

## **AMSTERDAM MASTER OF CHOREOGRAPHY (AMCh)**

### ADMISSION GUIDELINES

**Deadline application:** 15 November 2010

**Interviews:** 2,3,4 February 2011

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**More Information:** <http://www.ahk.nl/choreography>

#### **A. Admission Procedure**

The Amsterdam Master of Choreography (AMCh) offers a study course for dance artists who are interested in augmenting their existing professional practice through immersion in a two-year Master level arts research program. The course provides the support structure and organization to facilitate choreographic practice-led research. The admission procedure is designed to engage prospective applicants in an exploration of relevant research propositions, transdisciplinary perspectives and conceptual/ empirical methods.

#### **B. Admission Criteria**

The **minimum** formal criteria for admission to the AMCh study course include:

1. A Bachelors Degree in Dance that meets the qualifications for choreographer as outlined by the Network of Dutch dance academies in 2002 (see G. Exemption).
2. Three years work experience in the professional field of dance as performer and/ or choreographer.
3. A well-articulated Motivation to expand practice-based research activities that demonstrates: (a) a desire and an openness for encounters with and the exchange of knowledge(s) and practices, and (b) compatibility with the educational vision of the program (c) an ability to manage a predominantly independent, self-steered study program.
4. A clearly formulated Research Plan.

#### **C. Required Submission Material**

1. Curriculum vitae showing history of dance education and practice.
2. Two written recommendation(s) from professional choreographers, colleagues, artists, scholars and/ or teachers in the field of choreography.
3. Videos, dvd's and/or web-based documentation; and reviews and/or essays pertaining to previous and current work.
4. Examples of your own writing are welcome; whether about your own work or the work of others.
5. Motivation and Research Plan (max 1000 words in total): see #3 above for Motivation guidelines (and comment on the reason for pursuing a Master of Choreography and specifically the choice of AMCh). The Research Plan presents the research to be undertaken during the course and includes research questions and methods. Method here can be broadly interpreted as whatever means or assistance you might use to gather, organise and analyze information. For example: a bibliography, desired mentor(s), interdisciplinary intersects (relations to science, philosophy, politics, ethics, other artistic genres, etc.), list of current and

potential collaborators (e.g. performers, dramaturges, designers, etc.) and technical requirements may all be methodologically relevant to your practice-led research.

#### **D. First Round Selection: Application**

It is strongly recommended, and appreciated, to seek personal contact with staff members, in Amsterdam, or elsewhere, before applying to the program. Through prior contact staff members will be able to supply additional information about the program, and get to know the applicant better. This will be helpful to create a good understanding of the application.

A special selection committee will review the required materials submitted by all the applicants. From this initial group, a number of applicants will be selected to advance to the second round. These candidates will be invited to prepare a presentation of their research goals in an interview with a small committee to be scheduled in the third week of January.

#### **E. Second Round Selection: Interview**

The special selection committee for the second round will comprise the Director of the AMCh program, core staff member, a graduate and an external reviewer from the field of choreography. This committee will review and evaluate the submitted materials; and conduct and evaluate the interview process.

In preparation for the interview: each invited candidate will be asked to respond to specific questions from the review committee in relation to the application materials; and to prepare a draft design of the individual residency bringing the proposed research plans into alignment with AMCh program resources.

During the interview: the candidate will be asked to elaborate on the motivation to study with AMCh and the proposed research plan. The interview process will be guided by six, self-reflective qualifying criteria in which the candidate will be asked to reflect on their past professional experience, current special interests and career goals.

The criteria will function as discursive markers, enabling a conversation that will help the committee and the candidate evaluate the synergy between the AMCh's educational goals and the candidate's. The questions probe the candidate's ability to:

- 1) develop rigorous and insightful artistic research *propositions*, that clearly demonstrate an understanding of the complexities and layered nature of artistic practice.
- 2) develop the facility to articulate and problematise the functions of specific and idiosyncratic research methodologies within artistic practice.
- 3) extend their ability to reflect upon and communicate the *processual* practice of creative and compositional artmaking, through the use of written and audio/visual documentation, collaboration, conceptualization, and feedback (from peers, mentors, collaborators and audience).
- 4) strengthen their capacity to contribute to the field of dance and the performing arts, showing a keen awareness of topical developments in contemporary arts discourse with an aptitude for communicating the relevance of their practice within this larger sphere.

#### **F. Final Selection for Admission**

The Second Round Selection committee will make the final selection and the candidates will be notified on their admission status within two weeks from the interview date.

#### **G. Exemption**

The selection committee is entitled to exempt candidates from the minimum formal criteria for admission (specifically the Bachelors Degree in Dance and / or 3 years professional

experience) if the candidate meets the Qualifications as listed in the appendix below and the other criteria for selection. The candidate seeking an exemption may have these competences in another arts discipline, but then must use the other criteria and submission materials to convince the selection committees.

#### **H. Tuition and admission procedures**

For further information concerning tuition fee, admission procedures and visa please go to [www.ahk.nl](http://www.ahk.nl) and see "practical matters".

#### **I. Provisional planning 2011-2012**

Please consider the planning for the year of 2011-2012. The participation in seminars is of extreme importance.

Seminar 1

5-16 September 2011

Seminar 2

9-20 January 2012

Selection dates 1, 2, 3 February 2012

Seminar 3

28 May – 9 June 2012