

PUBLIC INFORMATION ON THE QUALITY OF THE DEGREE

PROGRAMME: MASTER OF RESEARCH IN ART AND DESIGN

Abstract based on the degree programme review, May, 2023

Degree programme: Master of Arts in Research in Art and Design

In **May 2023** a review panel existing of independent internal and external peers and experts examined the quality of the degree programme based on KdG's Quality Framework for Education which is in line with NVAO's eight Quality features and the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in European Higher Education Area (ESG). They met with programme leaders, students, lecturers, alumni, and representatives from the professional field to discuss the quality of the degree programme.

The review panel assesses the intended final level as satisfactory.

The panel identifies the following strengths among others:

- The programme provides open space for vulnerable artistic and design research with an extra socio-political focus.
- Innovative approach to sharing research
- Focus on how to work inclusively, a big strength for the very diverse and international group of participants
- Adaptive and dynamic programme, learning from previous experiences and connecting with current needs
- Focus on collectivity, feedback, self-evaluation and self-management
- Inclusive way of working together in group work, individual sessions, intensive weeks, check-ins and a code of conduct
- Strong staff commitment to create space for students and help them find their voice, their path.
- Diverse and adaptive team of tutors
- The SLA community as a strong network

The panel does not formulate urgent working points.

The panel makes these recommendations:

- Clarify the assessment process so that it is clear to all stakeholders how all the learning outcomes are assessed at the expected level.
- Make the educational vision more explicit.
- The panel supports the team in their quest for visibility: on how to make the programme known, available and accessible to those in need of the programme, without undermining its caring and careful selection process.
- Use a long-term plan.
- Clarify what artistic and design research is as an open ended discipline, as a shared practice.
- Train/ empower the participants to participate, give and receive high-quality feedback

APPENDICES

Internal quality management system

The Conduct Quality of Education of KdG consists of three processes: the Yearly check of learning and evaluation materials, the Degree programme review, and Assurance programme quality and communication.

A programme undergoes a review every five years. A panel of internal and external peers and experts evaluates the programme's quality based on programme information, course materials and evaluation materials. The panel also consults internal and external stakeholders – students, alumni, lecturers and working field partners – to gather and validate perspectives on the programme.

The programme is evaluated against KdG's Quality Framework for Education, KdG's operationalisation of the European Standards and Guidelines and KdG's education policy. This includes assessing how the programme implements the Yearly Check process within the prescribed framework and how outcomes from the overall quality management system are safeguarded and communicated in line with the process Assurance programme quality and communication.

The panel provides meaningful feedback, which the programme uses to maintain and further enhance its quality.

<https://www.kdg.be/kwaliteitsvol-onderwijs#rapportage-opleidingskwaliteit-content>

Composition of the review panel

Role in the panel	First and last namen	Position, organisation
Chairman	Ludo Melis	Emeritus, KuLeuven
Student	Vijai Maia Patchineelam	Alumnus (2013), independent artistic researcher (Berlin), PhD in artistic research (University of Antwerp/ AP University of Applied Sciences and Arts)
Peer	Lilia Mestre	Assistant Professor, Concordia University, Montréal (Canada) and previously a.pass
Representative of the working field	Lara Khaldi	Curator, artist, writer and educator and since January 2023 Artistic director, Appel Amsterdam (Nederland)
Internal education expert	Sarah Rohaert	Staff member Educational Development, KdG

Reporter: Liesbeth Adriaenssens, staff member Educational Development, KdG

Process

The panel prepared for the programme review by thoroughly analysing the programme documentation and self-reflection. Based on their assigned roles and the materials provided, panel members developed tailored questions for each interview group.

The panel met with the programme coordinators and reviewed course and assessment materials. It then explored, verified, and deepened its findings through discussions with students and recent graduates, lecturers, alumni, and representatives of the professional field.

The panel subsequently identified strengths, recommendations, and any urgent working points, if applicable. To assess the intended learning outcomes, it reviewed the final-level examinations and marking schemes. The panel's findings, judgement, and recommendations were incorporated into the draft report. Following a feedback dialogue with the programme coordinators, the draft was refined into the final report and this abstract.