

Joachim Junghanss, Artistic Director, Conservatorium Maastricht

Bio

Joachim is jazz and classical musician, educator and manager. He premiered his music at Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, New York, taught at Manhattan School of Music and worked at Boston Consulting Group (BCG). Joachim serves as artistic director of Conservatorium Maastricht.

As first international director of Conservatorium Maastricht he initiated the institute's transformation towards a more agile organization with a future-oriented curriculum, in line with the strategy of the university of applied sciences. The institute progressed on organizational, curricular, financial and policy levels. Its MA programs got internationally accredited, it came out of a structural financial deficit, implemented a new management structure, improved curricula and developed new initiatives, such as its annual award for innovation in music. Its new organizational setting allows Joachim to serve as artistic director to enhance key strategic developments such as digitalization, programs, curricula and funding.

Joachim is an alumni of Boston Consulting Group (BCG). At BCG Joachim developed and implemented strategies for leading businesses across the globe, working in close team-collaboration with diverse consultant teams. He focused on strategic, financial and organizational topics in a range of industries as well as cultural organizations. Based at BCG's Berlin office, he co-founded its *Arts and Culture Core Team* working for cultural institutions like concert halls and museums in Europe and around the globe.

Before Conservatorium Maastricht, Joachim served as Chief Academic Officer at True School of Music in Mumbai, India. Together with an international team, he drove the development of the startup academy towards India's first and foremost music training institution. Together with the team, he started new programs, defined academic processes and strengthened international partnerships and the developments towards online music education. The institute got recently governmentally accredited.

A Fulbright scholar, Joachim earned his Master's and Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) degrees in music from Manhattan School of Music in New York with academic honors. Joachim trained professionally in both classical music and jazz improvisation. He holds a Bachelor's degree (*Diplom*) as double major in classical piano under Prof. Gernot Sieber and jazz piano under Prof. Leonid Czizhik, as well as in music pedagogy from Munich Conservatory. He earned his concert diploma from *Musikhochschule Leipzig* as *Meisterschüler* of Prof. Richie Beirach.

As pianist, composer and musical leader he premiered original compositions on stages like Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center New York or Kennedy Center Washington D.C. Arrangements of his were premiered by Dave Liebman at Birdland, New York. In Europe he performed at international music festivals and stages such as Schloss Elmau and collaborated with orchestras such as the Munich radio orchestra (BR).

During his doctoral studies in New York, Joachim broadened his stylistic repertoire towards contemporary performance and improvisation as well as electroacoustic music. He worked among contemporary music scene in New York with ensembles like *Load Bang* and conducted artistic research on human-machine interaction through improvisation using the software MAX/MSP.

Teaching music has been Joachim's passion throughout his career. He has maintained a private teaching practice for over two decades, which he lately transformed to online teaching. At Manhattan School of Music he taught courses in main subject jazz piano, composition, theory at the preparatory division as well as music for film on BA and MA level. He developed the academy's electronic music studio and established a teaching collaboration on film music with the film departments at Columbia University and New York University. In addition, he accompanied opera classes and worked at the intersection between classical repertoire and improvisation in opera, together with director Rhoda Levine (City Opera New York).

As artist in residence at International House NYC, Joachim trained at the institute's international leadership program. With a passion for social activism and a strong belief in the power of music to transform lives, Jo launched the social entrepreneurship project „Music Works,“ in 2010 in West Africa. Focused on teaching music to high school students in a rural community in Ghana, Jo regularly traveled to Africa. “Music Works” was selected by the Davis Foundation as a “Davis Project for Peace” and has received additional funding from the Goethe Institute, the German Foreign Service and private donors.