

Executive summary



Accreditation of the Bachelor's programme (Título Superior de Música) Centre Superior Conservatori Liceu / Liceu Conservatory in Barcelona

Site visit dates: 22-23 November 2018

As a mid-sized institution, the Liceu retains the very friendly, personally-orientated mentality of a 'family business'. For example, in Meeting 9 it was reported that the General Director knows every student by name and the RT heard repeatedly that her door is always open to both students and staff members. Among everyone we met, including all the support staff, there is a very positive professional atmosphere.

In terms of its academic and artistic profile, the Liceu is absolutely clear about its priority: it is to prepare its students as music professionals, and all of the learning activities are geared towards that. The Liceu's students are exposed to an impressive array of professional opportunities and artists.

The RT found that the Liceu is rather traditional in its approach to teaching which is largely based on the master/apprentice system for orchestral and solo musicians. This may not be so innovative, but it appears to get the results that the Liceu wants and it is accompanied by a tangible feeling of aspiration and a good work ethic.

There is, however, now a developing new vision for what a musician should and could be in the future. The RT heard from the General Director in the very first meeting about how the Liceu is preparing for the challenges of the new century. This included being more open to the increasing diversities of the profession and, linked with that, experimenting with new pedagogical approaches spearheaded by the composition department. The other elements of the strategy are increasing the Liceu's international profile and a complete overhaul of the website and communications (which is now underway).

The RT found that some of the requirements of this accreditation had not been met or that there was more to do. The Liceu management is largely aware of where improvements need to be made and it is the wish of the RT that this report is helpful to them. Positive, strategy-driven changes are underway at the Liceu, whilst retaining its values of personalised care for the student and professional preparation. The RT wishes the Liceu well in the next phase of its development