiopia
  2. Music and Church Music in Tanzania
  3. Music and Church Music in Indonesia
  4. Music and Church Music in the Philippines
  5. Music and church music in Germany

## **The lecturers**

The lecturers come from the participating training institutions. In addition to their technical competence, all lecturers must have secure know-how in online teaching.

## **Online lessons and tutorials**

The experience of the last few months has clearly shown the possibilities in online teaching. MS Teams or Zoom can be used as tools. In addition to direct online lessons, video tutorials should be used so that students can work independently of time. Videos can also be used in the opposite direction, namely that students can send in or upload their exercises and assignments via video. In addition, handouts, grades, mp3s, examination and other information can be made available in an online filing system. The Office 365 platform is suitable for all of these applications.

If it is possible to teach in person in individual cases, this is welcome. This applies particularly to instrumental, vocal and ensemble lessons. However, in principle, it must also be possible to teach online in these subjects.

## **Exams and the examination boards**

Both entrance and final exams should be taken online in front of international commissions. In support of this could also be posted videos and other materials.

## **The graduates**

At the end of the course, the graduates should be able to play church music on site at a *simple* but solid level, to lead a music group, to make music in church services and to both guide and accompany the congregation singing. The main focus is on understanding different forms of music and culture, getting to know and analyzing a rich collection of songs and understanding Christian worship and its music in different contexts.

In addition to gaining knowledge, improving know-how and international exchange, the course also offers graduates the opportunity to receive a quality certificate issued by an international association of training institutes. This certificate can gain importance in different countries and in some cases enable graduates to get employment or payment for their church music work.