



Erasmus Doctus

Framework for a practice-based arts
3rd cycle degree, equivalent to a PhD

–Intellectual Output 2

National Proposition Gerrit Rietveld Academie

Development of a Research environment

The Gerrit Rietveld Academie does not currently define research or operate a research policy or strategy, but it is a member of ARIAS (Amsterdam Research Institute of Arts & Sciences) and has received Erasmus+ strategic partnership funding for the Creator Doctus project. Research is developed by offering staff members, students, and alumni the possibility to do short-term projects and it is the institution's aim to embed research more deeply in the curriculum and contracted activities of staff. The Academie has piloted a new 3rd cycle award, the Creator Doctus (CrD). 3rd cycle students work on collaborative projects hosted with partner institutions. CrD candidates will be given a part-time employment contract at the art school to facilitate the research project. During this period they intensively work with a social partner that shares in the funding of the research.

Development of the practice-based arts research area

The distinction between professional practice and research is something of the past. There are many new configurations in which the research of the art practice is being boosted and valued. A case in point is how in the last decade higher vocational education and academic institutions have grown closer, by accommodating the process of transferring and exchanging between higher vocational education and university programs.

Shifts in focus were also felt in the art world. For example, artists are being offered the chance to get a doctorate based on a combination of a dissertation and their art works. Artistic research is the term that has been created for this new hybrid area. For museums of modern and contemporary art this means that a portion of the art they show, champions a new relationship between research and practice Eg. Arts lectures or work on the collection or the archives.

Relation to educational frameworks and existing research

The main goal of the CrD is to create a trajectory that runs parallel to the existing PhD tracks, and receives the same international recognition. The artistic output of an artist without the necessary supplement of a written thesis is valuable knowledge. Obtaining the degree of CrD will offer recognition of the profession and craft of the artist. It must be emphasized that the trajectory is not a rejection of the PhD model; it offers a new model that establishes a stronger relation between the art world and artists doing research.

Finally, there is an urgent need to address the imbalance of career opportunities for European art graduates. While the possibility to obtain a third cycle degree in the arts are still limited, more and more PhDs/third cycle degrees are required as a qualification for jobs in academia and the cultural sector- as well as to access funding programs and research grants. The CrD would close this gap and enhance competitiveness of the European academic and cultural sector at large.

Collaboration with the community partner

CrD candidates will be given a part-time employment contract at the art school to facilitate the research project. During which they are intensively working with a social partner that shares in the funding of the research. The social partner functions to help formulate the research questions that fuel the candidate's research project. The specifics in which the social partner formulates this will depend on the individual requirements of the research project and its terms are agreed upon in consultation with the candidate. CrD projects are also supervised by a supervisor from the social partner, as well as a supervisor from The Gerrit Rietveld Academie and possibly a university professor.

Yael Davids is the first Creator Doctus (CrD) artist researcher. This trajectory was initiated by the Gerrit Rietveld Academie in collaboration with the Van Abbemuseum and is supported by the Mondriaan Fund. The second Creator Doctus (CrD) artist researcher, Femke Herregraven, has been appointed in collaboration with De Waag.

Research Programme accreditation

The Gerrit Rietveld Academie is currently taking steps to get this process recognised in The Netherlands. An agreement has recently been reached with the universities and the universities of applied sciences to establish a third cycle of education for the applied sciences. The Gerrit Rietveld Academie is focussing on being part of this new third cycle recognition. The Gerrit Rietveld Academie is also in continuous conversation with other art institutions in The Netherlands about this development.

Research Programme title

The title Creator Doctus (CrD) is set up by the Gerrit Rietveld Academie as a new three-year research trajectory within the so-called 'third cycle' of higher education. The trajectory will result in a series of artworks, rather than a written dissertation. These answer research questions formulated by the artists within the context of a framework provided by a commissioning partner, in this case the Van Abbemuseum. At the end of the three years the results are presented to an evaluation committee, the involved partners, and the public. If judged sufficient the artist will be awarded the title Creator Doctus (CrD). The title will serve to help promote the degree of profession and skill of the artist. To obtain European recognition the title is developed in collaboration with several European partners. An Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership application was submitted in March 2018. to further develop this collaboration.

Aims of the programme

In the past a major distinction was made between professional practice and research. Now we see many new configurations in which the research of the art practice is being boosted and valued. A case in point is how in the last decade higher vocational education and academic institutions have grown closer, by accommodating the process of transferring and exchanging between higher vocational education and university programs among other things.

Artists are being offered the chance to get a doctorate based on a combination of a dissertation and their art work. Artistic research is the term that has been created for this new hybrid area. For museums of modern and contemporary art this means that a portion of the art they show, champions a new relationship between research and practice Eg. artists lectures or working on the collection or the archives.

The main goal of the CrD is to create a trajectory that runs parallel to the existing PhD tracks, and receives the same international recognition. Artistic output is valuable research without the necessary supplement of a written thesis. Obtaining the degree of CrD will offer recognition of the profession and craft of the artist. It must be emphasised that the trajectory is not a rejection of the PhD model; it offers a new model that establishes a stronger relation between the art world and artists doing research.

Finally, there is an urgent need to address the imbalance of career opportunities for European art graduates. While the possibility to obtain a third cycle degree in the arts are still limited, more and more PhDs/third cycle degrees are required as a qualification for jobs in academia and the cultural sector as well as to access funding programs and research grants. The CrD would close this gap and enhance competitiveness of the European academic and cultural sector at large.

Mode and length of study

The CrD candidate moves in a field different from the studio or the university. They fill a position on the borders between the places where art is made and shown, and society at large. The CrD candidate bridges the two by involving their experience as an artist and knowledge of art, and including existing science.

In the CrD trajectory, the artist will be given three years in which to excel and raise her artistic practice to a higher level. The CrD candidate will be given a part-time employment contract at the art school to facilitate her research project. During this period they are intensively working with a social partner, that shares in the funding of the research. The excellence of her work must be achieved through new channels of thought and new outcomes of material practices developed during the process. The artist finishes her research period with a new body of work in the CrD trajectory.

Programme structure (modules, credits etc.)

The CrD is a three year programme. The duration of the programme may be extended upon request. In the case such a request should arise, the Gerrit Rietveld Academie will decide on the extension based on each project's individual requirements.

The researcher is part of the Making Things Public (MTP) research group. The research programme 'Making Things Public' consists of a select group of researchers that conduct their PhD research under the guidance of Paula Albuquerque. In addition to supervision it offers a feedback group of peers. Making Things Public is a starter for the construction of a graduate school. The Rietveld Academie strives to have multiple candidates enrolled in the CrD programme simultaneously.

Programme learning outcomes/benchmark statement (e.g National framework, Tuning, ELIA/MusiQuE etc.)

The Gerrit Rietveld Academie fully conforms to the *Sectoral Qualifications Framework for Creative and Performing Disciplines* as published by the Tuning Academy:

| LEVEL: 8 | | CREATIVE & PERFORMING DISCIPLINES | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| EQF CATEGORIES → | | KNOWLEDGE | SKILLS | COMPETENCE |
| Creation & Creativity | | | | |
| 7 DIMENSIONS | | STUDENTS IN THE CREATIVE & PERFORMING DISCIPLINES ARE EXPECTED TO: | | |
| | | have knowledge at the most advanced frontier of their specialist field and at the interface between this and other fields | demonstrate, in the creation, realisation and expression of their own concepts, the most advanced and specialised skills and techniques | be able to draw upon experience gained within their studies to command authority in areas of specialist expertise and demonstrate conspicuous innovation and autonomy |
| Because of its individual nature, study in the Creative & Performing Disciplines at Level 8 may address any or all of the 7 dimensions of the Creative & Performing Disciplines. However, in most cases, students' achievement will be expected to embrace aspects such as the following: | | | | |
| Creation & Creativity | Making, Performing, Designing, Conceptualising | Knowing all the relevant methods and techniques of inquiry related to a particular field of study | Integrating previous experience so as to demonstrate original creative insights Functioning with complete creative autonomy | Comprehending the transferability of their research capabilities to other fields Displaying professional, creative and scholarly integrity |
| | Re-thinking, Considering and Interpreting the Human | Being fully familiar with work and health implications for those involved in their activity | Extending and redefining in a significant way our understanding and/or relationship with the discipline | Seeing their own shortcomings and untapped potential, and devising strategies for maximizing their performance |
| | Experimenting, Innovating & Researching | Distinguishing between valuable and irrelevant inquiry, whether in the theoretical, practical and/or creative spheres | Framing research questions rigorously and lucidly - whether pertaining to practical, theoretical or creative issues, or a combination of these | Showing sustained commitment to the development of new ideas or practices at the forefront of any work or study context to which they apply themselves, including research |
| | Theories, Histories & Cultures | Understanding standards of excellence in their own field | | |
| | Technical, Environmental & Contextual Issues | Knowing the national and international context of activity and output into which their work has been/will be disseminated | | |
| | Communication, Collaboration & Interdisciplinarity | | Talking or writing with complete authority about their special field within their discipline | Disseminating highly specialised information clearly and appropriately, in any relevant form and to different target audiences so as to |
| | | | improve public understanding of their field Establishing and maintaining cooperative relationships within the scholarly and creative community Responding with understanding and responsibility to critical considerations | |
| | Initiative & Enterprise | Understanding the ownership rights of those who might be affected by their project (e.g. copyright, intellectual property rights, confidential information, ethical questions) Appreciating the economic potential and utilisation of their output | Realising goals defined at the outset of their projects, whilst making appropriate adjustments to these in the light of their research experience | |

Teaching & Learning strategy (supervision, etc.)

The supervisors hold a PhD or have an equivalent status; there are two to four supervisors, at least one of whom should have an independent artistic practice.

Appointment of supervisor

1. The doctoral candidate shall consult with the most appropriate lector for the research area on the proposed doctoral research project and on the willingness of that lector to act as supervisor.
2. The lector whom he or she has asked to act as supervisor shall send the doctoral candidate a written statement of willingness or refusal to act as supervisor as soon as possible. The lector shall send a copy thereof to the Research Committee of the institution.
3. On receipt of the statement of willingness referred to at (2. the doctoral candidate shall ask the Research Committee to appoint the lector concerned as supervisor. The application shall be submitted to the Research Committee together with a certified copy of the certificate showing that the prior education requirement referred to in Article 3 (a) has been met, or an application for exemption from that requirement as referred to in Article 4 (1. together with the documents referred to in Article 4 (2).
4. As soon as the Research Committee has established that the prior education requirement referred to in Article 3 (a) has been met or the exemption referred to in Article 4 has been granted, the Research Committee shall appoint as supervisor the lector who has expressed his or her willingness to act as supervisor.
5. In addition to the supervisor referred to at (4. the Research Committee shall appoint a second expert as supervisor in consultation with the social partner involved in the research project. The Research Committee shall appoint third and fourth experts as supervisors if this is deemed necessary or desirable. Regardless of the allocation of responsibilities between the supervisors, each of the supervisors shall be responsible for the graduation project as a whole.
8. The partner of the doctoral candidate, a first or second degree relative by blood or marriage of the doctoral candidate or other persons whose relationship with the doctoral candidate is such that they cannot be expected to pass judgment shall not be appointed as supervisors. Nor shall the partner or a first or second degree relative by blood or marriage of the supervisor already appointed, be appointed as second supervisor.

Duties of supervisor

1. The supervisors shall supervise the doctoral candidate to the best of their ability in the production of the graduation project. No later than three months after being appointed as such, the supervisors shall in consultation with the doctoral candidate lay down a research and supervision plan for him or her and send a copy thereof to the Research Committee. This plan shall provide for regular consultations between the supervisors and the doctoral candidate and written reports thereon. The Research Committee may stipulate that the research and supervision plan shall also provide for an independent supervisory committee responsible for supervising the doctoral candidate in his or her work at a distance.
2. The supervisors shall ensure:
 - a. that the doctoral candidate participates in the required education programme;
 - b. that the doctoral research project is conducted with the consent of those concerned, or of a representative designated by them, if the doctoral research project requires research on and/or involving trial subjects, and that it is otherwise conducted in line with the relevant rules and regulations;

- c. that insofar as laboratory animals, body material and/or personal data are used for the research, this is done in line with the relevant rules and regulations; and d. that insofar as the doctoral research project (or part thereof) is funded by third parties, as few restrictions as possible are placed on the research, and that if restrictions are placed on freedom of publication of data and the results of the research, these are not incompatible with artistic freedom.
3. The doctoral candidate shall submit the research results for the graduation project to the supervisors as a whole or in instalments. The supervisors shall assess the results and check them against the requirements that a graduation project should meet as the basis for a defence ceremony.

Approval of the graduation project

1. The supervisors shall be responsible for accepting the graduation project. The supervisors shall ensure that the graduation project meets the requirements for a graduation project in general. They shall in particular satisfy themselves, without prejudice to the responsibility of the doctoral candidate in this respect set out in Article 13. that the graduation project does not contain any plagiarism and that it complies in all other respects with the rules of conduct applicable to the conduct of artistic research.
2. Before approving the graduation project the supervisors shall check the results submitted to them, particularly against the requirements laid down in Articles 13–17. paying particular attention to the following aspects:
 - a. the importance of the subject;
 - b. the importance of and a clear definition of the research topic;
 - c. the standard of organisation, analysis and processing of materials;
 - d. the development of new insights and new ideas from this processing;
 - e. the integrity of the method used for this processing;
 - f. the presence of a critical confrontation of the candidate's work with existing artworks or other products of artistic research;
 - g. the artistic quality of the graduation project;
 - h. the extent to which the graduation project is based on independent research conducted by the doctoral candidate or research to which he or she has made a vital contribution.
3. The supervisors shall decide whether to approve the graduation project within six weeks of receiving it, unless the doctoral candidate agrees to a longer time limit. If the time limit is exceeded, the doctoral candidate may ask the Research Committee to order the supervisors to make a decision on approval by a particular time.
4. If the supervisors consider that the graduation project meets the requirements and can serve as proof of ability to conduct independent artistic research, they shall grant their approval.
5. The supervisors shall notify the doctoral candidate, in the manner laid down by the Research Committee, that they approve the graduation project or withhold such approval. The supervisor shall send a copy thereof to the Research Committee.
6. If the supervisors withhold approval of the graduation project, the Research Committee may, at the request of the doctoral candidate, having heard him or her and the supervisors, appoint a different supervisor, unless the Research Committee consider that no such new appointment is necessary. (...)

Assessment

The graduation project will consist of an artistic work of a high standard in the form of e.g. concerts, exhibitions, performances, master classes, installations and manifestations. The defence ceremony refers to the meeting at which the public defence of the graduation project takes place and the doctorate can be awarded. Research Committee: the committee that takes all decisions on the doctoral programme on behalf of the institution based on these Regulations. These do not include decisions to award the title of Creator Doctus based on the artistic work produced and the public defence thereof. This decision is taken by the Doctoral Committee. The Doctoral Committee comprises the supervisors and at least five outstandingly expert persons.

Nature, content and size of the graduation project

1. The graduation project shall constitute the end-result of the independent research conducted by the doctoral candidate or research to which he or she has made a vital contribution. The doctoral candidate shall be responsible for the graduation project as a contribution to artistic research. The doctoral candidate shall bear prime responsibility for ensuring that the graduation project does not contain any plagiarism and that it complies in all other respects with the rules of conduct applicable to the conduct of artistic research.
2. The graduation project shall comprise an artistic production in any form (artistic work of a high standard in the form of e.g. concerts, exhibitions, performances, master classes and manifestations) introduced by a paper explaining the design of the research, the process of execution and elaboration, the choices leading to the end-result and the critical relationship to similar results of artistic research.
3. If parts of the graduation project were produced by other artists, only those parts predominantly attributable to the doctoral candidate shall be accepted as part of the graduation project.
4. If the graduation project contains art productions completed prior to the research, the time span between the completion of these productions and the completion of the graduation project shall not exceed five years. The Research Committee may grant exemption from this provision on application, stating reasons, by the supervisor.

Graduation project by multiple authors

1. In the case of joint research by two or three doctoral candidates the research may result in a joint graduation project, provided the following conditions are met:
 - a. Each of the researchers has made an independent, distinguishable contribution that is sufficient for the award of a doctorate;
 - b. Each of the researchers takes individual responsibility both for a part of the graduation project indicated as such and for the coherence of the whole;
 - c. What share each of the researchers had in the production of the graduation project is indicated in the graduation project; and
2. If a graduation project has been produced jointly, the explanatory notes should clearly indicate what share each doctoral candidate had in its production and for which parts he or she is particularly responsible.
3. In the case of a joint graduation project the procedures and rules in these Regulations apply to each doctoral candidate individually.
4. The maximum number of doctoral candidates responsible for a graduation project produced jointly shall be three. (...)

Execution of the graduation project

1. The graduation project shall be presented in public, or reproduced in some other way if the nature of the graduation project is not unsuitable for this.
2. The doctoral candidate may not present the graduation project until the Doctoral Committee has decided that he or she can be admitted to defend it and it has been established under Article 2. that he or she has access to the doctoral degree.
3. The graduation project shall be presented in a form such that the Doctoral Committee can take cognisance thereof at a predetermined time and place, unless the material calls for a different presentation, at the discretion of the Research Committee.
4. If a graduation project has been produced jointly, it may, at the discretion of the Research Committee, be executed as a single whole, provided each of the authors thereof meets the requirements set out in Article 14.
5. The explanatory notes may not be reproduced until the Research Committee has attached its approval to them.
6. The supervisors shall ensure that the Research Committee is provided with the explanatory notes in good time.

Setting-up of the doctoral committee

1. No later than three weeks after receiving the decision of the supervisors to approve the graduation project referred to in Article 4. the Research Committee shall at the request of the supervisors set up a Doctoral Committee in a manner laid down by the Research Committee.
2. The request referred to at (1) shall be accompanied by the supervisors' proposal concerning the composition of the committee. Before making this proposal, the supervisors shall satisfy themselves that the persons concerned are willing to accept membership of the committee.
3. The supervisors shall ensure that the doctoral candidate takes responsibility for distributing the graduation project among the members of the committee once it has been set up. To this end a place and time shall be decided, in consultation with the supervisors and the members of the Doctoral Committee, at which cognisance can be taken of the graduation project.

Composition of the doctoral committee

1. The chair of the Research Committee shall be the chair of the Doctoral Committee. The Research Committee may appoint another member of the Research Committee as his or her deputy, and shall do so if he or she acts as supervisor. One of the supervisors shall be appointed as secretary of the Doctoral Committee. The committee shall comprise at least five other members in addition to the chair and the supervisors.
2. Outstandingly expert persons may be appointed as the other members referred to at (1).
3. The other members of the committee shall have expertise at least concerning the subject of the graduation project or part thereof.
4. The partner of the doctoral candidate, a first or second degree relative by blood or marriage of the doctoral candidate or other persons whose relationship with the doctoral candidate is such that they cannot be expected to pass judgment shall not be appointed as members of the committee.
Nor shall the partner of the supervisor, a first or second degree relative by blood or marriage of the supervisor or other persons whose relationship with the supervisor is such that they cannot be expected to pass judgment be appointed as members of the committee.
5. The chair may convene a meeting of the Doctoral Committee on request or on his or her own initiative.

Decision of the doctoral committee

1. Each of the members shall within six weeks of the presentation of the graduation project notify the secretary in writing whether the doctoral candidate has by means of the graduation project supplied proof of ability to conduct independent artistic research such that he or she can be admitted to defend it. Reasons for the opinion on the graduation project shall be stated based on the criteria set out in Article 1. (2. of these Regulations.
3. The secretary shall collect the opinions of each of the other members of the committee and send them, once every member has given his or her opinion, to the chair and the other members of the committee.
4. Within one week of receiving these opinions each member may ask the chair, through the intermediary of the secretary, to convene a meeting of the Doctoral Committee. The chair may also decide to do so on his or her own initiative. The chair shall convene the meeting as soon as possible and chair it himself or herself.
5. If no meeting takes place, the secretary shall notify the supervisors in writing of the individual opinions.
7. The decision of the Doctoral Committee to admit the doctoral candidate to defend the graduation project shall be taken by a majority vote. In the event of a tied vote admission shall be deemed to have been refused.
8. The secretary shall ensure that the doctoral candidate is notified of the decision referred to at (7. immediately in writing in the manner laid down by the Research Committee with copies to the supervisors. If admission is refused, reasons shall be stated for this decision.
9. If at any time during the assessment of the graduation project by the Doctoral Committee the graduation project is found to contain plagiarism or other types of fraud, the Research Committee may decide, on the recommendation of the Research Committee, to halt the procedure.

Ascertaining access to the doctoral degree

1. As soon as possible after receiving the copy of the decision of the Doctoral Committee that the doctoral candidate can be admitted to defend the graduation project, the Research Committee shall determine whether the doctoral candidate has access to the doctoral degree pursuant to Article 3. The Research Committee shall immediately notify the doctoral candidate and the supervisors thereof in the manner laid down by the Research Committee.
3. The doctoral candidate shall apply to defend the graduation project in the manner laid down by the Research Committee. (...)

Opposition and defence

1. Before the start of the defence ceremony the chair shall determine the order of and time allowed for objections.
2. The supervisors shall ensure that a sufficient number of members of the Doctoral Committee express their willingness to raise objections. The supervisors themselves do not have the right to raise objections.
4. Following his or her introductory remarks the chair shall give the floor to the opponents to present the opposition in the agreed order as far as possible.
5. The raising of objections and the defence shall if so desired be supported by written notes and/or extempore quotations, preferably in Dutch and/or English. If a different language is to be used, the Research Committee should be notified thereof. The Research Committee shall then ensure that a sufficient number of members of the committee present at the defence ceremony have a command of that other language.
6. The chair shall ensure that the opposition does not take up a disproportionate amount of the time available for the exchange of ideas.
7. The defence ceremony shall be suspended one academic hour after commencement, unless the chair decides otherwise.

Decision on award of doctorate

1. The Doctoral Committee shall withdraw behind closed doors to deliberate.
2. The chair shall give the floor to the supervisors to report on the doctoral candidate's research performance, to give an opinion on the graduation project and its defence, and to make a proposal on the award of the doctorate. The other members of the Doctoral Committee shall then give their opinions on the defence.
3. The Doctoral Committee shall take the decision, on behalf of the Research Committee, on the award of the doctorate.
4. In the presence of the Doctoral Committee, on the award of the doctorate the certificate and a translation thereof into English shall be signed by the chair and the secretary of the committee and by the supervisors and the other members of the Doctoral Committee.

Resumption of meeting and award of doctorate

1. Following the deliberations the Doctoral Committee shall return and the chair shall resume the meeting.
2. The chair shall announce the result of the deliberations. If the doctorate is to be awarded with the distinction 'cum laude' he or she shall also announce this.
3. If it has been decided to award the doctorate, the chair shall then ask the supervisor appointed at the Gerrit Rietveld Academie to confer the dignity awarded on the doctoral candidate, which duty he or she shall discharge.
4. As proof of the doctorate obtained the successful candidate shall receive the certificate referred to in Article 2. (4).
5. Following this, one of the supervisors or, with the prior approval of the chair of the committee, another member of the committee, shall greet the successful candidate as Creator Doctus and remind him or her of the obligations towards the arts and society that this degree imposes upon him or her. He or she shall then give an opinion on the graduation project and if so desired on the successful candidate's artistic abilities. The supervisor(s) shall then present a laudation.
6. Lastly, the chair shall express congratulations on behalf of the institution, after which he or she shall close the meeting.

Revocation of the doctorate on account of plagiarism

If at any time after the award of the doctorate the graduation project is found to contain plagiarism or other types of academic fraud, the Research Committee may decide to revoke the doctorate.

Award of doctorate 'cum laude'

1. If the doctoral candidate shows evidence in his or her graduation project of exceptional ability, the doctorate may be awarded with the distinction 'cum laude'. As a rule this distinction can only be awarded if the graduation project, given the criteria set out in Article 1. (2. of these Regulations, can be counted among the best 5. of the graduation projects in the research area concerned. The procedure must be initiated at least ten weeks before the defence of the graduation project.
2. The doctorate may be awarded with the distinction 'cum laude' in response to a proposal by the supervisors or one of the members of the Doctoral Committee, in which case the proposal shall require the consent of the supervisors. The Doctoral Committee shall consult on the proposal. The decision to award the distinction 'cum laude' can only be taken unanimously.

Each of the members shall notify the Research Committee, through the intermediary of the secretary, of his or her individual opinion on the proposal, stating reasons. The Research Committee shall inform the supervisor of the result.

3. Following a positive decision by the Doctoral Committee, the Research Committee, shall ask two independent leading referees in the subject area concerned to assess the graduation project.
The distinction 'cum laude' shall only be awarded if both the referees are of the opinion that the graduation project can be counted among the best graduation projects in the area concerned.
5. If all the conditions have been met, the chair shall notify the Research Committee, no later than three weeks before the date of the defence ceremony, that he or she proposes to the Opposition Committee to award the distinction 'cum laude'. The secretary of the Doctoral Committee shall then inform the members of the Doctoral Committee of this proposal.
6. The decision on a proposal to award the doctorate with the distinction 'cum laude' shall be taken during the non-public part of the defence ceremony referred to in Article 26. The chair shall satisfy himself or herself that the Regulations have been observed. The decision shall preferably be taken unanimously, but at least by a simple majority vote. In the event of a tied vote the distinction shall not be awarded. The secretary shall record the conduct of the vote.

Selection of candidates

Access to the doctoral degree is available to any person who:

- a. has obtained a Master's degree from a Dutch university of applied sciences or university or has passed the doctoral exam at a government-funded or designated Dutch university;
- b. as proof of ability to conduct an independent artistic practice, has produced an artistic work of a high standard in the form of e.g. concerts, exhibitions, performances, master classes and manifestations, has written a research proposal that meets the selection criteria laid down;
- c. has met the other requirements laid down in these Regulations.

Exemption from the prior education requirement

1. In special cases the Research Committee may exempt persons who do not meet the prior education requirement referred to in Article 3 (a) from that requirement at their written request. (...)
3. If the application for exemption cannot be granted on the basis of the diplomas or certificates submitted, it may nevertheless be granted by the Research Committee if it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that the applicant is deemed capable of conducting independent artistic research and developing as a research artist.
4. The applicant shall be notified of the exemption or rejection decision in writing. (...)

Quality development and quality assurance

The Creator Doctus programme is in line with the Gerrit Rietveld Academie's quality assurance policy. The framework of the Gerrit Rietveld Academie's CrD programme is modelled after the international agreements according to the Dublin descriptors for PhD's. The Gerrit Rietveld Academie provides the candidate with quality supervision. The programme is still experimental, and the metrics to assure its quality are being developed. Since the pilot programme is still in progress there is no measurable output (such as success rate or published articles) as of yet.

CREATOR DOCTUS

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