Sacred Music

Study programmes:

**Bachelor Programme**

*Fields of orientation:* Protestant Sacred Music  
Catholic Sacred Music

*Duration of study programme:* 8 semesters

*Degree earned:* Bachelor of Music

*Area of professional activity:* cantor and organist (employed by the church)

**Master Programme**

Continuation of study programme following a completed Bachelor in Sacred Music or a B-Diplom Sacred Music.

*Fields of orientation:* Protestant Sacred Music  
Catholic Sacred Music

*Duration of study programme:* 4 semesters

*Degree earned:* Master of Music

»FELIX MENDELSSOHN BARTHOLDY« LEIPZIG
Bachelor Programme
Audition Requirements for 1st to 4th semester

1 Main exam
Criteria of evaluation are artistic imagination, knowledge and expression of style, technical skills, and the choice of difficulty of the audition repertoire according to the students own stage of development.
The duration of the main audition is 10 and 30 minutes -depending on the subject- if not declared differently. The audition jury may stop the performance of a composition. The audition jury reserves the right to fully test the musical skills of the auditioning student.
Accompanists will be provided. Please bring scores for the accompanists.

1. Organ Repertoire
- three works (free and chorale-based) of moderate difficulty and from different stylistic periods, one of them by J. S. Bach
- sight-reading

2. Organ, Liturgical
- presentation of one prepared chorale and one provided by the exam committee, following a chorale book or hymnbook (including prelude | intonation)

3. Piano
- J. S. Bach, prelude and fugue from “Das Wohltemperierte Klavier“
- a sonata from the Viennese Classical period (at least two movements)
- one work from the Romantic period or Modern age
  At least one work has to be played by heart.

4. Voice
A sacred solo song of the 17th/18th century (e.g. Bach-Schemelli)
- A song from another epoch
  The sheet music must be submitted with the application for the entrance examination.
  A répétiteur is available.
- Sight singing of simple choir voices

5. Conducting
Conductive representation of one of the following a cappella pieces in the imagination of the spatial arrangement of the performers:
  . F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy: Abschied vom Walde (6 Chöre im Freien zu singen op. 59, no. 3) or
  . J. Brahms: Rosmarin (7 Lieder für gemischten Chor op. 62, no. 1) of the applicant's choice.
  A répétiteur is available.
- Conductive presentation of one of the following pieces in the performance of the spatial arrangement of the performers (choir and instruments):
. D. Buxtehude: from the cantata "Jesu, meine Freude" verse 1 or 4 or
. J. S. Bach: from the cantata "Sei Lob und Ehr dem höchsten Gut", BWV 117
1st movement, verse 1 at the candidate's option.
    A répétiteur is available.

Insofar as this part of the examination was assessed as "passed":
- Studying a simple 3- to 4-voice choral movement or canon of one's own choice with a
  small group of students.
The sheet music must be submitted with the application for the entrance exami-
  nation.
  (duration: approx. 10 minutes)

II. Exams in other disciplines
The audition in the additional subjects can be cancelled if the auditioning student did
not pass the main audition.

   1. Harmony and counterpoint (1st semesters only)
      - playing a simple basso continuo
      - harmonizing a folk song at the piano
      - analysis of the harmonic structure of a movement of the 18th or 19th century
      - free improvisation over a given theme
        (duration: ca. 15 minutes)

   2. Ear training (1st semesters only)
      - sight-reading of tonal/modal melodies
      - presentation of rhythms
      - identification and presentation of major, minor and modal scales, intervals, triads
        and dominant seventh chords
      - determine harmonic progressions based on cadences without harmony-foreign
        notes
      - repetition (singing or playing) and analysis of a tonal melody: root position, tessi-
        tura, form
        (duration: ca. 10 minutes)

Bachelor Programme | Audition Requirements for 5th semester and above

The audition jury may stop the performance of a composition. The audition jury re-
erves the right to fully test the musical skills of the auditioning student.

   1. Organ Literature
      - performance of several works from different stylistic periods, including one by J.S.
        Bach
        (duration: 30 minutes)

   2. Organ Liturgical
      - prepared improvisation of a piece based on a cantus firmus
      - sight – reading of several songs from a hymnbook with own harmonisation
        (duration: ca. 10 minutes)
3. Piano
- performance of a demanding work by J. S. Bach
- a sonata from the Viennese Classical period (at least two movements)
- a work from the Romantic or Modern period of the 20th or 21st century
- one etude
At least one piece has to be performed from memory.
(duraton: ca. 30 minutes)

4. Voice
- Presentation of two vocal pieces of different stylistics and two prepared spoken texts
  A répétiteur is available.
  The sheet music must be submitted with the application for the entrance examination.
- Sight singing of choir voices
  (duration approx. 15 minutes)

5. Conducting
Conductive representation of one of the following a cappella pieces in the imagination of the spatial arrangement of the performers:
- M. Reger: Nachtlied (8 geistliche Gesänge op. 138, no. 3) or
- K. Nysted: I will praise thee (3 Motets, no. 3) at the candidate's option.
  A répétiteur is available.

- Conductive representation of one of the following pieces in the performance of the spatial arrangement of the performers (choir and instruments):
  - J. S. Bach, from the cantata "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme", BWV 140, 1st movement or
  - W. A. Mozart, from "Requiem" KV 626 Introitus "Requiem aeternam" at the applicant's option.
  A répétiteur is available.
  (duration approx. 5 minutes)

Insofar as this part of the examination was assessed as "passed":
- Rehearsal work of the following piece with a university ensemble:
  - J. Brahms: O süßer Mai (6 Lieder und Romanzen op. 93a, no. 3)
  (duration: approx. 20 minutes)"

6. Score play
- Performance of the following piece from the score:
  - G. F. Händel, Surely (The Messiah, Part the second, no. 21)
- Play at sight of a four-part choral movement on four systems (modern keys)

Master Programme
Audition Requirements
The audition jury may stop the performance of a composition. The audition jury reserves the right to fully test the musical skills of the auditioning student.

1. **Organ Literature**

Perform several works from different stylistic periods
(duration: 20 to 30 minutes)

2. **Organ Liturgical**

- Improvisation of a piece based on a cantus firmus;
- Playing several songs from a hymnbook
  (duration: ca. 10 minutes)

3. **Piano**

- performance of an advanced work by J. S. Bach
- a sonata from the Viennese Classical period (at least two movements)
- a work from the Romantic or Modern period of the 20th or 21st century
- one etude
  At least one piece has to be performed from memory.
  (duration: ca. 30 minutes)

4. **Score play**

- Performance of the following piece from the score:
  . J. Brahms: Selig sind die Toten (Ein deutsches Requiem op. 45, 1st movement)
- Play at sight of a demanding choral score on at least four systems (modern keys)

5. **Voice**

- performance of two vocal pieces from different stylistic periods
- recitation of one or two spoken texts
  (duration: ca. 10 minutes)

6. **Conducting**

- Conductive representation of one of the following a cappella pieces in the imagination of the spatial arrangement of the performers:
  . J. Rheinberger: Abelndlied (3 geistliche Gesänge op. 69, no. 3) or
  . F. Poulenc: Timor et tremor (4 Motets pour un temps de penitence Nr. 1) at the candidate’s option.
  A répétiteur is available.

- Conductive representation of one of the following pieces in the performance of the spatial arrangement of the performers (choir and instruments):
  . J. Haydn: Stimmt an die Saiten (Die Schöpfung Hob. XXI:2, no. 10) or
  . J. S. Bach: Herr, unser Herrscher (Johannispassion BWV 245, 1st movement) of the applicant’s choice.
  A répétiteur is available.
  (Duration: approx. 5 minutes)
Insofar as this part of the examination was assessed as "passed": 
- Rehearsal work of the following piece with a university ensemble: 
  . F. Poulenc: Salve Regina (FP 110) 
  (duration. approx. 25 minutes)