

Music Network Artistic Programming Policy 2018-2020

Central to Music Network's mission is support for the career development of musicians. Over the course of its 32-year existence, it has initiated many ground-breaking music development and performance schemes to this end. Artistic quality has always been a core consideration in the development and delivery of these.

Music Network views the evolution of the professional musician as a life-long continuum, from children and young people discovering music, to emerging musicians embarking on performance careers, and more established musicians seeking enhanced performance opportunities both in Ireland and internationally. As per its current Strategic Policy, a focus on supporting performance careers will predominate.

Music Network's Artistic Programming Policy involves a creative, ambitious approach, realised through consultation with our partner promoters and other parties, including local Music Education Partnerships, and strives to achieve the following:

- Audience focus
- Artistic Excellence, achieved through quality, diversity and/or profile of musicians
- Gender balance
- An open and flexible approach vis-à-vis musical genres, whilst retaining a broad focus on classical, jazz and traditional musics
- A balance of international and Irish/Ireland-based artists
- Curated product, providing unique offers for promoters and experiences for audiences
- Artist-led/thematically-driven programming which achieves a balance between challenging and accessible
- Engaging concert experiences for audiences, including new approaches to presentation
- Opportunities for integrated audience development/outreach components, where possible
- Creative collaboration between artists, musical genres and art forms, as resources allow
- Promotion of the work of contemporary Irish composers via inclusion in relevant concert programmes, and commissioning & showcasing of new work, as resources allow
- Support for emerging musicians
- Synergies with Music Network's other programmes and services, in order to add value and maximise impact.

Audience focus will be central to all artistic programming decisions, based on intelligence gathered through previous touring activity, and feedback from key stakeholders. All decisions will be made in the context of other commitments in order to ensure as varied a programme as possible is achieved.