

## **Description and Justification for a PhD Position in Early Music (Catherine A. Bradley)**

### **Position Description**

#### ***Department of Musicology Doctoral Research Fellowship in Early Music***

The Department of Musicology at The University of Oslo invites applications for a PhD Research Fellowship in the field of Early Music (music before 1550).

The successful candidate will work on an independent research project on any aspect of music or musical culture before 1550. Proposals relating to music history, performance, theory, or analysis pertaining to repertoires before 1550 will be considered. Projects may also engage with questions of music notation, transmission, and material and manuscript culture. Perspectives that complement the research priorities of the Institute of Musicology and the Faculty of Humanities are especially encouraged.

The candidate will be supervised by Professor Catherine A. Bradley, and will be affiliated with the research training programme at the Faculty of Humanities. They will have the opportunity to be part of a lively research milieu surrounding the ERC-funded projects [BENEDICAMUS](#) (at the Department of Musicology) and [MINiTEXTS](#) (at the Department of Archaeology, Conservation, and History) and the EU COST Action [Earlymuse](#).

### **Justification for the Position: Why this 'Early Music' PhD Position Now?**

#### **1) *Intellectual Environment at IMV and RITMO***

- A PhD position in early music would intersect with the University of Oslo's participation, in collaboration with Olivier Lartillot at RITMO, in the new European Co-operation in Science and Technology (COST) Action, 'Earlymuse'. The Early Music focus intersects with Lartillot's research in early music in the context of his MIRAGE project. A PhD position in this area would also be relevant, more broadly, to the new postholder in music history before 1900.

#### **2) *Interdisciplinary Intellectual Environment at HF***

- The ERC BENEDICAMUS project has a collaboration with the MINiTEXTs project at IAKH, an ERC Advanced Grant lead by Ildar Garipzanov. MINiTEXTs studies a large number of musical annotations in books from the 800s and 900s and has recently employed a musicology Postdoc, with a PhD (University of Harvard) in early music. There is thus a ready-made interdisciplinary environment in HF within which a new PhD student in Early Music could participate.

#### **3) *Timing***

- The ERC project, BENEDICAMUS, reaches the peak of its activities in the academic year 2023–2024. In September 2023, we will have our major open-call international

conference, and another new postdoc will have come on board, making a complete early music network of three postdocs and two PhDs at IMV, with an additional early music postdoc in the MINiTexts Project at IAKH.

- September 2023 is thus the perfect moment for a new PhD student to arrive and to join a seriously lively and well-developed research milieu in early music at UiO, where — as part of the BENEDICAMUS project — we currently meet regularly in person every week, share our work in progress, give practice conference presentations, and host many invited guests.

#### **4) *Reputation***

- With another PhD in early music, Oslo would take over from Uppsala University as the biggest centre for the study of early music in the Nordic countries. In the past two years – in association with both my ERC and CAS projects – I have hosted more than 20 of the leading specialists in music before 1550 in Oslo, with scholars from around 10 different countries.
- This rich environment and these networking possibilities will continue until 2025, but will drop off thereafter: it makes sense to have a new PhD student who can profit from them now and who can solidify the University of Oslo's new and internationally prominent reputation as a centre for the study of early music.

#### **5) *Legacy***

- A PhD in early music helps to ensure the legacy of the cluster in early music studies created by my CAS funding and crucially by the ERC BENEDICAMUS project: the department has not, to date, invested any of its own resources in this project.
- I have only ever received one PhD position (held by Johanna Thöne) from IMV and this was in 2019, and had been already been promised as part of an initial start-up package to attract me to accept my position at UiO.
- I did not seek to receive any applicants within the 2021 PhD 'Societal Challenges and Crises' PhD. call – from which my research area was effectively excluded. Crucially, I would undertake not to propose or ask for any other PhD positions within my research field before at least 2025, when the project and its milieu will winding down.
- A new PhD position in early music would be an investment by IMV in the internationally significant early music milieu that I have built in Oslo over the past four years. It would be a part of the ERC BENEDICAMUS project's 'exit strategy' that should ideally be implemented now — before it is too late to take full advantage of the milieu and international reputation surrounding the ERC grant — in order to be most effective.