

BEING A STUDENT AT ARTS²

ARTS² is an Academy of Arts (Bachelor's and Master's degree) depending directly from the Ministry of College Education of Belgium's French Community. The size of the school (about 650 students) allowed it to keep a particularly warm atmosphere yet it is part of a large and prestigious college education community (universities and College Universities) within the Pôle Hennuyer, thus offering numerous advantages to its students.

ARTS²'s mission is to train interpretive and creative artists in its three fields of expertise:

- Visuals arts
- Music
- Theatre

A didactic training is also available (Didactic Master's Degree and Aggregation of Secondary School Teaching) Here are its two fundamental principles:

- Acquiring the mastering of the techniques, the intellectual knowledge, and the knowhow and knowbe related to the chosen domain/the domain chosen by the student;
- Event artistic practice embedding the training programme in a continuous way by means of projects related to the cultural world/sphere.

Combining these principles on a daily basis helps the future graduates to professionally insert in society as responsible artists. ARTS² offers open studies which are open to the world and impregnated, according to the chosen domain or options, with today's artistic currents/trends, new technologies or the most solid traditions. The

L'interdisciplinarité rendue possible par le voisinage immédiat des trois domaines est un atout apprécié des étudiants.

ARTS² : cultural and social actor

ARTS² gives students the necessary tools to integrate the current social and economical context. For that purpose, it encourages:

- To train students for teaching in the form of a didactic master's degree or an aggregation, in collaboration with superior high school teaching, artistic secondary school teaching,
- To collaborate with college university teaching institutions **with the aim of** a complete and harmonious training, **en parfaite complémentarité** ;
- To promote the school's artistic creations/realisations outside of the city *extra muros*
- To **become aware** of the richness of the la prise de conscience de la richesse des métissages culturels dans la société actuelle.

ARTS², ever growing cultural partner

ARTS² is nestled within two superb **listed historical buildings**, which are settled in the centre of **Mons**, city of Art, historic capital of the Hainaut province located at the heart of Europe and at the centre of the highway, railway, and air travel crossroads Brussels/Paris. Mons will be the **European Capital of Culture** in 2015. It is a human-scale dynamic and connected University city, completely redeveloping both economically and culturally, rich in innovative solutions. ARTS² is thus **at the centre of a major network of cultural professions and spaces** (creation, diffusion, and production) :

Ville de Mons – Manège.Mons – Charleroi/Danses (danse) – Orchestre royal de Chambre de Wallonie– Musiques Nouvelles – BAM (Musée des Beaux-Arts de Mons – *Fine Arts museum of Mons*) – MAC's (Musée des

Arts Contemporains– *Museum of Contemporary Art*, Grand-Hornu) – Grand-Hornu Images – TechnoITé (Centre de compétences et de formation – *training centre*) et CECN2 (Centre des Écritures Contemporaines et Numériques – *centre of contemporary and digital writings*) – UMons (Université de Mons – *University of Mons*) – Wallimage (Fonds régional d’investissement dans l’audiovisuel – *regional investment fund for broadcasting technology*) – Musée de la Photographie (*Museum of Photography*, Charleroi) – Transcultures (*centre for digital and sound culture*) – Festival du Hainaut – Musicales de Beloeil – Kulturmarkt (Antwerpen) – Ars Musica (Bruxelles) – Le Phénix (Valenciennes) – Le Théâtre du Nord (Lille)...

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Department of Visual Arts

Creativity in visual, plastic and spatial arts had become a central element. More than being a tradition, it is about transmitting the desire to discover without neglecting the useful techniques and knowledge.

The training occurs around workshops gathering a coherent set of artistic, theoretical and technical subjects. The latter promote a reasoned practice of a discipline, as well on its practical or technical sides as on sensitivity and thinking resources. The first year (BAC 1) is partially multidisciplinary. In third year (BAC 3) and in masters degree, the student can choose to broaden their knowledge in a series of related disciplines (performance, artist’s book, etc.). At the end of their academic experience, the student must be able to lead personal research and realisations programme in the field that they have chosen, with the means of expression that they have favoured, and in the personal language that they will have created.

Department of Music

Having inherited the prestigious tradition from the Belgian Royal Conservatories (Brussels, Liège, Mons, Antwerp and Ghent), the department of Music (Higher Music Conservatory) nurtures instrumental, vocal and/or writing techniques, orchestral or choral conducting while arousing in the students a real artistic autonomy and still preserving a human dimension (students meet their teachers every week!).

Discovering non-classical repertoires, contemporary languages, theatre arts, new technologies, and writing techniques is a typical feature of these trainings’ openness, moreover inheriting solid and demanding artistic traditions..

Emphasis is given to group practice (orchestral, vocal ensembles, improvisation, chamber music) and to their highlighting within and outside the Academy through extra-muros re-audition policy and support given to students finishing their education and alumni students. Besides, a solid intellectual and cultural training, ranging from Music and Marketing to Ear-training or Comparative Art History completes the schooling throughout the studies.

Department of theatre

The pedagogical programme of the department (Conservatory) is aimed at training actors. It provides them with a coordinated set of introductory **and** general classes. The process is both continuous and divided in events, applied exercises concentrated in time. The Option system – specific to ARTS²- offers two approaches which differ from the initial training: the student works within a group that shares the same theatre vocabulary and bases, but where one also encounters others, heralding the acting profession where one continuously has to adapt. In BAC 3 (third year of Bachelor’s Degree) , projects gather students from two classes and two levels. Role playing is approached via its three parameters (language, body, and space); representation is broached via its three components (text, actor, stageplay); both are taught throughout the three fundamental poles of the basic training (voice, body, and movement) delivered during the Bachelor’s Degree.

The master’s degree is made of confrontations, concentrated in time, with great performing arts professionals who come to question what students take for certain. About fifteen external professionals thus join the initial team every year and take charge of collaborative projects with students, widely integrating the interdisciplinary dimension (dance, music, plastic arts, cinema, etc.). The pedagogical programme of the Master’s Degree consists in realizing three projects. The final objective of the training is to give the artist the “last word”, giving them the opportunity to discover their own way of being, their singularity as a performer and creator which will be a complete part of their working life.

GENERAL ORGANISATION OF STUDIES

The studies – classified as long cycle Higher Education – are organized as academic years, divided into three quarters. They are structured in two cycles leading to the following diplomas:

- Master's Degree in Theatre (1 year), in Plastic, Visual and Spatial Arts or in Music (2 years);
- Aggregation of Secondary School Teaching (AESS) in Plastic, Visual and Spatial Arts, in Music or in Theatre or in Speech.

Except for the Theatre (unique Master's degree in 1 year), the school offers three types of Master's Degrees in two years:

- Specialized Master's Degree
- Didactic Master's Degree
- Complementary Master's Degree (Master's Degree preparing for the Third Cycle/PhD)