

Music 9535b – Dr R. Toft
Term 2, Tuesdays 9:30-12:30

Research-Creation in Music

This seminar focuses on an approach to research that combines creative processes and academic practices to foster innovation and the development of knowledge through artistic expression, scholarly investigation, and experimentation. In other words, both the act of creating something novel and the processes, techniques, and methodologies belonging to a given field are central to research-creation. Artist-researchers are individuals whose activities involve research and the creation of art works. The outcome of their endeavours can be an object or something that exists over time.

In the seminar, students will first learn about both practice-based and practice-led research, the two basic categories of research-creation, and then they will identify a small project on which they will work. They may create an artefact, using relevant tools, techniques, and methodologies, or produce a study that generates new knowledge about artistic practice.

The seminar is open to anyone who wishes to explore this way of working, and it is not restricted by genre or field of study. In other words, classical performers, musicologists, theorists, and those involved in popular music will all find a home under the umbrella of research-creation. Areas people might wish to explore include, but are not limited to, performance practices, practical applications of theoretical concepts, record production, research that might lead to a composition or performance style, etc. The artefacts produced may be a written study, a piece of music, a recording, a performance, etc.

During the term, students will give two presentations to the class, one on the methodologies that will govern their work, and the other on the artefact that has been created.

GRADING

Two presentations, each worth 25% of the final mark

One project worth 50% of the final mark.