The Faculty of Music is one of the world’s leading centres of research in music studies. We have an outstanding record in training important scholars and composers, and our academic staff have international reputations. But it is perhaps Cambridge’s vibrant and varied musical environment which sets us apart.

We offer two MPhil programmes. The MPhil in Music comprises two strands – music studies and composition. It combines structured teaching, through supervisions and seminars, with supervised study. We welcome students interested in any area of the academic study of music. Our areas of specialism range from medieval music and opera studies to music analysis and ethnomusicology (an area Cambridge has pioneered). The flexibility of the course ensures that you can tailor the MPhil to your own interests.

The newly developed MMus in Choral Studies offers the opportunity to work with college choirs as well as leading professional artists such as the ensemble Voces8. Cambridge and its world-famous collegiate choirs provide an exceptional environment for aspiring singers, conductors and organists to develop practical skills and scholarly expertise for a professional career.

Cambridge has exceptional resources and facilities for musicians, including the Centre for Music and Science; the Cambridge Centre for Musical Performance Studies; a 500-seat Concert Hall; and a specialist music library – the Pendlebury – which houses an outstanding collection of music scores, books, sound recordings, videos, periodicals, microfilms, rare books and facsimiles. We also have an extensive collection of historical instruments, from Baroque string instruments and Renaissance flutes to harpsichords and a Javanese gamelan.

We have a large postgraduate community of around 60 students. Together, they create a lively and supportive environment. More than anything, it is the wider musical environment – including regular visits from distinguished scholars and the weekly colloquia our graduate students organise – that makes Cambridge unique.

“As part of the MMus, we were assigned several placements in different colleges to conduct portions of evensong. These placements provided the challenge of rehearsing a choir in a limited timeframe with the necessary goal of a world-class performance shortly afterwards. I had the opportunity to conduct King’s College Choir, which was thrilling, as I had grown up listening to many of their CDs and broadcasts in the U.S."

Margaret Carpenter Haigh
DMA candidate at Case Western Reserve University, US

Music

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